

LYTCHETT MINSTER & UPTON TOWN COUNCIL

A **MEETING** of the **TOWN COUNCIL** was held on **THURSDAY** the **22 JULY 2021** and commenced at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs M Pryor in the Chair
Councillor F H Drane
Councillor J R Burns
Councillor S McKell
Councillor D Wilson
Councillor J Sheldon
Councillor W T Pipe
Councillor R Griffin

Also in attendance: Dorset Councillor A J Starr
Mrs B Lake, Office Manager

39/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

40/21 APOLOGIES: Councillor M Chase (unwell)
Councillor K Brooks (work commitments)
Dorset Councillor A Brenton (unwell)
Karen Cane, Town Clerk (isolating)

41/21 MINUTES: of the Town Council meeting held on the 22 June 2021 as circulated were confirmed and signed.

42/21 CLERKS REPORT:

- a. **Valuation Report Regarding Land at Hibbs Close and its Potential Disposal.** The Planning Officer reported on 1 July 'There was a delay in the preparation of the Section 106 legal agreement as one of the applicant's mortgagees for the site had not signed the agreement. This matter has now been resolved and I yesterday handed over the officer report to be checked and signed off. Once this is completed, I will send a draft of the decision notice to our solicitors who include it in the legal agreement. They will then engross the agreement and the decision will be issued'.
- b. **Minute 123/18 To discuss the renewal of the lease of the Recreation Ground.** See Minute 47/21.
- c. **Minute 40/21 Speed Limit Reduction New Road, Lytchett Minster and associated access roads to Lytchett Minster School.** No further information.
- d. **Minute 61/20 Footpath Junction of Dorchester Road and Huntick Road to Courtyard Centre.** No further information.

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42/21 CLERKS REPORT:(Cont)

- e. **Minute 198/20 To receive feedback on the recent Traffic Regulation Order in Pony Drive, Upton.** Please see (MATCJUL21DOC3) for latest update.
- f. **Minute 27/21 Frampton Terrace.** Quotations are being sought for the post and rail fencing for our plots at Frampton Terrace.
- g. **Minute 33/21 Open Spaces Policy.** This is in the process of being redrafted as a guidance document, as opposed to a formal policy.
- h. **Minute 34/21 Street Light Upgrades.** Orders have been placed for the works at Maylyn Road and The Crossways and will commence in the next few weeks. All residents in these locations have been written to and no feedback received.

43/21 CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Information on the Dorset Council Asset Transfer Policy was received.
- b) An email was received from a resident expressing concern about traffic issues in the vicinity of Organford crossroads and requesting a lowering of the speed limit. This was referred to Dorset Council Highways Officers who has advised that he is unaware of any future plans for junction redesign at Wareham Road/A35 junction. The speed limit on Wareham Road is 60 mph and does not meet the DfT guidance or Dorset Council criteria for a reduction in the current speed limit. There has been 1 'slight injury collision' recorded/reported by Dorset Police in the last 5 years on Wareham Road. Setting the speed limit artificially low can lead to genuinely dangerous situations with driver frustration and inappropriate overtaking.
- c) A letter of complaint was received from a resident regarding the condition of the cemetery and a response was sent explaining the actions the Council are taking to remedy this.
- d) A letter was received from DAPTC thanking the Town Council for supporting the recent courses held on the new LGA Code of Conduct, new Register of Interest Process and the new Dorset Council Complaints Process for handling complaints on a potential breach of the code.

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43/21 CORRESPONDENCE:(Cont)

- e) Correspondence was received from Dorset Council regarding the Bus Service Improvement Plan and inviting someone to attend the first round of stakeholder engagement which will take place virtually on Monday 26 July at 2.00 pm. Cllr Wilson expressed an interest in attending.

44/21 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None.

45/21 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (INCLUDING LUBCA/DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:

Report by Cllr A Brenton – Dorset Council

Much time has been spent on discussing amendments and changes to the Local Plan. There have been many suggestions and questions which has delayed the second iteration which will be up for consultation in Spring 2021. The Purbeck Local Plan is still with the inspector, it appears that she has indicated that if some of the figures are now out of date, it might be better to 'ditch' the Purbeck Plan altogether. Dorset Planners are not keen on this as the background work has been done and many of the policies can be directly transferred to the Dorset Plan.

Although Dorset is getting many complaints from Green Groups, that the Climate Change Ecological Disaster Plan is not strong enough, and small steps are going on in cleaning up Dorset's own transport fleet - making them more energy efficient and replacing with hybrid and more economical vehicles. It is estimated that only 1% of Carbon use in Dorset is directly caused by Dorset Council though they have much influence on other users. Dorset inherited many buildings and land assets from earlier Councils. They are being sold off where not convertible or necessary. However, some are listed and redevelopment is tricky. Many Parish and Town Councils are being asked if they wish to buy or take over the running of Dorset Assets.

The Waste system has been looked at in detail to make it more efficient. A presentation set of slides has been circulated to Parish Councillors. There was a serious fire in the waste vehicle depot in the spring and 32 collection trucks were ruined. HGV and Refuse Lorries are a problem as replacements are not readily available, there is a shortage of smaller recycling collection trucks which can manage glass and other recyclables separately. This has affected Slepe Green

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45/21 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (INCLUDING LUBCA/DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:(Cont)

caravan park where access is not big enough for larger trucks. Although the computer system is now easily accessed for failed collections it does seem problems occur either with cars parked not allowing access for the bin lorries or a reluctance to reverse into small cul-de-sacs. The Upton area has had some delayed collections due to vehicles breakdowns and shortage of staff.

Temporary housing which is moveable is proving popular in Wareham and Bridport.

The County Farms estate are being examined to see if tenants can be encouraged to put in Solar Panels on buildings and land, or trees planted and farming made carbon neutral. However as existing tenants are in control for the length of the tenancy these measures cannot be imposed only encouraged. Research is being investigated about the Carbon Capture capacity of new trees versus established grassland, natural regeneration may be quicker and more effective than buying in young trees.

Most discussion in the local media has been about the Plant Life Verge Management plan, which involves cutting all suburban and rural verges later in the year to allow wildflowers to go to seed and to cut less often to allow habitat for wildlife. Many residents in other villages have been complaining about the 'Scruffy look'. It is still important to report on the website if any verge at a junction restricts visibility and should be trimmed back.

Fly tipping is still a problem in most rural areas though close scrutiny of several tips has recently allowed prosecutions to be successful, as the rubbish had addresses and receipts in the mix.

There are some queries about the level of genuine openness and democracy in Dorset as it is using the Cabinet model of government where open debate of issues is precluded. West Dorset and Purbeck Councillors would like to investigate the Committee method of governance which was used in those old District areas, to the public it seemed more open and easier to understand. There was a heated debate at full council meeting, but it was decided that a report would be produced about the issue before the next election.

Report by Cllr W T Pipe – Dorset Council

Cllr Pipe gave an update on the situation regarding the family occupying land at Dorchester Road, Lytchett Minster and advised that options for the future use of the land are being considered.

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46/21 TO CONSIDER FOOTBALL APPLICATIONS FOR 2021/22:

Applications were received from 4 existing teams and 2 new teams. It was agreed to allocate pitches to the existing teams and one of the new teams. It will be ascertained whether the other new team can be accommodated on Saturdays rather than Sundays.

47/21 TO APPOINT TOWN COUNCIL TRUSTEES FOR THE GROVE CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION:

Cllr Burns updated members on the renewal of the Recreation Ground lease and the need to establish a CIO. A maximum of 7 trustees are required, 2 nominated by the Turbary Trust, 3 nominated by the Town Council and the remaining 2 to be nominated at a later date. The trustees nominated by the Town Council are Cllrs Pryor, Chase and Griffin.

48/21 TO DISCUSS ISSUES RELATING TO FLOODING IN LYTCHETT MINSTER AND UPTON:

Concern was expressed about the recent flooding that occurred around the Bakers Arms roundabout and other parts of Lytchett Minster during heavy rain due to culverts and drains in the area that need clearing. Dorset Council will be asked to clear the culverts and drains around the roundabout and at the bottom of Post Green Road. It will be ascertained what happened to the proposals that Dorset Council set out a couple of years ago regarding some of the properties and whether these plans were ever agreed.

49/21 TO DISCUSS A REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES ON DORCHESTER ROAD, LYTCHETT MINSTER:

A request was received from the Head Teacher of Lytchett Minster School for consideration to be given to an electronic 20 mph sign on Dorchester Road that is only active between 8.00 am – 9.00 am and 3.15 pm – 4.15 pm. After discussion it was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** to support this request and this will be referred to Dorset Council.

50/21 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 30 June 2021 be approved.

51/21 TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND TO INSTRUCT MEMBERS TO SIGN CHEQUES AND AUTHORISE PAYMENTS:

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the accounts be approved.

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52/21 ITEMS OF REPORT (INCLUDING PUBLICITY OPPORTUNITIES) AND MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

- a) Cllr McKell felt that more effort should be made in encouraging people to join the Town Council and asked that members give consideration to this. Cllr Mrs Pryor will contact a resident who has expressed an interest in joining the Council.
- b) Cllr Griffin reminded members at the Upton in Bloom Horticultural Show will take place again this year on Saturday 11 September.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25 p.m.

Chairman.....

Date.....

DEMOCRATIC SESSION:

A resident of Lytchett Minster attended the meeting to express concern about the recent flooding issues in the village.