

LITTLEHAM & LANDCROSS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
LITTLEHAM VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 20TH October
2011.



Present: Cllrs. Atkinson (Vice-Chairman), Sue Beer (Chair), Corkery, Pat Fishleigh, Hamilton, Hassall, Heard, Hopkins, Loraine Kindley, Pru Phillips, Smith and Stevens. TDC Cllr Pennington. DCC Cllr Robinson.

Apologies: None.

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.

1120 - Registration of Members Interests: No additional registrations were required.

1121 - To confirm Minutes 1105-1119 of 15th September 2011. *(previously dispatched)*

Proposed as correct by Cllr Atkinson.

S: Cllr Smith.

All agreed; signed by Chair.

1122 - Matters Arising – Not Covered by Agenda:

- a) New Councillor Training. No further news. TDC Cllr Pennington advised that Ken Miles and his department were currently dealing with parish Councils who needed immediate and critical help with their affairs; our training would be addressed when these other issues are sorted.
- b) Proposed Closure of Swansea Coastguard. The Clerk wrote to TDC – as instructed – to advise that this Council supported the opposition of this proposal.
- c) Trespassers in Rectory Woods. The Clerk replied to Mr Brian Stevens of Northam as requested.

1123 –Planning Applications:

- a) **1/0950/2011/LBC&1/0951/2011/FUL: Middle Langdon, Littleham. Side extension.** Proposed for Approval by Cllr Hamilton. S: Cllr Smith. All agreed.
- b) **1/0902/2011/FUL - Moor Park, Littleham. Two storey side extension.** Proposed for Approval Cllr Loraine Kindley. S: Cllr Heard. All Agreed.
- c) **1/0949/2011/FUL Middle Langdon, Littleham - replace stable.** Proposed for Approval Cllr Smith. S; Cllr Atkinson. All Agreed.
- d) **1/0928/2011/FUL Webbery Barton Farm – erection of anemometer mast.** Proposed for Approval Cllr Atkinson. S: Cllr Hamilton. All Agreed.

Notifications: Site at LA Stables, Coach Drive, Bideford. [TDC advise] Appeal against enforcement notice served in respect of an unauthorised change of use of land from equestrian to mixed equestrian and residential. **1/0742/2011/FUL – Alverlin, Littleham –extension over garage.** TDC advise Approval granted. **1/0585/2011/FUL – Edge Mills Nursery, Littleham – new road entrance.** TDC Advise Approval Granted – conditions were read to Members who requested that we chase TDC to ensure Condition #4 has been complied with.[to submit planting details by 14.11.2011].

1124 – Highways. Cllrs Heard and Pat Fishleigh were confirmed as Snow Wardens for their respective Communities. Discussion with DCC Cllr Robinson took place on the various options available for delivery, storage and spreading of salt/grit supplies. It is expected that new and larger storage bins would be needed. Further discussion will take place prior to the next meeting. Cllr Smith advised that a road sign for “bend” had been uprooted and an oak tree is liable to fall in to the road at Edge Mill, Littleham. Cllr Heard will raise the issue with Highways.

1125 - District & County Councillors’ Reports. TDC Cllr Phil Pennington reported that TDC were taking a hard line on bins/waste being put out early; and this may cause problems for holiday and second home owners. Letters reminding of times for collection etc have been sent. TTAG will be holding a meeting on “Planning Process for Wind Farms”, date/time tba. On the proposed new Constituency Boundaries – Cllr Pennington said that it would be interesting to see how a single tier authority [Cornwall] would interact with a 2 tier authority – Devon; especially with each having different EU status. On the Atlantic Array he voiced concern over the apparent absence of any

consequential loss to businesses. Compensation is only being mentioned to landowners at the moment – who he advised were being asked to sign a “gagging order” as part of any agreement. He believes that Lundy will be very badly affected; and that local Parish Councils should meet to discuss plans for negotiating with RWE. The report from DCC Cllr Sam Robinson[Appx.1] had been distributed prior to the meeting; there were no questions from Members. Cllr Robinson added that the opening of the “Kynochs Reserve” is to be held the following day at 2pm. A copy of the new timetable for bus Service 70 has been placed on the Landcross parish notice board.

1126 – Emergency Plans. Cllr Hamilton advised that he had not yet finalised the Littleham review. Cllr Loraine Kindley asked what plans were in place regarding bottled gas users. Cllr Hamilton replied that any action taken would be re-active decision taken by the Co-ordinator on the facts/situation prevailing.

1127 - Parish Plan: Review the Welcome Booklet. Cllr Atkinson is working with Morris Poole on this matter and will report back at the next meeting.

1128 - Jubilee Tree – Cllr Loraine Kindley read out her report following a site visit by Glendale Ltd, contractors for Western Power & Distribution. It was decided that Glendale should be instructed to fell the tree; the owner of the land G wood is to asked if he wants the felled timber, and if not then Derek Wood is to be asked to clear the site. A decision on how to deal with the stump will be taken later. Cllr Atkinson will speak to Mrs Badcock who, with her brother, was instrumental in planting the tree – to explain what is happening. Members agreed that it would be a nice gesture to have a new tree planted – perhaps in the Playing Field area – to replace the Jubilee Tree, and it would be timely given that 2012 will be the Queen`s Diamond Jubilee Year [it is noted that the Biodiversity Group would support such action]. Cllr Hamilton cautioned that there may be a covenant on the height of the playing field boundary which may affect where the tree might be planted. Cllr Sue Beer will check on this. The Clerk is asked to liaise with Glendale and ascertain timescales; he thanked Cllr Loraine Kindley for acting as contact for Western Power on this issue.

1129 – Review of Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries. Proposals will place the Parish in a new authority – “Bideford & Bude” in a new structure designed to have equality of residents/voters in the new Constituencies. DCC Cllr Robinson stated that the A39 was seen as the link between the two areas, it was the only link that doesn’t cross the Tamar. He would push for re-alignment of the A39 if the changes go ahead. Members agreed that no response was needed to the letter received from TDC.

1130 - Finance & Insurance:

- a. Report on Bank Balance and Authorisation of Payments.
Bank balance: £3281.61 as at 20th September 2011. Cashbook details tabled, and bank statement signed by the Chair.
Payments: None.
Proposed: Cllr. Sue Beer. S: Cllr Hamilton. All agreed.
- a. Other Financial or Insurance matters: DALC propose subscription increase for Local Councils of 1% for 2012/13. Noted. TDC Remittance advice received - £459.60 being balance of 2nd instalment of the Precept less Clerk remuneration [£1825 - £1365.40]. Noted.

1131- Correspondence Requiring Attention:

- a) DCC Street Lighting: part Night Lighting Policy. Introduced to reduce carbon emissions and costs DCC advised that the 4 street lights in Littleham would be subject to the new proposal and be switched off between 12.30am and 5.30am. Landcross is not affected. Objections to be sent by 21st October; it was agreed that no response was required.
- b) The Queen`s Diamond Jubilee Beacons. Celebrations will take place on June 4th 2012, a guide to taking part was tabled. As there are no suitable sites within the parish no action is to be taken.
- c) TDC advise changes will take place from 3rd October 2011. Some residents will have altered day for collection of black bags, domestic waste. Recycling and organic waste collections remain unaltered.
- d) CAB for North Devon request donations for their charitable operation in Northern Devon. It was decided that in line with the Parish Council`s policy, no donation will be made.
- e) TDC invite comments on allocation of resources for their 2012/13 budget. It was agreed that any response should be done as individuals via www.torridge.gov.uk/getinvolved
- f) TDC requested feedback on their Planning Services. Cllrs Sue Beer and Atkinson will respond.

- g) Beacon Bus Service #70: Cllr Sue Beer gave details of the new late service between Bradworthy and Barnstaple, timetable will be placed in the Crosslet.
- h) Beacon Bus Service #372: Cllr Sue Beer has now received an invoice for this service which ran during the non-term period in the summer; she reminded members that we had agreed to share the cost with the 4 other Parishes along the route. The total cost of providing the service came to £563.73, the difference between this and the original £612 quoted being due to the fares taken and the reimbursement for concessionary bus passengers carried. There were only 44 passengers in total for the whole period, 31 of which were entitled to concessionary fares. DCC [who co-ordinated this] will arrange for an invoice for £112.74 to be sent to each Parish.
- i) The Clerk tabled a 44 page document from TDC "Towns Studies Feedback Report" covering Bideford, Gt Torrington, Holsworthy and Northam. It was noted that there was little public participation at the open events. The report will be circulated to all Members.

1132-Other Correspondence received: Senior Council for Devon, Newsletter: TTVS, Torridge Matters.

1133-E-Mail correspondence received: DCC –In Touch [2]:TTVS-DCC Tough Choice Event: RSN- Weekly Digest[3]: TTVS Snippets [2]: TDC – Village SOS, TV Programme: TTVS – Training & Events.

1134-AOB. Atlantic Array Offshore Windfarm: the public event held the previous evening was well attended, and many concerns were raised regarding the effect on the Parish with regard to the Environment, disruption caused by construction and the Economy. A working party from the Parish Council had put together a list of questions which were posed, and the owners of Robin Hill Farm Cottages listed their issues and concerns. TDC Cllr Pennington said there were growing concerns around blighted properties, and consequential loss, and suggested that we push for an adequate Community Fund, and a substantial Bond to be held by an Independent organisation to rectify problems that may occur during the 25 year licenced operation; so far the surveys carried out by RWE concentrated on the Environmental rather than the economic effects. DCC Cllr Robinson had sent a list of 13 questions to RWE – there had been no response to date. Debate amongst Parishioners brought out deep feelings on the choice of route through the village – North or South; the effect on water courses in the Apps area and disruption through road closures.

Cllr Sue Beer will speak to the Chairs of affected Parish and Town Councils to gauge the need for a joint meeting to which bodies such as the Environment Agency, CPRE, TDC Planning etc may also be invited.

1135 - Next Meeting: December 8th, 2011.

[Scheduled meetings for 2012: 19/1; 15/3; 19/4; 17/5 & 24/5.]

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Report to Littleham & Landcross Parish Council, for Thursday 20th October 2011.

1/ Street Lighting. The most recent decision of the county council will result in the three lights in Littleham being switched to part-night lighting. The following response has been received regarding Landcross: - There are no lights in Landcross as such that would be converted to part-night operation. There is one light on the A386 opposite the junction with the A388 and eight in the nearby Landcross Tunnel. The light at the A386/A388 junction will remain on in accordance with the policy to keep designated A and B roads lit. The nearby tunnel will remain lit as have tunnels and subways elsewhere. There are no records of any other County Council lighting within the parish of Landcross. I assume that the tunnel refers to the one on the Tarka Trail! I await the Parish council's wishes.

2/ Bus Services. There have been changes in the Bideford and District bus services, and Stagecoach have now in operation a no. 70 route from Atlantic Village to Great Torrington on an hourly schedule. Timetable appended: see attachment.

3/ Lay-by re-activated. Making use of the fact that there is a regular bus service now operating, I have asked Highways to seek to have the provision of the long-sought-after lay-by in Landcross included in next year's estimates, and I await their response. I have reminded the officers that this was promised quite some time ago.

4/ Fly-tipping. Since the introduction of the charging regime for some items of waste received at re-cycling facilities, there is anecdotal evidence that the incidence of fly-tipping has increased greatly. I would ask that any reporting to TDC of incidents of fly-tipping be accompanied with a request that the report be logged. I would hope that TDC can in the future produce evidence of the trend since the introduction of the charges.

5/ New Constituency Boundary. I attach a copy of the map of the proposed constituency. The rationale behind the introduction of the Devon/Cornwall constituency in the north of the area is that here is the only route between the two counties that does not have to cross the Tamar, and that the natural link between the two parts is the A39 Atlantic Highway. I would hope that, should the new boundary remain as these proposals, immediate consideration be given to a re-alignment and straightening of the said A39.

Thank you Chairman, Council.

Sam Robinson, 21 Bude Street, Appledore, EX39 1PS. sam.robinson@devon.gov.uk
(01237)474413.

Tel

