

LYTCHETT MINSTER & UPTON TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** was held on **TUESDAY** the **25 APRIL 2023** which commenced at 7.00pm.

PRESENT:

- Councillor R Griffin (in the Chair)
- Councillor F H Drane
- Councillor R Burns
- Councillor S McKell
- Councillor D Wilson
- Councillor W T Pipe
- Councillor P Thompson
- Councillor Mrs K Austin
- Councillor C Evans

Also in attendance: Mrs K Osborne, Deputy Town Clerk
Mr P Merifield, Outside Operations Manager
Mrs S Samways, Administrative Officer

377/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

There were no declarations of interest received.
Apologies for absence were received from
Councillor M Chase (ill-health).
Councillor Mrs M Pryor (work commitments)
Mrs K Cane (annual leave)

378/23 CLERKS REPORT:

- a) **Minute 398/18 Provision of a municipal water fountain.** A successful opening was held on 12 April 2023. It was asked if any measure of use could be recorded. This would be investigated further.
- b) **Minute 399/18 and 68/22 Parking Around Schools.** See Minute No 281/23.
- c) **Minute 64/22 Council's Strategy and Actions in Response to Climate Emergency.** This item to be removed from the Clerks Report.
- d) **Minute 171/22 Trailway Improvement Heritage Project.** No further information.
- e) **Minute 175/22 Traffic Pollution in the Town:** The new planting scheme addresses this, and the OOM was given further ideas at the networking event attended recently.
- f) **Minute 176/177/178 Highway Matters.** The meeting on 13 April 2023 was positive and productive. Cllr Griffin advised all councillors are welcome to attend.

379/23 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

380/23 TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS (DOUBLE YELLOW LINES) ON THE BEND OF HEIGHTS ROAD/DOUGLAS CLOSE:

This was discussed at the DC/LMUTC Highways meeting (13 April 2023) and considered to be warranted on safety, with LMUTC approval.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RECOMMENDED** for LMUTC to support this request.

381/23 TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS (DOUBLE YELLOW LINES) AT THE JUNCTION OF OLD KILN ROAD WITH POOLE ROAD:

The extension to existing lines at this site was discussed at the DC/LMUTC Highways meeting (13 April 2023) and considered to be warranted on safety, with LMUTC approval.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RECOMMENDED** for LMUTC to support this request.

382/23 TO CONSIDER AND DISCUSS THE BRITAIN IN BLOOM REPORT:

Following a detailed discussion on this positive report; it was suggested in future to walk the route on the day before judging to complete a final litter pick. Cllr Griffin confirmed the comments regarding the tired looking sign at Lytchett Bay View were justified, the sign needs replacing, although the supporting stand is in good condition. The Deputy Clerk is to confirm whether there is any original artwork available to create a new sign. Cllr Wilson will investigate whether any funding can be sought from Birds of Poole Harbour, Dorset Wildlife Trust, RSPB etc, which will be reported back at the next environment meeting.

383/23 TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPIONS:

This was discussed and considered a good idea – allocating specific areas to specific members focusses attention to highlight issues. A list of areas and responsibilities will be drawn up and reported at the next meeting.

Cllr Wilson offered to liaise with other organisations (eg RSPB, National Trust etc) regarding any works they are undertaking locally.

384/23 TO CONSIDER RESIDENT REQUEST FOR A SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION TO 20 MPH IN SLOUGH LANE:

This was discussed at the LMUTC/Highways meeting and Dorset Council advised the speed limit cannot be reduced from 60mph to 20mph in one change. Members acknowledged both 'for and against', the 20mph limit could not be enforced so potentially not worth applying to the whole town; and although a reduction to 20 mph may not be complied with, it may reduce the overall speed of traffic through the town. It was felt the main offenders speeding along Slough Lane are Wessex Water vehicles for the works, therefore there will be no instruction to Dorset Council regarding a 20mph speed restriction on Slough Lane.

Members concluded Sandy Lane is the only road that may benefit from a reduction to 20mph

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RECOMMENDED** for LMUTC to purchase speed assessment monitoring from Dorset Council along Sandy Lane (from Boundary Lane to the junction with Sea View Road.) LMUTC will write to Wessex Water asking their drivers to respect the semi-rural state of the lane and drive more slowly; the resident will be advised of these actions.

385/23 TO DISCUSS WAYS TO INCREASE RECYCLING RATES WITHIN THE TOWN:

As a Local Authority, Dorset has the third best recycling rates nationally; this placing is due mostly to excellent residential recycling, industrial recycling is less good. Suggestions such as i) relax restrictions for vans at recycling centres ii) remove the charge for rubble as it can

be resold iii) promote soft plastic recycling were put forward. It was agreed to invite Mike Haines, Operations Manager, Dorset Council Place Services to the next meeting of the Environment Committee.

LMUTC have requested any supporting information from Dorset Council relating to recycling data for this town, we are still awaiting a response.

386/23 TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF NEW STREET FURNITURE TO REPLACE SEAT/PLANTER OPPOSITE MARSH LANE:

Members considered the new style benching with planters proposed for this site.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RECOMMENDED** to purchase this in forest green colour. The existing plaque will be removed and assessed for replacement. It was noted the corner planters are for bedding plants; the town is starting a phased move from bedding to sustainable planting, however all troughs and planters are currently using bedding plants.

387/23 ITEMS OF REPORT AND MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

1. Cllr Pipe raised an item from the DC/LMUTC Highways meeting regarding the provision of a double-sided brown sign directing to the Town Council Office. Quotations will be sought from Dorset council Sign Shop and an item 'To consider purchase of a brown directional sign to LM&UTC Office'.
2. Recycling of soft plastics (fruit and vegetable bags etc) to be promoted via Lyt-Up.
3. Cllr Pipe reported numerous signs sited on Dorset Council verge of A35 at Symonds Farm; the office to report as fly tipping.
4. Cllr Evans reported the privately owned garages at The Triangle are in a poor state of repair. LMUTC to contact the management company of The Triangle (Castleford Management) requesting they are tidied.
5. Cllr Griffin advised the footpath at the end of Briarswood Road (running parallel to Heights Road) is designated as a footpath, meaning DC maintain the surface of the path, but not the vegetation abutting the path. DC Rangers have sited signage.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

Chair.....

Date.....