

LAXTON AND MOORHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7.30 pm on Tuesday 23 July 2024 at Moorhouse Church, Moorhouse, Nottinghamshire

Present: Councillors:

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

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Wilson (Clerk)
S. Michael (District Councillor)
J. Carter-Davis (RCAN)
Member of the public (x1)

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| LMPC/89/24 | <p>Apologies for absence: Councillors noted with great sadness the passing that day of their longstanding colleague and former chair, Mr J Godson. The meeting observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect.</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mr. J Hill and Mr S Rose. Mr Pringle was also absent.</p> | |
| LMPC/90/24 | <p>Declarations of interest: There were no declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.</p> | |
| LMPC/91/24 | <p>Dispensations: None required.</p> | |
| LMPC/92/24 | <p>10 Minutes public speaking: Reference was made to the incorrect address provided for planning application 24/01056/FUL relating to land at Church Farm. Councillors noted that, contrary to the address stated in the application, Church Farm was not in Moorhouse. The chair reported that he had previously contacted NSDC twice to let the officer know and had received assurances that the address would be amended. However, the amendment did not appear to have been effected.</p> | |
| LMPC/93/24 | <p>Thoresby Estate report (if any): No report.</p> | |
| LMPC/94/24 | <p>RCAN – Presentation – Jodi Carter-Davies – Development and Delivery: Ms Carter-Davis:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outlined the role of RCAN. This is to unite communities to take action with the assistance of RCAN's team of three staff members 2. Explained that RCAN operates a membership scheme which purchases RCAN's <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. help identifying funding, supporting with engagement, marketing and promotion b. information sheets and model documents c. twice yearly cluster group meetings which provide access to external organisations d. events during village halls week | |

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| | <p>e. links to NALC, NSDC, NCC, Police and Crime Commissioner and CPRE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Confirmed that RCAN works with communities rather than individuals 4. Explained that RCAN is different from NALC because it focuses on community engagement and funding 5. Confirmed that, if the parish council were to join, the Visitor Centre, Village Hall, church and sports field committee could benefit 6. Invited a parish councillor to attend the next cluster group meeting from 10 am until midday on 28 September 2024 and Egmonton village hall. <p>Councillors thanked Ms Carter-Davis for attending and providing and insight into RCAN's services. Ms carter- Davis left the meeting.</p> | |
| LMPC/95/24 | <p>Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 28 May and 18 June 2024: The minutes of the parish council meetings held on 28 May and 18 June 2024 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair subject to the amendment of LMPC/71/24 to refer to Moorgate Farm instead of Marlow Farm.</p> | |
| LMPC/96/24 | <p>Matters arising: There were no matters arising.</p> | |
| LMPC/97/24 | <p>Reports from councillors: Mrs Michael apologised for missing the May meetings and reported as she would have had she been able to attend the Annual Parish Meeting. Her report referred to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grant funding made available by NSDC following Storms Babet and Hank 2. NSDC's successful bid for levelling up funding which will cover the A46/A1 link road at Farndon 3. The new glass recycling scheme 4. Land set aside to promote biodiversity <p>and the possibility that the new government may make changes which have an impact on the district and NSDC.</p> <p>The chair reported on the July SNG meeting and that the principal issues discussed related to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rural crime and speeding 2. A van which had been stolen from a property in Laxton 3. Cold callers in Southwell. | |
| LMPC/98/24 | <p>Property matters including sports field, lease and pavilion and Glebe Field matters (if any): The clerk had shared the insurers' reply to Mr Rose's specific enquiries on to the insurers.</p> <p>Having established that the parish council was the owner of the pavilion, councillors discussed the need, particularly for risk management reasons, for the parish council proactively to oversee the overall condition and use of the pavilion. It was acknowledged that the pavilion's day to day management is undertaken by the Sports Field Committee and that it is intended that this should continue. It was decided that the parish council should take steps to establish the pavilion's present condition and understand the ways in which it is being used. The chair will liaise with Mr Rose to take this forward. They will report back at the September 2024 meeting.</p> <p>The clerk will again contact Mr Pierrepont in relation to consent to sub-let the field to the Sports Field Committee.</p> | <p>SH/SR</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| LMPC/99/ | <p>Planning matters:</p> | |

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| 24 | <p>a. Applications: 24/01056/FUL Construction of New Three Bedroom Farmhouse with Farm Office Land at Church Farm Moorhouse Road Egmanton: Councillors discussed the application and unanimously agreed that the council should take issue with the address but that otherwise, they had no objections to the proposal.</p> <p>b. To note planning decisions by NSDC: 24/01025/DEM - Application to determine if prior approval is required for demolition of 1 barn and 2 grain silos as per Schedule 2 Part 11 Class B – Ide Farm, Moorhouse Road, Laxton, NG22 0TB – Noted that prior approval was required and had been granted</p> <p>c. Compliance: No matters raised.</p> | |
| LMPC/100/24 | <p>Parish council use of social media:</p> <p>a. Approve and adopt Code of Practice: Councillors had received and read the draft Code of Practice circulated by the clerk.</p> <p>b. Nominate councillors to publish posts: Following discussion, councillors unanimously authorised Mr Sheard, Mrs Creighton and Mr J Hill to post information on the parish council Facebook page in addition to the clerk. All noted the need to apply the highest level restriction of third party comments to every individual post. The clerk will add each of the authorised councillors to the account.</p> | Clerk |
| LMPC/101/24 | <p>Defibrillator:</p> <p>a. Inspection report: No report available.</p> <p>b. Replacement: Councillors discussed funding opportunities noting that funding had been restricted since the change of government had taken place. The clerk had shared the outcome of her research into the models available and costs by email. After discussion, councillors decided to defer a decision to the September 2024 meeting.</p> | |
| LMPC/102/24 | <p>Financial matters:</p> <p>a. Financial position as at 30 June 2024: Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 30 June 2024 (incorporating the 2024-25 budget figures). The clerk referred them to the various out of date uncashed cheques. Councillors discussed the best way forward. It was decided that the uncashed cheques to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. two councillors should be reissued, councillors being covered by the code of conduct in the event of any attempt to cash the out of date cheques ii. Laxton PCC, which had been returned, should be reissued iii. Christmas event band and the Dovecote should be returned and reissued once returned. <p>b. Accounts for payment: Councillors unanimously approved eleven payments totalling £998.91. The clerk will follow up reimbursement for the dog bin expenditure from Mr Pringle.</p> <p>c. Bank signatories – Update: The clerk reported on the continuing difficulties being encountered with Nat West bank in relation to the change of signatories and errors in the bank's records. Councillors recognised that the bank's issues were creating issues for the parish council but agreed that, in the circumstances, their options were limited. The clerk will continue to liaise with the bank.</p> | Clerk Clerk Clerk |
| LMPC/103/24 | <p>Parish environment and appearance, including:</p> <p>a. Mowing of verges: It was reported that the resident who cut the Laxton verges voluntarily was leaving the village. There was discussion of appointing Mr Sheard to mow the verges on the</p> | |

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| | <p>parish council's behalf with the parish council making a donation towards the associated fuel costs. It was decided that Mr Sheard should make an initial in principle approach the church to seek its views on its mower being used on this basis. He will report back to the council at the next meeting.</p> <p>b. Parish benches - Inspection arrangements: After discussion of the current arrangements, it was decided that Mr Sheard will undertake twice yearly visual inspections of the parish benches (September and March) to assess any damage, defects or required repair and maintenance.</p> <p>c. Parish roads and pavements: The NCC officer's report that the overhanging vegetation at Smithy Farm would be cut on 17 July 2024 was formally noted. Councillors confirmed that the cut did not appear to have been completed. The clerk will let the NCC officer know that the overgrowth remains.</p> <p>d. Flood resilience – Working party report and associated decisions: The clerk passed the plans received from Mr Marshall, NCC flood officer, to Mr Sheard. Mr Sheard confirmed that, separately, he had sent maps of the areas requiring attention to Mr Marshall. He also reported that he had tried unsuccessfully to contact the Internal Drainage Board ("IDB") with a view to a representative attending a meeting. Mrs Michael will follow this up with IDB direct. The working party is planning its next meeting.</p> <p>e. Community tidy up: Mr Sheard reported that he had organised a tidy up of the church and churchyard and hoped that the railings at the church gate would be painted. There was discussion of his suggestion that the parish council contribute to the cost of the paint. Councillors decided that a maintenance contribution to a private landowner would not be an appropriate use of public funds.</p> <p>f. Christmas event 2024 – Planning: Councillors considered the most appropriate approach to organising the 2025 event. They unanimously decided to form a parish council Christmas event group comprising all councillors. The group will explore initial ideas and undertake initial planning. These plans including the risk assessment will be brought to the September 2024 meeting for approval.</p> <p>g. WWI and WWII remembrance memorial on the Green: Councillors discussed the acquisition of a silent soldier silhouette. The clerk will investigate and circulate costings.</p> <p>h. Parish environment enhancement in recognition of previous serving parish council members: Councillors discussed ideas for an enhancement to the environment. They unanimously agreed that a new bench of the same design as the new bench in Moorhouse would be an attractive and useful addition. The chair will circulate a photo of the proposed location. The clerk will then contact NCC with details of the location and bench design to establish whether any permission is required.</p> | <p>DS</p> <p>DS</p> <p>DS Mar/ Sept</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>SM Wkg party</p> <p>All cllrs</p> <p>Agenda</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>SH Clerk</p> |
| <p>LMPC/104/24</p> | <p>Service faults: None</p> | |
| <p>LMPC/105/24</p> | <p>Correspondence: All items of correspondence noted.</p> | |
| <p>LMPC/106/24</p> | <p>5 minutes public speaking time: Speaking as a village hall committee member, Mr Sheard enquired whether the council would approve the use of the noticeboard to publicise Village Hall events. Councillors approved such use.</p> | |
| <p>LMPC/107/24</p> | <p>Agenda items for next meeting: See above. The clerk will enquire as to the possibility of a planning officer attending a meeting to discuss NSDC's approach to planning in the</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |

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| | parish. She will also request an update on the conservation area review. | Clerk |
| LMPC/108/22 | Date of next meeting: 7.30 pm Tuesday 24 September 2024 at the Visitor Centre. | |

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm