

Laughton-en-le-Morthen Parish Council

(Ordinary Meeting 6th May 2014)



Present: Councillors Mr T Stanway (Chairperson), Mr P Lilleker (Vice-Chairperson), Mrs J Robinson, Mr K Evason, Mrs J Leaning, Mr P Shackley, Mr S Johnson and Martin Gourley (Parish Clerk). In attendance: Mr S McDonald, Slade Hooton resident Mr. R Thrower and Peter Kenny, Laughton-en-le-Morthen residents. Apologies: PC Shaun Rhodes Mrs. S. Brooks, Brookhouse resident.

1. Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

The Chairman and Vice Chairman stood down.

Councillor Stanway was re-elected as Chairman: proposed Councillor Lilleker and Seconded by Councillor Johnson. Councillor Lilleker was re-elected as Vice Chairman: proposed Councillor Leaning and Seconded by Councillor Shackley.

2. Open Forum for Parishioners in Attendance

a) Robin Thrower has installed a noticeboard in the entrance of the Hatfeild Arms public house to publicise PC matters. Mr Thrower was thanked and reimbursed for his expenses of £20.80.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 9th April 2014

Resolved: The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

4. Declaration of Prejudicial & Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Having previously had a presentation from Warren Bostock (Yorkshire Ambulance Service), Councillors discussed the benefits of the PC owning a Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) and where the best location would be to serve the largest part of our community. Given that an externally mounted PAD cabinet requires a mains electricity supply it was agreed that the best place would be at the Village Hall. Defibrillators and suitable cabinets are available at discounted prices negotiated by YAS and based on the prices given by Mr. Bostock the approximately cost will be £1495 ex vat and delivery.

Councillor A proposed that the PC purchase a PAD to be mounted externally at the Village Hall. Councillor C seconded the proposal and all were in favour.

It was agreed that extending the area covered by a defibrillator may be an option by purchasing further PADs in future years when the PC has the benefit of experience from purchasing the first one.

Resolved: The Clerk has placed orders with “GreenUrban” for a PAD cabinet and “Cardiac Science” for an A5 AED defibrillator.

6. Parishioner’s Written Requests

Mr Bowes, a Laughton resident, has sent the Clerk a copy of a reply he received from RMBC after asking if repairs could be carried out to Hangsman Lane. RMBC had stated that the road was not on the list of repairs

in 2014/15 but it would be discussed at a special meeting to be held in early April 2014. Councillors had previously agreed that the Clerk should write a letter to RMBC urging the Borough Council to bring forward repairs. Mr Stephen Finley, RMBC, has replied stating that the repairs will not be carried out in 2014/15. The Clerk has further asked if an assurance could be given that the repairs will be included in the 2015/16 programme but Mr Finley stated that no such assurance could be given.

7. Items under Review

a) Use of Recreation Ground

(i) Football Team

It is believed that more games are being played than listed on the fixtures list. The Clerk has compared the fixtures list provided by Laughton Juniors with the list of games played on the FA's website www.thefa.com (Sheffield & District Junior League). There are some discrepancies in the dates listed but it was agreed that the number (rather than dates) of games listed throughout the season on the FA website should be compared with the number of payments received. Councillor B continues to supply lists of games played that he is aware of. The Clerk will speak to the team's secretaries to ensure that the PC receives fees for all games played.

When asked when the goal posts could be removed the team secretary confirmed that last game of the season was to be played on 27th April. Councillor B has supplied a list of games played that he is aware of. The Clerk will now work out how many games have been played against those paid for and speak to the Secretary if need be.

Resolved: The Clerk continues to compare the number of games played against monies received.

(ii) Playground

RMBC have completed repairs to the cargo net clamps; zip wire seat and chain cover. The Clerk is waiting for the invoice, which should be for parts only as RMBC have offered to waive the fitting fees due to the delay incurred in obtaining the parts.

The inspection process has changed and the PC now receives a much more details report which includes photographs of the inspector's findings. A number of previously unreported issues have been raised, all of which are "low risk":

- i) Multi-play (junior) - Bolt cap covers missing/damaged.
- ii) Spring see-saw – Possibly installed to high.
- iii) Free-ride swing – Incorrect install height.
- iv) Climbing frame - Bolt cap covers missing/damaged.

Resolved: The Clerk will write to the Manufacturers, who also installed the equipment, and seek their comments on items ii) and iii) and request part numbers and prices for the bolt covers.

The Clerk took delivery of the Enviromulch, now renamed "CushionFall" on 11th April. Despite ordering 65 cubic metres about 70cubic metres were delivered due to a supplier error. A team of volunteers including

members of the “Mother and Toddler Group”, St. John’s Road Allotment Society, Village Hall Committee, residents of Laughton, and Parish Councillors spread the CushionFall.

Resolved: The CushionFall has been replenished.

After the work had been carried out the Clerk received an email from Penny Brooks, a parishioner, who complained that the play area had been filled with substandard wood-chippings. The Clerk informed Mrs Brooks that CushionFall was manufactured for the purpose and the PC had a certificate of product worthiness on record. Mrs Brooks did not respond to the reply.

b) Parish Planting Scheme

Jon Shaw continues to carry out routine maintenance of the village and hamlet planters. The Clerk has received verbal expressions of concern about the dowdy appearance of the bushes/shrubs in the planters. It was agreed that the present planting does not appear to match the original specification. Councillor C said that he would discuss this with the contractor.

Resolved: Councillor C will speak to the contractor.

(iv) Garden to rear of pensioners’ bungalows

Councillors discussed the request for the PC to maintain the gardens to the rear of the pensioners’ bungalows. The garden area used to be open to the general public but it has now been fenced off, creating private gardens. Councillors declined the request on the grounds that other parishioners may expect the PC to maintain private areas if the precedent was set. The Clerk will write to Mr & Mrs Hicks and advise them of the PC’s decision.

Resolved: The Clerk writes to inform Mr & Mrs Hicks of the decision.

c) St John’s Road Allotments

(i) Lease arrangements with St Leger Estates (via Savills)

The Clerk has written to Emma Stead, Savills Solicitors and asked when the PC might receive the updated lease. He has received an apology stating that the Solicitor dealing with the matter, who is also a trustee, has been seriously ill and that she hopes work on the new lease will resume within the next month, or so.

Resolved: Awaiting new lease.

(ii) The Clerk was on-site on Saturday 12th and 26th April to collect rents. £1435 has been collected. The Allotment Society Chairperson is expecting to receive the outstanding monies over the shop counter.

(iii) One plot is vacant due to bereavement and this will be reallocated in due course. There are currently two people on the waiting list.

Resolved: The Clerk continues to seek payment of outstanding rents and allocates vacant plots as appropriate.

(iv). Mr Buttle has started to move his boundary fence to increase the area of his allotment plot. After several complaints and expressions of concern about the restriction this would create on the access track the Clerk and Councillor C inspected the new fence line, took measurements and obtained an aerial view of the

site. Councillors agreed that Mr Buttle should not extend his allotment and asked the Clerk to inform Mr Buttle of their decision in writing.

Resolved: The Clerk informs Mr Buttle of the PC's decision in writing.

d) RVS Area Assembly & Parishes Meeting

Parishes Meetings are suspended unless a specific issue needs to be discussed.

No meetings have been held during the last month. The next one takes place next week but Councillor D will be on holiday.

e) Weed spraying (including Japanese knotweed on recreation ground)

Andrew (Stenton Farm) will target signs of Japanese Knotweed with weed killer instead of carrying out indiscriminate spraying.

f. Village Associations

Brookhouse: Nothing to report.

Slade Hooton: - The litter-pick organised for the 27th April was successful. However, it took place later than in previous years and litter was hidden by vegetation. It was the first time the litter-pick had been extended to Laughton and 7 Laughton residents, including Councillor C turned out. The skip contractor wrongly asked for payment from Karen Elliott, Brookhouse resident, for the Laughton skip.

Resolved: The Clerk will reimburse Mrs Elliott. Future litter-picks should be held in February.

Carr: Nothing to report.

g. Streetpride

(i) Dog fouling on recreation ground and Fly Tipping in the Parish

Fly Tipping and Dog fouling on the playing field, play area and in the rest of the Parish continues to be an issue. The following is an extract from the minutes of the AGM meeting which preceded this meeting:....a presentation by Matt Finn, Community Protection Manager RMBC on the new Summary of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The law simplifies existing laws and gives Police and Borough Councils powers to deal with a range of antisocial issues (fly tipping, dog fouling, noise etc.), and gives powers to create and enforce Public Spaces Protection Orders and issue Community Protection Notices. Public spaces are defined by who has access to the land/property, not who owns the land/property therefore, a public nuisance issue on private land/property is within the scope of the new law. Mr. Finn made the point that the Borough Council need people to report issues via the "StreetPride" telephone number 01709 336003 or website <http://www3.rotherham.gov.uk/HighwaysReport/> in order to direct resources efficiently, according to the size or frequency of the problem.

Further details about the new law can be found at:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/12/contents/enacted/data.htm>.

h. Website design and quotation

The new web-site is almost ready to go live. The Clerk has liaised with BT to get the IPS TAG pointed to EXACT. The PC's web designers (Northern Peak – Creative Design) now have to do further work before the new website can go live. BT requires a formal request through their sales department to cease the BT web hosting contract.

Resolved: The Clerk will continue to liaise with BT and Northern Peak.

i. Roche Abbey Christmas Walk 2013

Laughton Parish Council has facilitated the management of the walk since English Heritage pulled out. Councillor F said that the new independent committee is currently setting up a bank account and will be organising the 2014 walk.

A new committee has been formed comprising: Paul Marshall, Sam Brook and Councillor F. More people will be appointed onto the committee. It is hoped that additional support will come from the Maltby and Firbeck communities.

Resolved: Laughton Parish Council is no-longer responsible for organising the walk. Banking will be transferred to a new bank account to be opened by the new committee.

j. Parking Issues at All Saints' School

Drivers continue to park inconsiderately or illegally, even on the yellow zig-zag line. The clerk has previously spoken to the Head teacher, Mrs Burtoft, regarding the proposal of an open meeting for parents. It had been suggested that the school organises one for the beginning of December 2013 but there was no response from Mrs Burtoft. On the 28th December the Clerk wrote to Mrs Burtoft, requesting a meeting with herself and the School Governors to discuss how the situation can be improved. The Clerk has not received a written reply from Mrs. Burtoft. He has telephoned the school several times requesting a verbal or written response to the letter in time for this meeting but no response has been received.

In December 2013 the Clerk made PC Shaun Rhodes aware of the ongoing situation. At the PC meeting in February 2014 PC Rhodes reported that tickets have been issued to drivers parked on the yellow zig-zag line and for the offence of obstruction near the junction of Rectory Court and High Street. A PCSO is currently patrolling outside the Church School and Laughton J&I School, alternate mornings and afternoons, each day. RMBC's parking surveillance van continues to patrol the area.

The Clerk has now had a meeting with Mrs. Burtoft in which the following were discussed: (i) A "Park & Walk" commencing in the summer term. Parents will be able to drop off and collect their children at the Village Hall car park. Volunteers are needed (CBR checked) to help school staff. The "park & walk" will be included in the PC newsletter together with a request for volunteers. (ii) Schoolchildren are to design a "no parking" sign to be displayed outside school. It is thought that parents would take more notice of this sign rather than a commercially produced one. (iii) Mrs. Burtoft would like to have a closed meeting with: Police, Highways Dept., School Governors and Parish Council to plan for a public meeting: As the Clerk still hasn't

had a response from Mrs. Burtoft. Councillor G suggested that the Clerk seeks a response from Mrs Morley, who now shares the Headship of the school.

The proposed "park & walk" and a request for volunteers to assist school staff was advertised in the Parish Newsletter.

Resolved: The Clerk will liaise with Mrs. Burtoft about these initiatives.

k. Newsletter Distribution

Councillor C and the Clerk will produce a newsletter to be distributed before the end of April.

Resolved: The newsletter was produced and distributed.

l. Risk Assessment Review

Simon McDonald has commissioned a risk assessment of the Village Hall. The final inspection is imminent.

Resolved: Simon McDonald is currently waiting to receive a report from his Risk Assessors.

8. Police in the Community

a. Crime figures for period 10th April 2014 to 6th May 2014.

Newhall - No recorded crimes.

Slade Hooton - No recorded crimes.

Brookhouse - No recorded crimes.

Carr – No recorded crimes.

Laughton En Le Morthen - 1 recorded crime (detected); Harassment (1st Course) Kingswood Avenue 22/04/2014. Ex partner makes persistent contact via mobile phone, calls received at Laughton address.

9. Village Hall Issues

a. Energy Saving Suggestions

Mr McDonald has workmen available to upgrade the roof insulation.

Resolved: Mr. McDonald to obtain the quotes.

b. Caretaker's Role

The caretaker spent 6 additional hours stripping and resealing the village hall floor over the Christmas period. The PC will not invoice the LVHMC for these hours. **Resolved: The Clerk will deduct 6 hours from the next invoice.**

c. Car park & recreation ground improvements

Dog fouling continues on the car park, recreation area and football fields. Please see item 154 g (i).

Car Park Barrier: Councillor D has not yet received a quote from Mr. D. Redford for the erection of a barrier (rather than a gate for safety reasons) at the entrance to the car park to prevent antisocial behaviour during the night. Councillor F offered to obtain a quote from an alternative supplier. **Resolved: Councillor F to obtain a quote.**

d. Hand wash units & combi-boiler refurbishment

Quotes from PC Kelly (██████) and J&M Heating (██████), based on the Ideal Vogue 40 boiler were disregarded. Bancroft Plumbing and Heating had not initially quoted for all the work listed in the invitation to tender but the Clerk had received a revised quote for the full works: ██████. This Compares to

Brookhouse Gas Services quote: [REDACTED]. Brookhouse and Bancroft had been asked what their recommendation would have been had the PC not stipulated the Ideal Vogue 40. Brookhouse recommended two; Baxi Platinum 40 ([REDACTED]) and Vaillant Ecotec + 837 ([REDACTED]) and Bancroft recommended the Worcester Bosch Greenstar model 38CDi (£2747) or model 42CDi ([REDACTED]). Based on an assumption that the model 42CDi would have a higher central heating output, Councillor A proposed that Bancroft were awarded the contract to install the Worcester Bosch 42CDi. Councillor D seconded the proposal on the condition that the Clerk invited Bancroft back to the VH and asked him to confirm that the model 42CDi would have sufficient output to heat the area currently served by hot water radiators AND the area heated by electric radiators. All were in favour.

Mr Bancroft has attended the VH and carried out calculations to see if the Worcester Bosch 42CDi boiler has the capacity to heat the hall and the back-stage area. Although the Worcester 42CDi boiler has an overall central heating output of 42Kw only 30Kw is available for central heating. He concluded that the Ideal Vogue 40, with a central heating output of 32Kw, was the most suitable. His opinion was that the Worcester Bosch 42CDi boiler output of 30Kw was 'border-line' for the job. Councillors were concerned about the reliability of the Ideal boiler and asked to invite Mr. Bancroft to attend the next meeting. **Resolved: The Clerk invites Mr. Bancroft to attend the next PC meeting.**

g. LVHMC Treasurer

The treasurer has produced a budget that predicts that the Village Hall will be in profit (£1,129) based on current receipts and expenditure.

h. Village Hall Cooker

It was initially thought that the cooker could be connected during the August break but, due to a fundraising 'race night' being organized for Friday 9th May, it was proposed by Councillor D and seconded by Councillor C that Mr Bancroft should be asked to fit it prior to the event. All in favour.

Resolved: The Clerk arranges for the cooker to be connected by Mr Bancroft prior to the 'race night'.

i. Village Hall Security

Councillor C said that Riber Surveillance had presented an invoice for the annual inspection and maintenance of the VH CCTV for period February '14 to January '15. Councillor D has previously said that there have been legal cases where the quality of CCTV images had not been good enough to secure a conviction and has raised concern about the quality of the village hall system. Councillor C has asked Riber to provide a quotation to upgrade the system but hasn't received reply yet. Councillor D has received a quote from Central Electrical (Neil) to upgrade the CCTV system:

- Option one. Install and upgrade a 16 channel CCTV recorder to a 1080p High Definition DVR with 2x2Terabyte hard drives installed. 3 year warranty £1289 ex vat.
- Option two. Supply and install standard definition 16 channel CCTV recorder with a 2 terabyte hard drive £789 ex vat.
- Replace 2 CCTV tft (thin-film-transistor) monitors and mount onto wall with bracket. £320 ex vat.

- The cost of upgrading the cameras range from £180 - £350 each depending on the dome or body style of camera. These could be connected via the existing cables providing they are RG59 standard.
- To install a 28w 2d low energy fitting under the porch area of the front door and connect via a time lag switch £65 ex vat.

To ensure that quotes are competitive additional quotes from ITS Sheffield and Dougie Hopkins may be obtained.

Riber have now supplied a quote. The Clerk was asked to draw up a comparison of the two quotes to submit to the next meeting.

Resolved: The Clerk draws up a comparison of the two quotes.

g) A baby changing station has been purchased at a cost of £149 including delivery. Councillor F has now installed the baby changing station.

Resolved: The baby changing station has been installed by Councillor F who was thanked for his efforts.

h) The AGM of the LVHMC is to be held on 8th May 2014.

10. Environmental Issues

a) Brookhouse Dyke

Councillor G reported that the culvert is currently running clean.

b) Thurcroft Landfill

The next meeting is on 7th May 2014.

11. Finance Report

a. Income Received and Accounts for Payment:

Debtor	Description	Amount (£)
Santander	Interest on savings 1 st April	1.35
Allotments	Rents	1435.00

Creditor	Description	Amount (£)
Alex Munro	V. H. Caretaker	212.02 PD
John Shaw	Gardening	203.00 PD
The Clerk	Salary - April	222.29 PD
Giffords	CushionFall	1296.00 PD
Staples and P.O.	Newsletter & Admin	42.14 PD
The Clerk	Salary – May	89.09 PD
Brailsford Print	Newsletter	30.00PD
Robin Thrower	Noticeboard	28.80 PD
LCR	Magazine subs	17.00 PD

b) The invoice (£210.00 + VAT) from Hobson's Nurseries (Carr) has still not arrived.

c) The Clerk has received information about possible grants from "YORhub 4 Good Fund"

Resolved: The PC should consider the fund when financing projects.

d) Precept allocation to hamlets – nothing discussed.

e) The Clerk has applied for a total precept of £22984 (including a grant of £2536). This figure ensures that the precept for Laughton PC does not change on the Council Tax bills sent to parishioners. **Resolved: Awaits the first instalment due in May 2014.**

f) The PC confirmed that the Clerk should continue paying the CPRE subs which have increased from £29 p.a. to £36.

12. Planning Applications - None

13. Consultation Documents

- a) Countryside Voice
- b) Rotherham Hospice Voice
- c) Local Council Review
- d) Campaign to Protect Rural England

14. Correspondence

- 1. Reply from Stephen Finley, Highways Asset Management RMBC
- 2. Campaign to Protect Rural England – Membership fee £29 to £36
- 3. Support CPRE’s charter cards in “consultation docs.”
 - i. Bad Planning decisions
 - ii. Fair say for communities
 - iii. More housing – in the right places
- 4. David Cameron £2000 free NIC’s
- 5. JAG Tree Surgery – seeking new business from the P. C.
- 6. Election Notices – displayed in 2x noticeboards
- 7. Letters of thanks for grants:
 - i. Laughton Karate Club

15. Any Other Business

Nothing further discussed.

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting

That the next Ordinary Meeting will take place on Wednesday 11th June 2014, after the AGM to be held at 7pm in the Village Hall, Firbeck Avenue, Laughton-en-le-Morthen.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm

Chairman.....

Date.....