

**LITTLEHAM & LANDCROSS PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE URGENT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT**  
**LITTLEHAM VILLAGE HALL**  
**ON THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2010.**

**Present:** *Cllrs Mrs Beer (Chairman), Mrs Galvin, Hamilton, Hassall, Heard, Hopkins, Poole and Stevens.*

**Apologies:** *Cllrs Atkinson (Vice-Chairman), Miss Lamb, G Smith, M Smith. DCC Cllr Robinson, TDC Cllr Pennington.*

**In Attendance:**

*Members of the public wishing to address the meeting on a specific agenda item, were, in accordance with Standing Order 24 and Paragraph 12(2) of Statutory Instrument 2007/1159, permitted to do so before that Agenda Item.*

**1011 - Registration of members Interests:** No additional registrations were required.

**1012 – To confirm Minutes 1000-1010 of 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010:** the Minutes were adopted as a true record of the meeting. P: Cllr Hassall. S: Cllr Hamilton. Resolved unanimously.

**1013 – Planning Matters:**

a. Planning Application: 1/1022/2010: 9, Mount Pleasant Littleham:

Cllr Stevens declared an interest, he is an adjacent landowner. He spoke, as a member of the public, and then left the room whilst discussion took place.

It was Resolved: that the alterations seen to plans are minimal and do not overcome the objections previously stated by this Council. Furthermore –

- The existing plan shows a lap fencing boundary line which – to the knowledge of Members – did not exist.
- The area shown for visitors parking would appear to encroach on land not owned by the applicant.
- There are no dimensions on the plans which would enable height comparisons to be made, especially with the existing building across the track to the East [No.10].
- The Members request a site visit be made if TDC are minded to accept the current proposals.

P: Cllr Hamilton.

S: Cllr Heard.

Agreed unanimously.

[Cllr Stevens rejoined the Members]

**1014 – Correspondence & Communication Requiring Attention:**

- a. Letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> December received from Mrs M Melville of Littleham regarding road improvements between Hoopers water, Moorhead Cross, Bowden green and Abbotsham Cross. Mrs Melville referred to the Council Minutes dated 18<sup>th</sup> January 2008, and asked if there had been any follow up or responses to the resolution made at that meeting to improve road conditions.

The Clerk tabled extracts from Minutes of January 17<sup>th</sup> 2008; March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008 and August 7<sup>th</sup> 2008 [see Appx.1]. Cllr Hassall advised that the Torrington Area Advisory Group were pressing the Authorities to agree and publish recommended heavy vehicle routes for the area.

Resolved: that The Clerk respond to Mrs Melville informing her that Members were sympathetic to her views, and that full details will now be passed to DCC Cllr Robinson asking him to take up the matter.

P: Cllr Hamilton.

S: Cllr Hassall.

All agreed.

- b. NALC: Tree preservation Orders, Proposals For Streamlining.

This proposal had been seen by members [e-mail correspondence].

Resolved: that the Clerk respond on behalf of the Council in line with Cllr Hassall's proposals. All agreed.

**1015 - ON-LINE Correspondence received:** TTVS: Sport England Facilities Funds:TTVS- Advice on Community Led assets:TDC- Xmas Free Parking:TorrAge – Torridge Volunteer Garden Service:Navigus- Journal of Local Planning:TTVS-Snippets:Come&Co – winter grit:CCD- Census Collector Roles:DALC-Prince of Wales Awards:DALC-Electoral Review:DALC- BT Community Connections:DALC – Legal Briefing, snow clearance[2]:DALC-Youth News: TTVS Voluntary Services Networking event:TTVS- Sources of Funding:TTVS-Traing & Events Bulletin:RSN-Rural News Digest:DCC-Emergency Planning Newsletter:TTVS-TDC Budget Consultation:D&C Police Authority- Conference Dates: DCC-In Touch:RSN- Big Society Survey Analysis:GT& LCP- Meeting reminder.

**1016 – Next meeting: Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2011 at 7.30pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

RE: letter from Mrs Melville

EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF JAN 17<sup>TH</sup> 2008.

**(a) Traffic problems between Hoopers Water & Moorhead Cross, Littleham**

The Chairman read out letters received from Mrs Maggie Melville, Moor Park; Mrs E. Johns, Littlemoor; Mr F.G. Metherell, Glen Croft and Claire Slee, who all express concern over the increased use of this “rat-run” by coaches and other commercial vehicles travelling between Buckland Brewer, Parkham & Bradworthy to and from the A39 at Abbotsham Cross. At least eight properties are directly affected and property damage has been suffered. Many HGV drivers ignore the blue “No HGVs” advisory signs. Significant new housing development at Buckland Brewer, Parkham and Bradworthy is expected to generate an additional 500 vehicle movements each day on this lane. Members recognised that there has been a growth in traffic on this route and that Buckland Brewer has substantial development proposed. They recognised that the wider Yeo Valley advisory route to the Atlantic Highway is longer. The Chairman had also discussed these traffic “rat-run” problems with the Police and DCC officers at the Landcross Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2008. It was agreed that P.C. Ellis would be advised by the Police Casualty Reduction Officer and that D.C.C. will examine whether a narrower junction can be constructed at Hoopers Water and whether direction signs for the A39 can be erected diverting traffic to the A386.

**RESOLVED that: -**

- (a) The Parish Council agrees that additional traffic calming is required and that copies of correspondence received is sent to D.C.C. and to the Police,**
- (b) Traffic monitoring is requested.**
- (c) D.C.C. and T.D.C. planning officials adopt a more sensitive and cautious consideration of planning application proposals that have traffic flow implications on country lanes.**
- (d) The provision of traffic calming measures and more effective signage is considered, as discussed at the Landcross Site Meeting on 16th January 2008.**

Extract from Minutes 6.3.08:

**(a) Traffic problems between Hoopers Water & Moorhead Cross, Littleham:**

The Police are considering whether Weight Limit restrictions should be introduced on this road.

Cllr Atkinson reported a near-accident at Moorhead Cross, partly due to a high hedge restricting the visibility of drivers coming from Bowden Green and Littleham Court. Other members were also aware of other accidents here.

Extract from 7.8.08:

**753 Highways and Footpaths:**

**(a) Hoopers Water to Moorhead Cross road (Min 683b):**

A letter was received from Mrs M. Melville of Moor Park, Littleham, enquiring about progress on restricting heavy vehicles, coaches and other haulage traffic from using the road between Hoopers Water and Moorhead Cross. A copy of a letter to Mrs Melville from DCC was also considered. Mrs Melville had written on behalf of her neighbours.

DCC recommend the Parish Council to contact the local companies causing disruption on this narrow road. They point out that there are “Unsuitable for Heavy Vehicles” signs at Hoopers Water, Orleigh Cross and at Abbotsham Cross, advising drivers not to use these narrower roads. A Traffic Regulation Order would be required before enforcement could occur and a direct low key approach from the Parish Council could be more effective.

Parish Councillors disagreed with DCC’s recommendation. The Parish Council has no powers to enforce considerate driving on county highways and it was thought that letters sent either by DCC or the Police Authority would carry more weight. County Cllr Barton advised that he would contact Mrs Melville to discuss her concerns.

**RESOLVED, that Mrs Melville is thanked for her correspondence and advised that the Parish Council now consider this matter to be a DCC or Police Authority issue.**