

Loddiswell Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting which took place at 7.30 on Tuesday November 4th 2025 in the Loddiswell Congregational Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Paul Harvey (Chair), Cllr Derek Brooking (Vice Chair),
Cllr Francis Baker, Cllr Mike Hine, Cllr Gabi Haskins
Cllr Catherine Rippin, Cllr Sophie Elliott Smerdon, Cllr Lee Bonham,

APOLOGIES: Cllr Matt Cross, Cllr Sarah Baskerville, Cllr Louise Wainwright

IN ATTENDANCE: 2 members of the public, LPC Clerk

MINUTES: Minutes from last months meeting were signed by the Chair

Standing Orders Suspended: Public Participation and to receive reports from Cllr Wainwright and Cllr Bonham

Jon Pittman was welcomed as LPC new councillor and signed the Acceptance of Office and Register of Interests

Item no:

2502 Policing Matters

- 3 crimes of a violent or sexual nature
- 2 crimes under investigation, 1 crime unable to prosecute the suspect

2503 Public Comment

- 2 MOP's attended
- A request for LPC to once again, cover the costs of a disabled toilet at next years Loddiswell Show: Vote cast with a unanimous YES
- Concerns again regarding the overgrown hedges around the old school playing field - discussion in section **2512** point **G** as an agenda item
- LPC concerned that the pavilion disabled toilet does not have access for wheelchairs - Clerk to write to LPFVHT
- Interest over the withdrawal of planning on the Old School Field
- Cllr Bonham advises anyone to take a look at the Strategic Planning comments. It is unclear if the developer will re apply at this stage

2504 VAS Data Report - Cllr Matt Cross

- 72,195 movements through Loddiswell in October.
- Down significantly from previous 3 months – usual trend for October
- September 82,487
- August 93,321
- July 91,365
- Reduction in traffic flow similar to previous Octobers (though still lower)
- Average speed 23.8 (outgoing) and 23.2 (incoming) – consistent with previous months
- Highest speed 54mph (outgoing) and 49mph (incoming) – similar to last month

2505 County Cllr report - Louise Wainwright

- Cllr Wainwright did not attend, however sent the following:
 - In my capacity as Vice Chair of the Devon Farms Estate Committee, I have made several farm visits in October with the Audit Team to meet prospective tenants whilst they have been viewing DCC tenant farms where the tenancy is being renewed and to catch up with new farmers on some of our 'starter farms' to monitor their progress
 - These are some of the farms I visited in October or are in the programme for November.
1. New Gulliford Farm, Dawlish

2. Fairfield Farm, Denbury
 3. Lower Farm, High Bickington
 4. Higher Henland Farm, Kentisbeare
 5. Merrifield Farm, Holsworthy
 6. Lower Northchurch Farm, Yarnscombe
 7. Duckaller Farm, Dawlish -
 8. Perriton Barton Farm, Whimble
 9. Nunford Farm, Colyton
 10. Middle Winsham Farm, Braunton
- Further to these visits I will be attending meetings at Venture House in Exeter to discuss end-of-tenancy protocols and also assisting in the interview panel for prospective new tenants for three days in December
 - I contributed to the SDNL (South Devon National Landscape) Committee deliberations at Follataon House this month on the core funding report from Roger English
 - I contributed to the meeting held in Exeter for the D&S IFCA (Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority) Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee meeting
 - I contributed to a meeting at Aveton Gifford and Buckland tout Saints on Parish Emergency planning
 - I was a delegate at the Energy Assembly organised by Sustainable South Hams and funded by SHDC

2506 District Cllr report - Lee Bonham

- The application Ref 1346/25/FUL for 11 houses near Elmwood Park on the Old school field has been withdrawn
- There has been an application for certificate of lawfulness for land for stationing of caravans at Primrose Meadow, Blackdown, ref 2835/25/CLE.
- South Hams Council, together with Devon's other 7 district councils plans to respond to governments request to reorganise local government in the county. The optimum model for reshaping Devon's local authorities is called 4;5;1 - South Hams will join with West Devon, Teignbridge, and Torbay to give a new Unitary council with 425,000 residents
- SHDC believes this plan is the most effective and financially sustainable model, delivering better public services, while ensuring decisions are made closer to residents and reflect local needs. We want to thank people who took part in the surveys and engagement meetings. There will be more consultation at the next stages.
- Local Government reorganisation includes proposal for new local hubs or area committees. Cllr Louise Wainwright at DCC has organised a meeting on Saturday the 29th November (10.00 am to 1.00pm) for all local Parish Councils to discuss the proposed Neighbourhood Area Committees
- As a follow-up to the recent Energy Assembly, SHDC is supporting an online event, [Dealing with Energy and Net zero myths and Misinformation](#) at 7.30pm on 27th November.
- SHDC is working to make sure residents have safe, good quality homes and recently helped improve 46 properties across the District. We have now launched the Warmer Homes Grant – a three-year scheme to improve up to 80 more homes, tackling cold, damp and energy efficiency. The scheme will open in early 2026
- SHDC is working on new ideas for a Nature Festival across the district; more details will follow
- Teams meeting on Thursday 6th November from SHDC on 451 North and South council proposal

2507 Public Pathways - Cllr Baskerville

- Letter sent 21st Oct to Jon Boyd regarding the steps onto Yanston Lane, no site visit as yet, will chase up
- 4 Silveridge Lane 2/11/25 all good, only walked from the permissive path down
- 19 Reeds Farm/River 2/11/25 all good walkable with care, same as always has been
- 20 Courtledge/South Brent Road 2/11/25 all good
- 17 Wigford Lane/Topsham 30/10/25 all good
- 15 Towns Lane/Hatch Bridge, regularly walked and all good
- 11 Littlegate Wellstreet/Station Road all good. Did double check the steps on the way up but looked okay. From memory not changed for a while
- 3 Topsham / Crannacombe 25/11/25. New to me, all good
- 18 Woolston to B3196. Not walked
- 16 Hatch Farm 1/11/25 All good
- 5 South Brent /Clarks Barn 8/10/25 (also regularly walked) Checked as mentioned in the previous meeting. Personally couldn't see a problem all overhang well above my head and path free of leaves
- 2 Blackdown/OldHarbour. Sign etc all in place not walked as been on my own, would prefer to walk with someone else

2508 Neighbourhood Plan

- Content being written for the new websites NP page

2509 Sustainability - Cllr Haskins

- Councillor Paul Harvey (Chair) and I attended the South Hams Energy Assembly on Saturday, 18th October at Kingsbridge Community College. It was attended by more than 80 people to discuss everything from renewable energy and community-owned projects to retrofit and fuel poverty. We met South Dartmoor Community Energy, a not-for-profit community energy organisation who provide free and impartial advice from making your home more energy efficient to helping people who are having problems with energy companies/bills/meters. They are happy to come to Loddiswell to give free energy advice and support. It was agreed for Cllr Haskins to organise an evening for Parishioners, where SDCE could present advice/guidance on energy issues. Date and plans for the event to be announced at the next meeting
- WAL are planning seeding and bulb planting on the recycling area banks and The Well on 8th and 15th November and are liaising with Richard Barney

2510 Highways

- Still no volunteers for the Section 8 training which would enable the village to patch pot holes
- Top part of Station Road has been re surfaced

2511 Planning

3094/25/ARC - Barn at Sx710 468, Higher Hatch, Loddiswell: Application for approval of details reserved by condition 7 (eaves/verges/facias) of planning consent 3996/22/LBC

SUPPORT

2835/25/CLE - Primrose Meadow, Loddiswell: Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of land for stationing of caravans for purpose of human habitation

WE HAVE FACTUAL EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THIS - IF SHDC WANT THE EVIDENCE THEY NEED TO WRITE TO LPC CLERK

1342/25/FUL - Wigford Farm, Loddiswell, TQ7 4DX: Operational works associated with the change of use to apart hotel permitted under **0235/25/NU** - including external alterations and installations of package treatment plant

NO COMMENT AT THIS STAGE

2930/25/ARM - Banden Farm, Loddiswell, TQ7 4EA: Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval reference (**1031/24/OPA**) relating to access, appearance, landscaping, layout & scale for replacement of existing mobile home with dwelling

NO COMMENT

2512 Items for discussion and decision making

A) Budget for 2026/2027 - plans for spending to discuss

- There has been a large overspend due to the resurfacing of the car park
- There has been a pay increase for the Clerk
- There has been an increase in the maintenance hourly charges
- Items to be included in the budget (for consideration only): New Loddiswell village sign, new apparatus for the play park, new barrier for the car park, move for the VAS sign, repeated funding for items such as temporary disabled toilet for the Annual Loddiswell Show and printing for the Loddiswell Magazine etc
- £500 to help bring House Martins back to the village - estimate includes installation of nest boxes

B) How do LPC feel about paying for '20 is plenty" following from conversation in the MOP section of last month meeting - cost £5,000 - £10,000

- Clerk contacted Highways to ask for a realistic price for this to be implemented. The reply was in considerable excess of £20,000
 - VAS machines are proving to be valuable in slowing traffic and the average speed through the village is under 24mph
 - Will research moving the VAS by the narrows back towards Elmwood to help slow the traffic leaving the village after the pub
- C) Update on the sink hole at Little Gate/Butter Well
- The sink hole has been filled, however there are springs which will keep causing more damage.
 - Clerk to write to contact Darts resurfacing for a quote to re pipe Butterwell
- D) First meeting of 2026 will be on January 6th
- E) Defibrillator guardian for California Cross - Clerk applied for a defibrillator through British Heart Foundation for one to be installed in the adopted BT kiosk at Cali Cross
- If Loddiswell are awarded a defibrillator through the BHF, Cllr Pittman has agreed to check it every 2 weeks and report back when new pads are needed
- F) Village sign research results
- This will be added to 2026 budget
 - Cost for the sign would be around £550, mounts a further £150 and professional fitting by someone with a Section 8 qualification would cost around £700
 - Clerk writing to AONB for their assistance in the matter
- G) Hedge cutting around the old School field owned by DCC update
- The site has been visited and areas that needed attending to have been cut back
- H) Oakwood Park overgrown hedge complaints passed to Highways - requested a letter from Highways to be delivered to the owner
- Response from Highways:
*"definition of 'defective' - hedges near a footway are a defect where they obstruct the clear passage of users, forcing pedestrians into a road or otherwise preventing them using a path safely".
 "It's not a defect and we won't take any further action"*
- I) Request to paint the barrier in the car park please
- Cllr Hine to obtain a quote for a different material that won't keep rusting. Possibility for next years budget

2513 Business at the Chairs discretion

- The chair will be laying a wreath at this Sundays memorial. All are welcome to attend

2514 Finance:

a) Balance at the start of the meeting	£96,293.63
b) Richard Barney - maintenance	- £564
c) Clerks wages and disbursements	- £669
d) PKF Littlejohn external audit	- £252
e) Bank charges	- £7.25
f) Greenspace grass cutting	- £528.50
g) Pittman Trees - cutting back	- £1632
h) Janice Trigger - memorial flowers	- £15
i) Totnes Fire and Signs - no parking	- £17.04
j) HMRC	- £989.82

Balance at the close of the meeting £91,619.02

S106 money stands at an estimate of £15,273.86

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.10 pm

Signed Dated

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd December 2025 - upstairs in the Congregational Hall at
7.30pm

Those who wish to attend should be free of Covid symptoms. If you have any questions you would like to put forward to the Parish Council, please email the clerk at the address below at least 7 days before the meeting is due.

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend and take part at the start of the meeting.

The Clerk

The Clerk to Loddiswell Parish Council: loddiswellparishclerk@gmail.com