

Loddiswell Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at the Congregational Hall on Tuesday 7th January 2020

PRESENT: Martin Widger (Chair) Derek Brooking, Francis Baker,
Paul Harvey, Malcolm Dicken, Ian Satterley, Emma Sweet,
Peter Sheard, County Cllr Rufus Gilbert, District Cllr Kate Kemp
APOLOGIES: Emma Hemmins, Mike Hine,
IN ATTENDANCE: Fiona Stace (Parish Clerk)
MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3rd December
2019, have been circulated and were approved by the Chair

Standing Orders Suspended: Public Participation and to receive reports from Cllr Gilbert and Cllr Kemp

Item no:

1823 Policing Matters

Report from November 2019:
No crimes were reported for this month

1824 Public Comment

No members of the public attended

1825 County Cllr report - Rufus Gilbert

Cllr Gilbert has confirmed that the order to clear up the road from Loddiswell to New Bridge is firmly in place.

The Old school field matters concerning landowners gardens encroaching into the school field has been addressed and resolved.

The badly 'repaired' potholes on New Road by Ham Butts needs revisiting as the tarmac has just been shovelled into the holes and will not withstand any bad weather or use of traffic. Cllr Gilbert to contact Highways and ask them to get in touch with the contractors once again and discuss having the road re laid. The pot holes by the pub have been repaired but generally pot hole filling has been delayed due to all the rain we have had this winter. Most of the pot holes are still full of rainwater and therefore cannot be repaired. Towns Lane and Village Cross Road is due to be patched this year and dressed next year. The roads in Devon are particularly bad and an interesting fact is that 80% of journeys in Devon are made on 20% of the roads.

1826 District Cllr report - Kate Kemp

Cllr Kemp advised LPC that you can now watch SHDC and DM committee make decisions online through Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. You can find the links on the SHDC website. The first one goes live on 13th January 2020

1827

Public Pathways

Cllr Dicken has begun his walks though and around the village and can tell us that there is a lot of weather damage, mostly fallen trees. Silveridge Lane is clear thankfully but be careful along the river walks as there are some hurdles!

1828

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Satterley has re read the Loddiswell Neighbourhood plan and had some interesting facts to share based on less that 200 households who filled out the survey.

Question: Is the Village Hall adequate for our growing community?

Answers: 52.2% yes, 29.2% no, 18.6% no opinion

Question: Would the parish like more playing areas?

Answers: 40.3% yes, 27% no, 32.7% no opinion

1829

Planning

No planning this month

1830

AOB & matters arising from last months minutes

- a) Greenspace sent a signed copy of the MOU to the Clerk and the Chair, Cllr Widger was witnessed signing it also. The contract will run for 3 years and end on 31st December 2022.
- b) A new display cabinet was purchased and has now been hung in the bus stop to replace the one that was vandalised recently. There will be no minutes displayed there anymore, only in the cabinet by the Old Post Office. The display cabinet at the bus stop has a new timetable enclosed.
- c) The councillors took a vote for the forthcoming Precept and there was a unanimous decision to increase the Precept by 10%, the same as last year. The decision was based upon the amount of work that is currently in place in the village and plans for the years ahead. The Council Tax Grant Fund will be halved this year, so we need to make up that loss, and it will be halved again to 25% next year. the following year it will be lost completely. The Parish Council have just purchased a VAS sign, which is an electronic speed checking device which will flash up a 30mph sign and record data showing people going over the 30mph speed limit. It is an expensive piece of kit and LPC are hoping it will encourage people to drive slower and more safely through the village. There are also discussions with the Village Hall and Playing Field Trust to see if we can work together more for a brighter future concerning both the Village Hall and Playing Fields. LPC have taken over the responsibility for the Playing Fields play area repairs and insurance checks and LPC hope to increase recreational areas over the next few years. There is also a lot of maintenance being carried out in the village and this all adds up but helps keep the village looking neat and tidy therefore a place people will want to visit.

Clerk to contact Village Hall and Playing Fields trust regarding a second meeting.

1831 Added at the Chairs discretion:

A tree fell by the Well and has ripped up a hedge. Cllr Brooking, with help, has repaired this and LPC have asked him for an invoice for the materials used.

Interestingly, empty houses in the village will be liable to pay twice the rates from April 2020. There are some grey areas regarding this decision, however it has been enforced with second homes in mind.

Discussion regarding the VAS that has been purchased and where to fix it. Cllr Hine and Cllr Brooking will erect a post for it to be fixed to and the general consensus is to put it on the grass verge opposite Ham Farm. There is a lot to consider eg: it has to be placed inside the 30mph zone, have clear visibility of 150 yards and be at a specific height and there has been a site visit organised for a better decision on Sunday 12th January.

1832	Balance at the start of the meeting	£60,502.57
	a) F. Stace - Clerks wages & disbursements	- £351.75
	b) Richard Barney - Maintenance	- £537
	c) Greenspace Grass cutting	- £80
	d) Mike Hine - repairs to planter	- £69
	e) Bank charges refund	+ £0.48
	Balance at the close of the meeting	£59,465.30

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.50pm.

Signed Dated

The next meeting will be held at the Congregational Hall on Tuesday February 4th at 7.30pm

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