

LYTCHETT MINSTER & UPTON TOWN COUNCIL

A **MEETING** of the **TOWN COUNCIL** was held in the Council Chamber, 1 Moorland Parade, Moorland Way on **TUESDAY** the **15 January 2019** and commenced at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs J M Richards in the Chair
 Councillor Mrs M Pryor
 Councillor P F Johns
 Councillor F H Drane
 Councillor R Griffin
 Councillor J R Burns
 Councillor Mrs R J Wood
 Councillor M Chase
 Councillor Mrs J Marston
 Councillor S McKell

Also in attendance: Mrs K Cane, Town Clerk
 Mrs B Lake, Office Manager
 Mr O Chamberlain, Lees Estate

309/18 APOLOGIES: Cllr J C Small (without apologies)
 Cllr R Holloway (personal)
 Cllr K Brooks (work commitments)
 Cllr Mrs M Turner (personal)
 Cllr P King (personal)
 County Cllr W T Pipe (PDC meeting)

310/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:
 There were no declarations of interest.

Before the business of the evening commenced the Mayor welcomed back the Town Clerk.

311/18 MINUTES: of the Town Council meeting held on the 18 December 2018 as circulated were confirmed and signed.

312/18 CLERKS REPORT:

- a. **Valuation Report Regarding Land at Hibbs Close and its Potential Disposal.** No further information.
- b. **Minute 343/17 & 75/18 To consider possible transfer of land parcels from Purbeck District Council.** In process of appointing legal representative to deal with the land transfers. The condition of any trees on the land will be checked with PDC.
- c. **Minute 123/18 To discuss the renewal of the lease of the Recreation Ground.** Turbary have cancelled the meeting in January and will next meet to discuss in June. An internal meeting of councillors to be convened to discuss our position in relation to this matter. In addition Cllr Mrs Richards will attempt to get a meeting arranged to discuss the lease.
- d. **Minute 150/18 Risk Assessment of land susceptible to trespass within the Town.** This item will be an agenda meeting at the February Town Council meeting.

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312/18 CLERKS REPORT:

- e. **Minute 199/18 Agreement between the Town Council and Hamwic Education Trust for use of the Recreation Ground.** This will be pursued.
- f. **Minute 202/18 Lytchett Bay Nature Park Partnership.** The December meeting discussed the name for this site and it was decided it should be Lytchett Bay Nature Partnership. The next meeting to be held on 14 February 2019 at 2pm - 4 pm.
- g. **Minute 205/18 Purchase/lease of Photocopier.** The process of disposing of the old machine is in hand.

313/18 CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Information on PDC Guidance re standing as a local councilor for the new Dorset Council in 2019 was received.
- b) Notification was received from Scope of house to house collections in April.
- c) Information on the Purbeck Film Festival was received with a request for support.

314/18 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) The report of the Planning committee held on 8 January 2019 as circulated was confirmed, adopted and signed

315/18 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS/DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:

**Cllr Mrs J M Richards – Lytchett Minster and Upton Town Council
Report of meeting re Lytchett Bay Park/Partnership – 19 December
2018**

Park or Partnership?

Following the discussion at the previous meeting Clare Lees responded to the discussion describing the context and perspective of the Lees family. Clare concluded by stating the 3 aims of the family within the context of the proposal were to:

- a) Enhance the quality and commerciality of their organic farm
- b) To work with friends
- c) To deliver additional housing development in partnership which added enhanced value to the local area

Clare concluded, with supporting comments from Christopher and Struan, that whilst they wholly supported the intention of the proposals they could not support the use of the term “Park” in the description of the partnership.

A discussion followed around the reason for the use of the word “park” and the merits of it.

It was apparent that all parties wanted to progress toward meaningful joint working and that the name should not be a reason for not progressing.

It was established that DWT believe in and are committed to the creation of Nature Parks and others saw the merits of linking the partnership to a specific place.

Having discussed various alternatives it was agreed that we would begin by creating “Lytchett Bay Nature Partnership” and that this would be reviewed as our work together developed and trust and confidence increased. It was agreed that there is a shared intention to reconsider the name of “Nature Park” at a future date.

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315/18 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS/DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:(Cont)**Report on Meeting between Lees Estate and Councillors – 10 January 2019**

This meeting was suggested by Stephen Link because and I quote:

“It is a great shame that relations between different groups who care about the future of Lytchett Minster and Upton are not better.

As someone who is neutral (i.e. not a Lympwatch member, not a councillor) if you feel I could help now by playing honest broker and chairing a meeting with the Lees family and active Lytchett Minster residents I would be glad to do so.”

The meeting was chaired by Stephen Link. Attendees were;

Claire, Christopher and Ed Lees, Struan Chochrane, Oliver Chamberlain, Cllr Bill Pipe, Cllr Ralph Watts (Lytchett Matravers) Cllr Paul Johns, Cllr June Richards.

There was a summary of the extent of the Lees estate. Much discussion on the re-installed gate at Lytchett Minster. Struan stated that any queries re the farm could come through him and he was happy to explain what they were doing and, if requested, would happily take people around the farm if required.

Local democracy, responsibilities of local councils/councillors and how this will change with new unitary authority was an agenda item but, as we are not fully aware as yet of the impact on town councils this was a short discussion. Cllr. Bill Pipe did say that residents will not notice any great change immediately. He explained that planning will still be handled at Purbeck and many departments will still operate from Westport House.

A quarterly meeting with Oliver Chamberlain and/or Clare Lees and councillors will be arranged in the near future.

Areas of common interest including tackling rural crime, unauthorised traveller sites, improving community safety, community events was another agenda item but no definitive answer to these problems. Claire said fly tipping was still a great problem with over 600 tyres being dumped on their land in the last 3 months.

Cllr P F Johns – Lytchett Minster and Upton Town Council Meeting on 23 November 2018 with DCC Flood Risk Management Team, Cllr Griffin, Cllr Pipe, the local land owners and members of the LYMP Watch team

It was recorded that the Environment Agency had carried out various investigations in 2015, 2016 and 2017 and in 2017 had identified 31 properties at risk of flooding. The DCC Flood Risk Management Team (FRMT) then took over the work and carried out extensive modelling and produced their September 2018 report showing three properties at high risk of flooding in a 1 in 75 year event and nine residential properties identified at risk in a 1 in 100 year event. In addition, the Bakers Arms roundabout had been flooded and three business properties were defined as being at risk of flooding. It was not recorded but there had also be excessive flooding on the Dorchester Road and in Old watery lane. However, it was confirmed that there is no national funding available to reduce highway flooding or flooding of business properties, or to reduce the flood risk to properties where no internal flooding has occurred. However, the FRMT identified that it may be possible to obtain Local Levy funding and the following schemes to reduce flooding were discussed:

1. To reduce flood risk to the 1 in 75 year return period to 3 properties which are shown to be at high risk.
2. To reduce the flood risk for all 9 properties in the 1 in 100 year return period.

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315/18 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS/DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:(Cont)

3. Upper catchment retention of flood water, which is shown would reduce the flood risk at the Bakers Arms roundabout and the surroundings to the 1 in 100 year return period.

The actions for the FRMT were defined as:

- To liaise with the 3 property owners, which they have done
- To discuss options with land owners, which they have done.
- Apply for Local Levy funding for options based on community preferences and they expect to apply for this funding in April.
- Investigate community or the local council raising funds as a partnership contribution.

Cllr Johns' request for the Council to provide funding to support the DCC Flood Risk Management Team's application for Local Levy funding to reduce flooding in Lytchett Minster

Because there has not been any internal flooding of properties there is no National funding available for the proposed flood risk management schemes (or to reduce highway flooding) in Lytchett Minster, the flood risk management team are going to apply for Local Levy funding.

In order to help to ensure that the funding is provided from the Local Levy the DCC Project Engineer and the Team Manager had advised that it would greatly improve their chance of obtaining the grant funding if the Town Council are able to provide some partnership funding and the team manager suggested a possible contribution of say £2,000, £3,000 or £5,000.

It had also been suggested that if the council were to offer a further contribution for next year that would give additional assurance for obtaining the required grant. (As the request was for £5000 this year, there was no request for a further contribution next year).

The Mayor had suggested that if the council were to agree with this suggestion, it may be possible to take the money out of the proposed budgets or out of our reserves.

Cllr Johns then proposed that the council should provide a £5,000 contribution towards the DCC application to obtain money from the Local Levy grant funding. This contribution only to be made if the Flood Risk Management Team confirm that the work will also help to reduce the flood risk for the properties at risk of flooding.

Cllr R Griffin – Lytchett Minster and Upton Town Council

Cllr Griffin gave a report on the recent highways meeting and this will be discussed further at the Environment committee meeting on 22 January 2019. Cllr Griffin also reported on a recent meeting with Mitchell Waters, DCC Highways (see attached).

**Councillor W T Pipe – Dorset County Council
Local Government Reorganisation**

Work on the council mergers carries on unabated with sometimes, frantic running around to get the last pieces of policy implementation in place to actually make things work on the 1st April.

I am confident that come the day [All Fools Day], things will slot into place in a somewhat simple, but not simplistic way; serving the population of Rural Dorset in a new way, from a new council.

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315/18 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS/DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:(Cont)**Health Scrutiny**

At a recent meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee meeting, I signed [as Chairman] a referral to the Secretary of State for Health & Social Care which outlined specific concerns of many Dorset residents which they have with proposed/stated ambulance travel times from the hospital to the scene-to the hospital. There are significant variations in the travel times given by the Clinical Commissioning Group through the South West Ambulance Trust and residents. The Secretary of State will now have the Independent Reconfiguration Unit of the Health Service look into the referral and will pass its findings to the S of S; who will give a final and binding decision on

315/18 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS/DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:

the outcome of the travel time question and that of the loss of local community beds in Dorset Community Hospitals. This morning I heard from the office of the S of S who tells me that the process of investigating the referral has started; sadly, he could not give me an end date!!

Criminal Justice Board/Community safety Partnership

Both organisations have met since my last report to council and continue to provide very high-level support to the general public and to those caught up in the Criminal Justice system either as victims or perpetrators. The pernicious practice known as “County Lines” is becoming evident in Dorset. This is a situation where drugs & criminal gangs use vulnerable adults and children to run drugs to areas of the country from the major drug distribution centres such as Bristol, London, Birmingham, Manchester & Liverpool to more rural/semi-rural areas of the country such as Dorset. We are seeing this in Weymouth, Poole, Bournemouth and Lyme Regis. The criminal justice board is working with Dorset Police and the office of the Crime Commissioner to identify these vulnerable people and to stem the flow of drugs into our communities.

You may have been aware that the Chief Constable, James Vaughan was awarded the Queen’s Police Medal in the New Year’s Honours list and I’m sure the Town Council will join with me in congratulating him on the award.

Local Elections and Redrawn Boundaries

Come the day of the elections to the new Dorset Council on the 2nd May 2019; Lytchett Minster, Upton, Slepe, Organford & Lytchett Matravers will be represented by three elected members, a cut in representation from 6 district councillors & 2 county councillors to just the three. Holton Heath will go back into the Wareham St Martin/Wareham division.

316/18 TO CONSIDER PROVIDING AN INFORMATION BOARD ON ‘UPTON IN WARTIME’:

Cllrs Griffin and Brooks will investigate for this to be done sometime during 2019 and it was agreed that Upton In Bloom could apply for funding.

317/18 TO CONSIDER THE PROVISION OF LIGHTING AT THE FRONT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES:

It was suggested that lighting should be provided for the front exit from the building and the notice boards in the window. The Clerk will investigate taking into account light pollution.

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318/18 TO APPROVE BUDGETS FOR 2019/20:

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** to approve the budgets for 2019/20. In response to an issue raised by Cllr Johns, it was agreed that an item ‘To establish a protocol around a 3rd party agreement towards a flooding scheme’ will be included on the agenda of the full Council meeting in February.

319/18 TO SET PRECEPT OF £261,679 FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019/20:

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** to set the precept of £261,679 for 2019/20.

320/18 TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE RECREATION GROUND FOR UPTON CARNIVAL ON 13 JULY 2019:

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** to agree in principle for the use of the Recreation Ground for the Carnival on 13 July subject to the usual conditions. The organisers will be made aware that some parts of the ground may be restricted for the purpose of reseeded.

321/18 TO CONSIDER PRODUCTION OF ANNUAL NEWSLETTER:

It was agreed the same format as before should be used for the newsletter and a report from each committee should be submitted to the Clerk before the end of February 2019.

322/18 TO RECEIVE THE LATEST FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS:

This was reviewed by the committee and it was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the financial summary of accounts up to the end of the month be approved.

323/18 TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND TO INSTRUCT MEMBERS TO SIGN CHEQUES AND AUTHORISE PAYMENTS:

It was then proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the accounts for December 2018 be approved.

324/18 ITEMS OF REPORT (INCLUDING PUBLICITY OPPORTUNITIES) AND MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

- a) The Clerk wished to record thanks to all staff and members who assisted in her absence.
- b) Tickets for the Mayor’s Charity Concert on Saturday 23 February are available for £5 at the Town Council offices.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55 p.m.

Chairman.....

Date.....

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DEMOCRATIC SESSION:

Mr Oliver Chamberlain, Chichesters, agents for the South Lytchett Estate attended the meeting to hear the update on flooding issues in Lytchett Minster and stated that progress was being made. (See report by Cllr Johns).

Two members of the Safer Neighbourhood Team attended the meeting to give an update on anti-social behavior currently taking place in the town. They were advised of the following issues:

- A new gate has been installed at the Oakley Gardens entrance to the Recreation Ground in an attempt to prevent access to unauthorised vehicles.
- The ramp at the skateboard continued to be vandalised and a needle was found on the site. The Police were asked to patrol this area.
- They were also asked to look at the issues around parking/traffic at Waypoints and to patrol St Martins Road/Sea View Road around 3 – 3.30 pm at the end of the school day.
- Members requested more street corner meetings in the town and for these to be better publicised.