

Laughton-en-le-Morthen Parish Council

(Ordinary Meeting 12th February 2014)



Present: Councillors 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: PC Shaun Rhodes, R Thrower, Laughton-en-le-Morthen resident; Mr S McDonald, Slade Hooton resident and Peter Kenny, Laughton-en-le-Morthen resident. Apologies: Mr T Councillor Stanway (Chairperson) Mrs. S. Brooks, Brookhouse resident.

120. Open Forum for Parishioners in Attendance

Mr. Robin Thrower has researched Fracking, the process of extracting shale gas from the ground, and produced a report on his findings. Copies of the report were handed to attendees and the Clerk will email copies to Councillor Y and Mrs. S. Brooks.

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

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

122. Declaration of Prejudicial & Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

123. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Nothing other than Items under Review in section 6 was raised.

124. Parishioner's Written Requests

There were no written requests.

125. 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.

Resolved: The Clerk will continue to compare the number pitch fees received throughout the season against fixtures listed at www.thefa.com

(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.

Resolved: RMBC will fit the parts free of charge on this occasion.

Sam Brooks has received a quote of £1356 inc. VAT & delivery for 65m³ of Enviromulch from Gifford's Recycling Limited. The Clerk had been asked to check the price paid for the same amount in 2011 to confirm if the quote was competitive.

Resolved: The quotation is the price that was paid in 2011.

It had been suggested that the Allotment Society Secretary be asked to source volunteers to fluff-up the existing Enviromulch with a rotavator to reduce the quantity of new material required but Councillors were concerned that the protective membrane may be damaged. It was agreed that the replenishment of the Enviromulch would take place when the weather improves.

Resolved: A date for the replenishment of the Enviromulch will be agreed when the weather improves.

b) Parish Planting Scheme To be discussed in March 2014

(i) Laughton-en-le-Morthen

(ii) Brookhouse

(iii) Slade Hooton

(iv) Garden to rear of pensioners' bungalows

Councillor K has received a quotation from Jon Shaw with the suggestion that work is carried out in the spring. **Resolved: The matter will be discussed at the same time as the Parish Planting Scheme.**

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) The Clerk carried out an inspection of the allotments on 11th January to confirm that tenants are working their plots in accordance with the tenancy agreement. One tenant has since been given notice to quit and eight tenants have been sent a polite letter reminding them of their obligations under the tenancy agreement.

(iii) Rent collection. **Resolved: The Clerk will be on-site on Saturday 12th and 26th April to collect rents.**

(iv) Allocation of vacant plots. **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

The last meeting was on Monday 13th January 2014 but no report was given as Councillor Y is currently on holiday.

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

To be reviewed later in the year.

f. Village Associations

Brookhouse:

Councillor G reported that the number of people attending the Brookhouse Association had increased.

Simon McDonald presented an invoice (£96.00) for the skip used during the November Brookhouse/Slade Hooton litter pick.

Resolved: The Clerk to make the payment.

Slade Hooton:

Nothing to report.

Carr:

Village Hall insurance. **Resolved: The insurance premium has now been paid.**

The Clerk said that a small group of Laughton residents had asked if the PC could provide the necessary equipment to carry out litter-picking sessions. It was proposed by Councillor K and seconded by Councillor N that the PC purchase the necessary equipment. This was approved. Once purchased, the Clerk will liaise with Brookhouse and Slade Hooton village associations to organise joint litter picking days to ensure the cost effectiveness of skip hire. **Resolved: The Clerk to purchase litter-picking equipment and liaise with Simon McDonald.**

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 112 [c] below about the proposed Dog Control Order.

h. Website design and quotation

All information has been sent to Andy at Northern Peak (the website designers) and it is expected that the site will go live sometime in March 2014.

Resolved: Sam Brooks will send an email to Councillors when the website is ready for checking.

i. Roche Abbey Christmas Walk 2013

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

Sam Brooks is 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. PC Rhodes, who was in attendance at the meeting, 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. **Resolved: Await a response from Mrs. Burtoft and allow the Police and RMBC to deal with offenders.**

k. Newsletter Distribution

Nothing discussed.

l. Risk Assessment Review

The risk assessment for the operation of the Village Hall is currently being reviewed by Simon McDonald. Councillor N raised concern that there is no longer a telephone line in the hall to use in case of a fire. It was thought that it would be likely that a mobile phone would be available when the hall is in use but a

procedure, in case of lone working or if no mobile phone was available, needs to be considered. Councillor N also suggested that a combination lock be used on the “crash-bar” fire door to obviate the need to provide a key to anyone or group using the hall.

Resolved: Simon McDonald continues to review the risk assessment.

126. Police in the Community

a. Crime figures

PC Shaun Rhodes gave a brief summary of the recorded crime between 8th January and 12th February 2014.

Newhall – no recorded crimes.

Slade Hooton – no recorded crimes.

Brookhouse – 1 recorded crime:

13th January 2014; High Street; Burglary Other - Outbuildings entered, nothing stolen.

Carr – no recorded crimes.

Laughton-en-le-Morthen – 2 recorded crimes:

12th January 2014; Castle Green; Burglary Dwelling – Hand through window and items of clothing stolen.

8th February 2014; Grangewood Road; Criminal Damage to Motor Vehicle – Window damaged.

127. Village Hall Issues

a. Energy Saving Suggestions

Mr McDonald has concluded his discussions with Paul Maplethorpe Affordable Warmth & Sustainable Energy Coordinator, RMBC. There are currently no financial support packages available to the PC for energy saving initiatives due to the village hall being deemed to be a “commercial property”. Councillor X asked Mr. McDonald to obtain quotes for roof insulation so that the PC could decide if this was a cost effective option.

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.

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 Y 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: It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange for Mr. Finn to attend the PC meeting on 9th April 2014.

Car Park Barrier: Councillor Y has not yet 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: The matter will be pursued at the next meeting.

d. Hand wash units & combi-boiler refurbishment

Councillor X and Sam Brooks facilitated a visit by PC Kelly on 14th January who later submitted the following quotations.

To remove the existing outdated gas central heating boiler and electric hot water heater and replace them with a combi-boiler plus associated work. £xxx inc. vat.

To remove the electric waters heaters that supply the wash hand sinks in the toilets, supply and fit the necessary fittings and connect back to the new combi boiler hot water supply. £xxx inc. vat.

Councillor X asked the Clerk to obtain alternative quotes from other suppliers. It was agreed that the following suppliers should be asked if they wished to tender: Rad Eco Systems Ltd: Bancroft Plumbing: J&M Heating and Brookhouse Gas.

Resolved: The Clerk to issue invitations to tender.

e. Floor polishing machine

There is confusion as to which buffing pad should be used.

Resolved: Councilor Y seeking advice from the supplier.

f. VHMC Treasurer

To attract more interest in hiring the hall the hourly rate has been reduced to £10/hour. Currently there is no “contents insurance” in place for the village hall and anyone/groups hiring the hall need to be advised.

It was suggested that the new rates for hiring the village hall be advertised in the relatively new local magazine “YourMag” (current circulation 15,800 homes and businesses). Sam Brooks said that the magazine is not delivered to household in Brookhouse.

The Clerk has obtained the following price list and circulated it to Councillors via email:

Advert Size	Kiveton	Aston	Dinnington
	3,800 copies	5,000 copies	7,000 copies
Eighth Page	£18	£20	£24

(3 mths min)			
Quarter Page	£32	£35	£40
Half Page	£60	£65	£75
Full Page	£105	£115	£135
2 Page Spread	£210	£225	£255
Front Quarter	£55	£60	£70
Back Page	£140	£150	£170
Back Half	£80	£85	£95
Inside Front/ Page 3 Full	£120	£130	£150
Inside Front/ Page 3 Half	£70	£75	£85
Premium Full	£115	£125	£145
Premium Half	£65	£70	£80
Premium Quarter	£37	£40	£45

The Publishers have no intentions at the moment of distributing the magazine to our hamlets.

Simon McDonald said that the VHMC are going to organise a fund raising event during March. It has also been suggested that a Tuck Shop operates from the village hall for users of the recreation area, initially, during the Easter Bank Holiday weekend however the logistics of achieving this have not yet been decided.

g. Village Hall Cooker

Councillor X and Sam Brooks facilitated a visit by PC Kelly on 14th January who recommended that a cooker with a flame failure safety device should be fitted.

The cost of altering existing pipe-work and fitting a new cooker would be £132 inc. vat.

Sam Brooks has researched the market for suitable replacement cookers and printed off a number of information sheets from Currys on-line.

Resolved: Councilors will decide which model to purchase at the next meeting.

h. Village Hall Security

Councillor Y 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 X has been in contact with Riber but hasn't received a quote yet. To ensure that the Riber quote is competitive alternative quotes from ITS Sheffield and Dougie Hopkins will be obtained.

Resolved: Councillor X will pursue the quote for new cameras from Riber.

It was suggested that a timed light be fitted above the main door/gate.

Resolved: Councillor X will ask PC Kelly to include this when quoting for the cooker work.

i. Defibrillator

Sam Brooks has researched the cost of purchasing a defibrillator. There are a number of makes on the market at circa £1100. Councillor N asked about servicing requirements. One model had a standby life of 4 years. Councillor Y offered to arrange for a guest speaker to give a presentation to the PC on defibrillators and the First Responder scheme.

Resolved: Warren Bostock, Community Defibrillation Trainer, will attend the PC meeting on 12th March 2014

128. Environmental Issues

a) Brookhouse Dyke

Councillor G reported that the culvert is to be cleaned out by “FCC Environment” week commencing 17th February.

b) Thurcroft Landfill

Councillor G reported that there are no foreseeable plans for Thurcroft Land Fill site. The subsoil from the nearby motorway central reservation alterations continues to be tipped at the site by arrangement. The next meeting is on 7th May 2014.

129. Finance Report

a) Income Received and Accounts for Payment

Income:

Santander	Interest on savings February	1.40
Laughton Juniors F. T.	Pitch fees	132.00

Expenditure:

Martin Gourley	Salary	177.89 PD
RMBC	January 2014 grounds maintenance charge	179.17 PD
Alex Munro	Caretaker's payment weeks 38-41	212.02 PD
Community Lincs	Carr VH Insurance	235.38 PD
St Barrt's, Malby	Refreshments Roche Abbey Walk	77.02 PD
Savills	Allotment lease	225.00 PD

b) VAT claim 30.11.13 for £1033.97 has been paid into the bank

c) Change of signatories for Santander Bank. **Resolved: Sam Brooks has posted the application and required proofs of ID to have the new Clerk authorised as a signatory on the bank accounts.**

d) It was agreed at December's meeting that the precept allocation to hamlets should be reduced from £35 to £30 per household. **Resolved: The Clerk has now sent letters the associations secretaries.**

e) At December's meeting Sam Brooks presented budgets for 2012-13 and 2014-15. With an expected income of £28,796 and expenditure of £26,272 this year's year end outturn is expected to be £2,524.

Predictions for 2013-14 are Income £29,710, expenditure £29,109 and year-end outturn £601.

The Clerk has received a letter from RMBC stating that the PC has been awarded a grant of £2536 and that the precept request must be received before 7th February. As the PC has cash reserves in the bank it was agreed that the PC should request the same level of funding as last year: a total of £22408 for 2014/15.

Councillor X proposed that the Clerk requested this amount. Councillor O seconded the proposal and all Councillors present agreed. The clerk will request a precept of £19,872 and the grant of £2536 totalling £22408. **Resolved: The Clerk has now submitted the precept request to RMBC.**

130. Planning Applications

Details of a planning application for the erection of "detached garage with room above at 11 High Street Laughton-en-le-Morthen" (RB2014/0052) had been distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting. No objections were raised.

131. Consultation Documents

- a. Safer Neighbourhood Teams – Van Security Tips
- b. Precept Request – The maths
- c. Renewing Senior Travel Pass online
- d. Mr Thrower's report on Ash Die-back Disease
- e. YLCA minutes of the meeting 19th October 2013
- f. YLCA website re-launch (feedback requested)

132. Correspondence

- a. Steel Workers Reunion - Magna
- b. YLCA – Has any PC had experience of securing an injunction?
- c. Invitation for Applicants: Independent (RMBC) Standards Committee
- d. YLCA meeting 15th February
- e. Mayor's Charity Committee request

f. SYPTE Budget Communications

Resolved: The correspondence was read out. No further action was required apart from item e.

Councillors discussed the request from the Mayor's Charity Committee for a donation of Easter eggs or cash for the 2014 Easter Egg Extravaganza raffle. Councillor G proposed that the PC donates £20 the proposal was seconded by Councillor N and all were in favour.

Resolved: The Clerk will send a cheque for £20 to the Mayor's Charity Committee.

133. Any Other Business

Nothing further discussed.

134. Date and Time of Next Meeting

That the next Ordinary Meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th March 2014 commencing at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, Firbeck Avenue, Laughton-en-le-Morthen.

The meeting closed at 09.30pm

Chairman.....

Date.....