

Laughton-en-le-Morthen Parish Council

(Ordinary Meeting 9th April 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. R Thrower and Peter Kenny, Laughton-en-le-Morthen residents PC Shaun Rhodes. Apologies: Mrs. S. Brooks, Brookhouse resident, Mr S McDonald, Slade Hooton resident.

149. Open Forum for Parishioners in Attendance

Nothing new discussed.

150. Minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2014

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

151. Declaration of Prejudicial & Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

152. Matters Arising from the Minutes

After last month's presentation, given by 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 requires a mains electricity supply it was agreed that the best place would be at the Village Hall. PADs are available via a YAS discount scheme and based on the prices given by Mr. Bostock it would cost £1495. Councillor T proposed that the PC purchase a PAD to be mounted externally at the Village Hall. Councillor M 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 will purchase a PAD and external cabinet.

153. Parishioner's Written Requests

Last month David Wright, Secretary to Firbeck Lane Allotment Society, complained about dog fouling on the verge outside the allotments.

Resolved: The Clerk has supplied a sign produced by Keep Britain Tidy regarding dog fouling and invited Mr. Wright to attend a presentation to the PC by Matt Finn, Community Protection Manager, RMBC on Tuesday 6th May about the Antisocial Behaviour Act 2013-14.

The Clerk has received a complaint from Louise Bell about noise coming from motorcycles being ridden in a field adjacent to Hooton Lane, Laughton.

Resolved: The Clerk has supplied the web address and telephone number for RMBC's Environmental Team http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/info/200040/environmental_health/176/get_help_with_noise_problems Tel: 01709 336003 Ms. Bell has also been invited to the above meeting on 6th May.

Last month two separate reports were received from Dr. and Mrs. Hutson, and Dr. and Mrs. Bardsley about a large sign erected by Barratt Homes which direct traffic down Bib Lane towards Brookhouse. The PC was not aware of any planning permission being sought to erect the sign. The Clerk was asked to find out if the sign had ben lawfully erected.

Resolved: RMBC Planning Department stated that the sign did not have approval and Barrett Homes were ordered to remove it.

154. 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.

According to the FA website the U11's and under 15s have played a total of 18 matches. The Clerk has received payments totalling £39, which at £22 per match, covers the 18 matches played to date.

Councillor F supplied a list 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.

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

(ii) Playground

There has been a delay in receiving a quotation for the replacement parts (Supplied by Kompan) required for the playground equipment. Stewart Kenny, RMBC Parks and Play Manager, had previously said that he was meeting with the regional manager of Kompan during week commencing 13th January and would raise the issue. Sam Brooks has since asked Mr. Kenny if it is possible for the PC to purchase the replacement parts direct from Kompan and arrange to have them fitted. On 28th January Mr. Kenny replied stating that the parts (cargo net clamps £46.00 and zip wire seat and chain cover £59.00) were due to be delivered and, as a gesture of goodwill because of the unacceptable delay, on this occasion RMBC would not charge for fitting the parts.

Mr. Kenny will supply a list of part numbers so that the PC can order future parts direct from Kompan.

The inspection report dated 17th February highlighted no faults or issues. The Clerk will check the zip wire seat to confirm that the repairs have been carried out.

Resolved: The repairs have now been completed and RMBC will send an invoice for the cost of parts (only).

Cresswell Groundworks will lay the Enviromulch at a cost of £100 per man/per day. They were uncertain if they could supply additional help free of charge as previously. The Clerk has ordered 65 cubic metres of Enviromulch and arranged for local volunteers to spread it on 11th and 12th April.

Resolved: The Enviromulch has been ordered at a cost of £1296 and a team of local volunteers will spread it.

b) Parish Planting Scheme

Jon Shaw has tidied the shrub beds for the first time this year. He has presented his invoices and asked the following questions:

(i) Laughton-en-le-Morthen - cost of first attendance £70. Does the PC want the grass under the trees at the end of Grangewood Road cutting?

(ii) Brookhouse – cost of first attendance £115. Can he replace two plants?

(iii) Slade Hooton - cost of first attendance £18. Can he replace three plants?

Resolved: Councillors agreed to the replacement of the plants and cutting the grass.

(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. Councillor F will advise the tenants of the PC's decision.

Resolved: Councillor F will advise the tenants of the PC's decision.

c) St John's Road Allotments

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

The clerk has previously received a reply from Emma Stead in response to the request for the re-drafted lease. It is hoped that the draft will be sent out soon but it has not yet been received. **Resolved: Awaiting new lease.**

(ii) Rent collection. Rent collection dates have been publicised and letters to tenants have been prepared for posting, subject to any alteration(s) required due to decisions made at (iv) below. Resolved: The Clerk will be on-site on Saturday 12th and 26th April to collect rents.

(iii) The Chairperson of the allotment society has thanked the PC for the grant of £140.

(iv) Six vacant plots has been allocated to new tenants. There is currently two people on the waiting list.

Resolved: The Clerk will allocate vacant plots to people on the waiting list after rents have been collected and the number of vacant plots is known.

d) RVS Area Assembly & Parishes Meeting

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

Minutes of RVS Area Assembly meetings will be included in the monthly consultation documents pack.

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: - A litter pick, to include Brookhouse and Laughton, is planned for 27th April and Simon McDonald has purchased 10 sets of litter picking equipment on behalf of the PC. The Clerk will put up notices advertising the event.

Resolved: The Clerk to advertise the litter pick.

Carr: Nothing to report.

g. Streetpride

(i) Dog fouling on recreation ground

Incidents of dog fouling should continue to be reported to StreetPride. **Resolved: The matter continues to be reported to Streetpride.**

See Item 156 [c] below about the proposed Dog Control Order.

h. Website design and quotation

The new web-site is almost ready to go live. Councillor M asked the Clerk to liaise with BT and get the domain transferred to EXACT.

Resolved: The Clerk will arrange for the domain to be moved.

i. Roche Abbey Christmas Walk 2013

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

Sam Brooks is still waiting for a reply from Reverend Dhoe Craig-Wild regarding the new committee.

Resolved: Organisation of future walks moves to 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 N suggested that the Clerk seeks a response from Mrs Morley, who now shares the Headship of the school. **Resolved: The Clerk will liaise with Mrs. Burtoft after the school holidays.**

k. Newsletter Distribution

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

l. Risk Assessment Review

Simon McDonald has commissioned a risk assessment of the Village Hall and awaits the result.

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

155. Police in the Community

a. Crime figures

PC Shaun Rhodes attended the meeting and reported that there had been no crimes reported in the Parish during the period 13th March – 9th April.

156. Village Hall Issues

a. Energy Saving Suggestions

Mr McDonald has workmen who are about to examine the roof space to establish what needs to be done 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. Sam Brooks has previously presented the requirements for implementing a Dog Control Order, as indicated in the DEFRA pamphlet, to the meeting. Councillors have previously made a number of suggestions which could be used as evidence why the order is required and Councillor V has asked the Clerk to progress the application. It was hoped that

the application would have progressed sufficiently for it to be advertised in the next parish council newsletter but whilst preparing the application the Clerk was advised that the law regarding Dog Control Orders is to be superseded by the Antisocial Behaviour Act 2013-14 which is currently passing through Parliament. As the ASB Act has wider scope than dog control orders Matt Finn, Community Protection Manager, RMBC has offered to outline the new act to the PC.

Resolved: Mr. Finn is unable to attend the PC meeting on 9th April but has confirmed that he will attend on Tuesday 6th May 2014.

Car Park Barrier: Councillor V 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.

Resolved: Councillor V is still waiting to hear from Mr. Redford.

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: £xxxx. This compares to Brookhouse Gas Services quote: £xxxx. 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 (£xxxx) and Vaillant Ecotec + 837 (£xxxx) and Bancroft recommended the Worcester Bosch Greenstar model 38CDi (£xxx) or model 42CDi (£xxxx). Based on an assumption that the model 42CDi would have a higher central heating output, Councillor T proposed that Bancroft were awarded the contract to install the Worcester Bosch 42CDi. Councillor V 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.

Resolved: The Clerk invites Mr. Bancroft back to the VH and awards the contract if he agrees that the model 42CDi is adequate to heat all areas of the hall.

e. Floor polishing machine

There is confusion as to which buffing pad should be used. Also, sweat marks and footprints from the Karate Club are appearing on the floor. Councillor V has liaised with the suppliers who recommend that the Diamond Bright polish solution is increased from a 40:1 to 20:1. This should provide additional layers of polish and create an improved patina.

The state of the floor is improving.

Resolved: The Caretaker continues to use the new ratio of polish.

f. LVHMC Treasurer

The treasurer was unable to attend the meeting. The fund raising event on 21st March raised in excess of £400.

g. Village Hall Cooker

The new cooker has been delivered and will be installed when the CH and hot water refurbishment is carried out, hopefully during the August closure period.

Resolved: Awaiting connection.

h. Village Hall Security

Councillor M 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 V 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 M has asked Riber to provide a quotation to upgrade the system but hasn't received reply yet. Councillor V 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.

Resolved: To be discussed during the meeting in May.

g) A baby changing station has been purchased at a cost of £149 including delivery. Councillor K has agreed to install it in the "disabled" toilet.

Resolved: The baby changing station has been purchased. Councillor K will install it at his earliest convenience.

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

157. Environmental Issues

a) Brookhouse Dyke

Councillor N reported that the culvert is currently running clean.

b) Thurcroft Landfill

The next meeting is on 7th May 2014.

158. Finance Report

a) Income Received and Accounts for Payment

Debtor	Description	Amount (£)
Santander	Bank interest	1.40
Creditor	Description	Amount (£)
Alex Munro	V. H. Caretaker	227.15PD
Carr & Dist. W.I.	Grant	100.00PD
Hygiene Supplies	Baby Change Station	149.99PD
Community Lincs	VH Insurance	641.48PD
Community First	P. C. Insurance	796.03PD
Rotherham Holiday Aid	Grant	100.00PD
Radio Nightingale	Grant	100.00PD
Bluebell Wood Hospice	Grant	300.00PD
All Saints' Church graveyard	Grant	250.00PD
Laughton Karate Club	Grant	100.00PD
Riber Surveillance	Inspection & Mtce	408.00PD
Clerk	Admin petty cash reimbursements	68.51PD
St Johns' Road Allotment Society	Grant	140.00PD
Powerzone Direct	VH cooker	649.00
RMBC	Grounds mtce	179.13
YLCA	Subs	371.00
Whitelock & Sons	Brookhouse roadsweeper	60.00
Jon Shaw	Gardener	203.00

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.

159. Planning Applications

Two unrelated planning applications have been received: a) Erection of 2 No. sable blocks at land off Low Lane, Carr. This was circulated prior to the meeting. b) Prune protected sycamore tree in front of All Saints Church, Laughton.

Councillors raised no objections to these applications.

160. Consultation Documents

a. Integrated Youth Service PowerPoint presentation.

b. Minutes of January's RVSAAM

- c. Minutes of February's RVSAAM
- d. YLCA Business rates – public toilets
- e. White Rose Newsletter 24.03.14

161. Correspondence

- a) Louise Bell- Noise from motorcycles
- b) Final consultation on the closure of Children's Centres – 28th April
- c) Letter from RMBC - Hangsman Lane
- d) RMBC Easter closure dates
- e) Letters of thanks from:

- Bluebell Wood Hospice
- Radio Nightingale
- Rotherham Holiday Association
- Carr & Dist. W. I.

162. AGM

Laughton Parish Council AGM will be held in the Village Hall at 7pm on Tuesday 6th May 2014. It will be followed by an ordinary Parish Council meeting. Advertising the meeting will be via posters on the noticeboards and the April Newsletter.

163. Any Other Business

Nothing further discussed.

164. Date and Time of Next Meeting

That the next Ordinary Meeting will take place on Tuesday 6th May 2014, after the AGM to be held at 7pm in the Village Hall, Firbeck Avenue, Laughton-en-le-Morthen.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

Chairman.....

Date.....