

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held at Leigh Village Hall on Tuesday 15th January 2019

Present: Cllr A Bennett (Chairman); Cllr S Scutt (Vice Chair); Cllr G Bugler; Cllr C Dixon and Cllr D Vincent.

In attendance: Helen Reed (NORCAT) to end Item 4. DCllr M Penfold from start Item 5.

Item	Discussion and Decisions
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Opening Remarks.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and Helen Reed for attending on behalf of NORCAT.

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr D West. Also from PC Mark Jones (see Item 14) and Richard Smith (Item 4.). DCllr Penfold would join later from another meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest: Nil

3. **LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

The Minutes of Previous Leigh Parish Council Meeting 20 November 2018 had been circulated and displayed in advance of the meeting. There were no more amendments

3.1. The Chairman signed the minutes

3.2. Any matters arising were covered in the agenda

4. **TRANSPORT**

14.1. NORDCAT. Helen Reed of NORDCAT was in attendance to update the PC on the service and take any questions. She had initiated the service 18 years ago, to provide a vital service to the community as local authorities reduced their bus services. She described:

- History and development of the NORDCAT service
- Scope of NORDCAT services and their use in Leigh, including parallel car services.
- Future provision and developments
- Funding
- How the Parish Council could assist.
- Helen thanked the PC for previous assistance to NORCAT.

14.2. Several questions expanded the points and identified how much the service relied upon goodwill and its use to justify the provision. Leigh was well served, and future needs would be considered. Publicity and outreach depended upon staffing and the long hours that they worked.

14.3. Funds were in the Leigh budget for FY 2018-19 with respect of a grant to the service. It was agreed that £300 should be paid in the current year. (Cheque handed over at the time). See Item 13. It was also agreed to repeat provision in 2019/20's budget.

14.4. The village Transport Representative, Richard Smith had indicated that he was no longer available for meetings and that he wished to stand down. Cllr Dixon indicated that she was happy to take the task and agreed contact details

Item

Discussion and Decisions

with Helen Reed for NORDCAT publicity and input.

14.5. It was clear to all Cllrs present the passion and hard work that Helen Reed applies to NORDCAT. The Chairman thanked her for her attendance and comprehensive brief.

5. FINANCES – OVERVIEW

To review current Financial status.

5.1. Current FY. The Chairman noted that the in-year budget was on track. At the end of the FY, it was likely that, notwithstanding the capital spend on the playpark (managed separately), we will have spent £1000 more than income received, whereas the budget had planned on a £1500 deficit.

5.2. VAT reclaim: LPC Clerk reported that the previous reclaim (£24-40) for pre-31 Mar 17 was identified and accordingly:

5.2.1. £370 identified for VAT reclaim, for 2017/18 was in hand.

5.2.2. In current year, £125, so far, is identified for reclaim, ideally post-1 April 2019.

5.3. Draft Budget - for 2019/20 had been circulated pre-meeting and was no submitted for agreement. Notwithstanding any spend on any new capital projects, it was expected that income/expenditure for FY 2019-20 would generated be a surplus of c.£2750, assuming a precept of £8774 was approved (option C).

5.4. The Parish's precept option C was proposed for agreement – see Budget 5.3. This would mean a 1.99% increase to £37.57 for a Band D property. It was recommended that accordingly a precept of £8774 should be set.

Proposed: Cllr S Scutt; Seconded: Cllr G Bugler

Form signed off for dispatch pre-deadline (31 Jan 19)

PLAYPARK

6. Cllr Bugler updated on progress with Phase 1 of the Playpark.

6.1. Work had started around 16 Nov 18, although subsequent heavy rain slowed the work before Christmas. Work re-started in the new year and it was expected that Phase 1 would be completed by the end of Jan 19. There had been only small variance in the project as it progressed. The earth mound would need to be left to settle prior to Phase 2 (slide) being implemented and it was suggested that the area be fenced off to prevent access and thus potential damage during that settlement.

6.1.1 Restoration of the original play park site was largely complete and a new field gate had been fitted. Cllr Bennett undertook to write and thank Mr & Mrs Wallace for their generous loan of the site for the past 40 years.

6.1.2. Road signs remain in place at the old site and was no superfluous. Parish Clerk to write to the Highways Department for their removal. As it was well back from the road, road signs were not considered necessary for the new play park,

6.2. Cllr Bugler reported that the Playpark Committee would transfer their funds to the parish account. All invoices should therefore be paid by the PC.

Item**Discussion and Decisions**

Cllr Scutt reminded the council of a need to produce invoices in support of the project spend to assure release of the second installment of the grant. It was hoped that as much as possible might be submitted before the end of the FY and the major reorganization of the councils.

7. BOYLES TRUST

A new Trustee is required for the Boyles Foundation to represent Leigh. Anyone interested was encouraged to contact the Clerk for further details.

8. PLANNING

8.1. To consider Planning Matters – following changes since previous meeting:

- WD/D/18/002991 - update to WD/D/18/00 WD/D/18/001951 Tinkers End. Render colour change agreed 15 Jan '19.
- WD/D/18/002789 – Meadow View, Chetnole Rd, DT9 6HL. Full planning permission. Consultation ongoing, with response needed before 4 Feb 19. In meeting, the PC made its decision to support.
- WD/D/18/002740 – Deansbrook Farm DT2 7BG. Listed Planning consent for porch. Supported.
- WD/D/18/002583. Agri-buildings adjacent to Stone House, Totnell, DY9 6HT, change of use. Approved 9 Jan '19
- WD/D/18/001438 – Isles Farm. Solar panels on outbuilding. PC response: supported. Approved – 26 Nov 18
- WD/D/18/001199 – Brookside Cottage, Fence Panels, retrospective. PC response (Object) 24 Sep 18. Planning permission refused on 24 Oct 18. Planning enforcement.

8.2. Planning Training Seminars. The February seminar was currently full, and Cllr Dixon for LPC was on the waiting list. Another seminar was due in September 2019 and the application would be carried forward if a place was not allocated in February. Cllr Dixon kindly undertook to take the Planning 'lead' on stand down of Cllr West.

9. FLOOD ALLEVIATION

Plans to place six smaller "leaky dams" were carried forward from the previous meeting. Two tenders had been considered, a third local contractor bid was sought, but nothing had been forthcoming. After discussion it was agreed that Paul Hambridge should be contracted. It was anticipated that work would start in January, weather permitting.

10. LITTER PICK.

A full schedule had been circulated for a litter pick around the village from 22 January to 3 February 2019. Some volunteers had started their areas in advance. The Council expressed its appreciation of all involved.

11. COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

The previous Speed Watch Team Leader had moved from the village; there was an urgent need to find a replacement. Volunteers are all approved and trained by Dorset Police. An item would be placed in the Wriggle Valley magazine seeking a volunteer for this role.

12. LOCAL ELECTIONS – MAY 2019

Material was steadily appearing for the local and parish elections, scheduled for May –

Item**Discussion and Decisions**

all seats on the PC were up for election. Nomination forms would be available from about late February; any resident wishing to stand as a Parish Councillor will need to complete one. The DATPC and Dorset For You websites had plenty of associated material.

13. APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

The following payments were agreed:

13.1. Jackson-Stops, land valuation advice: £480 – Proposed: Cllr Scutt; seconded: Cllr Bugler

13.2. Parish Clerk

13.2.1. Salary: £298-91

13.2.2. Expenses: £12-44

Proposed: Cllr Scutt; seconded: Cllr Dixon

13.3. Cllr Bugler – defib pads purchase: £50-40. Proposed: Cllr Dixon; seconded: Cllr Scutt

13.4. Playpark welding: £265-00 Proposed: Cllr Vincent; seconded: Cllr Scutt

13.5. See Item 4; £300 grant allocated to support NORCAT. Proposed: Cllr Scutt; seconded: Cllr Vincent.

14. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.

14.1. From Hastoe Housing that the vacancy at Club Corner Cottages, had been allocated – a Sherborne person about to become a Leigh villager.

14.2. Royal Garden Party (15 May 2019) Nominations were to be NLT 23 January 2019 for local council members' attendance. Dorset had 2 couples / 4 spaces and guidelines apply.

14.3. Email identifying that grit bin top-up arrangements were changed and application process now entirely on-line. Parish Clerk to liaise with Cllr Vincent.

14.4. Police Email 15 Jan 19 – BOAT Closure. Longbridge Drove, Bridleway N18/20, a bye-way open to all traffic (BOAT) was to be closed for 12 months due to anti-social behaviour at Whitegates. It is to permit recovery of the heavily damaged surfaces. Associated signage has now been replaced and arrangements were in place to monitor and enforce the closure. Parish Clerk to inform the footpaths officer and agree local publicity.

15. ITEMS OF AN URGENT NATURE – SUBJECT TO CHAIRMAN'S APPROVAL.

In minutes

16. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:

Next meeting 7-30pm on Tuesday 19th March 2019

- 21st May 2019; linked with and following Village AGM (19:00 / 7pm)
- 16th July 2019
- 17 September 2019
- 19 November 2019