

LAXTON AND MOORHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7.30 pm on Tuesday 23 January 2024 at Laxton Visitor Centre Nottinghamshire

Present: Councillors:

S.Hill (chair)
J. Hill
M.Hennell
R. Creighton
S,Rose
A Moorhouse
D. Sheard

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Wilson (Clerk)
S. Michael (District councillor)
Member of the public (x1)

		ACTION
LMPC/1/ 24	Apologies for absence: There were no absences. Mr Pringle had sent apologies. Councillors were disappointed that there were no representatives from the solar park developer in attendance. They also noted the new date for the community information session, 31 January 2024.	
LMPC/2 / 24	Declarations of interest: Mr Sheard declared an interest in item 16 c (Finance – Accounts for payment). There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.	
LMPC/3/ 24	Dispensations: None required.	
LMPC/4/ 24	<p>10 Minutes public speaking: The following were raised and discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The condition of the roads. The chair encouraged all residents to report road issues individually as recommended by Mr Pringle. b. Overgrowth obstructing the footpath outside Smithy Farm and the hedge on the left of Toad Lane at the corner as on exiting the village. The clerk will write a letter to the landowner requesting that it be cut. c. Overgrowth on Moorhouse Road. The clerk will raise with Mr Pringle. d. The condition of and rubbish at Bar Farmhouse. Mrs Michael reported that she had spoken with the conservation officer who was going to inspect the property. The clerk will contact the officer direct for an update. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
LMPC/5/ 24	<p>Thoresby Estate report (if any): No report available. Councillors discussed the Court Leet suggestion that there be a village meeting to discuss village matters including flooding. However, the suggestion had been superseded by Village Centre developments, with an invitation to a meeting from the Village Centre to village hall representatives, the Thoresby estate and the chair. The chair referred to some apparent confusion in relation to his position, which was chair of the parish council not a village hall representative. He will email Mr Pierrepoint to request a meeting agenda. Councillors identified the 2024 Annual Parish Meeting as an</p>	SH

	<p>appropriate forum for the discussion of village matters including flooding. The clerk will invite Mr Pierrepont. Councillors agreed that they would like to invite the NCC flood officer to the March 2024 meeting.</p>	Clerk
LMPC/6/24	<p>Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 28 November 2023: The minutes of the parish council meetings held on 28 November 2023 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.</p>	
LMPC/7/24	<p>Matters arising: <i>Item LMPC/316/23 – 10 minutes public speaking</i> – The clerk reported that no aquasacs are available. <i>Item LMPC/320/23 – Reports from councillors</i> – The chair had spoken with Rob regarding glass collection in Moorhouse but it may not be viable because of the small number of properties. He is waiting to hear. There were no other matters arising which were not otherwise on the agenda.</p>	
LMPC/8/24	<p>Reports from councillors: It was reported that: a. The verge by Toad Lane has been completely eroded b. The tarmac at the gate to Corner Farm was damaged. The clerk will report both to NCC. The chair reported on the Safer Neighbourhood Group meeting on 18 January 2024, referring to then following in particular: 1. The police no longer support with Neighbourhood watch but instead encourage residents to use Neighbourhood Alert which is a notification system. It remains possible to set up a group but there would be no police involvement. 2. Police priorities had been identified as: i. Rural crime and education ii. Speeding traffic iii. Inconsiderate parking 3. Beat meetings had been held throughout the summer with the police making themselves available to meet the public. However, they are now looking at engaging with communities in a different way by attending existing events where residents will already be in attendance. 4. The next meeting is on 18 April 2024. Mr Sheard reported that he is attending the meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Caroline Henry. In addition to her flooding report at LMPC/316/23 10 minutes public speaking, Mrs Michael reported that: a. Following the flooding on 6 January 2024, the government had restored all previous flood grant schemes including the farming recovery grant for land which is uninsurable b. NSDC is bringing back CCTV cameras at a cost of £500,000 c. The cabinet meeting had approved a 7.7% rise in council house rents and a council tax increase.</p>	
LMPC/9/24	<p>Property matters including sports field and Glebe Field matters (if any): Mr Sheard reported that the Sports Field Committee meeting had been cancelled. There had however been discussion of a joint litter pick. Councillors approved the suggestion. Mr Sheard will organise the event on a date to be agreed. The clerk reported that her search through the minutes in the NCC archive confirmed that parish council had received the grant funding and paid for the pavilion's construction. On this basis, the parish council would require insurance but a value would be required for the structure. The clerk will make enquiries. Mrs Moorhouse will obtain a copy of the lease from Thoresby which may contain relevant information.</p>	Clerk AM

	Councillors noted that the Glebe Field hedge had been cut.	
LMPC/10/24	<p>Planning matters:</p> <p>a. Applications: None</p> <p>b. To note planning decisions by NSDC: 22/01308/HOUSE Demolition of existing Conservatory. Installation of external door and window. School House High Street Laxton Nottinghamshire NG22 0NX – Approval noted.</p> <p>c. Great North Road Solar Park – Consultation – There was discussion of how best to engage with the project team. The clerk will request a post meeting briefing after the event in the village hall on 31 January 2024. Mrs Michael explained that, as regards NSDC, it had not yet been decided whether the planners will reach a view in isolation from the views of councillors or take those into account. Residents were encouraged to attend the events. Councillors recognised the importance of not pre-judging any application but of ensuring that they had the information they needed to reach an informed decisions on any applications which may be made.</p> <p>d. Compliance: No matters raised.</p>	Clerk
LMPC/11/24	<p>Parish council matters:</p> <p>a. Aims and objectives: Councillors discussed and shared ideas.</p> <p>b. Consider use of social media: Councillors discussed the benefits of a social media platform to disseminate information but also the risks and need for robust safeguards. Mr Sheard, Mrs Creighton and Mr J Hill will form a working party to consider the options and report back at the March meeting.</p>	DS/RC/JH Agenda
LMPC/12/24	Report on Christmas event: Councillors agreed that the event had gone well with lots of positive feedback having been received from residents. They regretted that the weather conditions had prevented the vicar and choir from attending. They will await the Young Farmers' invoice for the removal of the trees.	
LMPC/13/24	D Day 80th anniversary – Discuss beacon: After discussion, it was agreed that the chair would ask the Dovecote if a beacon could be lit in the pub field as in the past.	SH
LMPC/14/23	Defibrillator inspection report: Mr J Hill reported that, there were no issues. It was noted that the battery date is May 2024. The clerk reported that it had now become clear that the defibrillator model was being phased out. She will look at potential new models and funding.	Clerk
LMPC/15/24	<p>Village environment and appearance, including Bar Farmhouse:</p> <p>a. Parish roads and pavements, including Moorhouse village sign: The clerk will ask Mr Pringle to visit to look at the roads, pavements and drains. The planned for the location if any new litter bin was confirmed as by the dog bin at the sports ground entrance.</p> <p>b. Bench for Moorhouse: The bench will be installed when weather conditions are better.</p> <p>c. Flood resilience: Discussed at LMPC/5/24 (Thoresby Estate report) above. The clerk will ask for volunteers to put out flood signs using the website.</p> <p>d. Neighbourhood watch: Discussed at LMPC/8/24 (Reports from Councillors) above</p>	Clerk
LMPC/16/24	a. Financial position as at 31 December 2023: Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 December 2023 (incorporating the 2023-24	

	<p>budget figures).</p> <p>b. 2024 – 25 insurance arrangements: Councillors unanimously approved the 2024-25 insurance arrangements subject to the above amendment.</p> <p>c. Accounts for payment: Councillors unanimously approved eleven payments totalling £1240.34. Councillors noted the importance of submitting expenditure invoices in advance.</p> <p>d. To consider the financial information provided by the Clerk and NSDC’s letter regarding 2024/25 precept estimates and to agree the precept for the year ending 31 March 2025: Councillors considered the financial information provided by the clerk. They noted the level of reserves, recognising that these were at a level which provided scope for investment on the parish environment. Councillors unanimously decided to retain the precept at £4600.</p>	
LMPC/17/24	Service faults: None reported.	
LMPC/18/24	Correspondence: NSDC – Anti-social Crime and Policing Act 2024 – Public Spaces Protection Orders: Noted	
LMPC/19/24	5 minutes public speaking time: Nothing raised.	
LMPC/20/23	Agenda items for next meeting: See above	
LMPC/312/22	Date of next meeting: 7.30 pm Tuesday 26 March 2024 at Laxton Visitor Centre.	

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm