

# LACOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Lana Steward

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## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 July 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

### THOSE TAKING PART:

J Durrant (Chair), J Boldon, C Doel, S Wise, P Shaw, P Glen, S Gregory, L Heren, P Burkinshaw and P Holliday. Also present were 25 members of the public.

### 1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

Several members of the public voiced their concerns and opposition to the proposed Melksham bypass route 10c. Comments included:

- There is a desire to improve road safety but this proposal will increase traffic through the village.
- Risk of development right on the doorstep.
- What is the Parish Council position on this?
- Large infrastructure for little gain.
- Consultation process for the bypass ends on 8/9 August – not enough people have had a chance to discuss this.
- Would like to propose there should be an external meeting with NT and village to consult with WC.

### 2 APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from H Shepherd, G Heard and D Walters.

### 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:

There were none.

### 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

It was agreed (JB/PH) that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2021 be signed as a true record.

### 9 FLS SCARECROW TRAIL:

This agenda item was brought forward.

The PC had received several emails and letters regarding the trail all objecting to the trail this year on account of the pandemic and not making information available beforehand.

Communication by FLS with residents has not been good. They have now provided a copy of their COVID measures (which was read out by the Chair) and the event will be going ahead.

It was pointed out that the PC has no power to dictate how events are organized

## **5 UPDATE FROM MINUTES:**

- Recent Lackham visit was very interesting and informative.
- 30mph work has started on the bridge.
- Gigaclear public event on 14 July.

## **6 AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY REPORT:**

### **S Gregory**

A copy of SG's report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.  
30mph completion of work is expected 9 August.  
Notton crossing – DW has received contact details and asked for progress and comments.  
Awaiting NT to clear the blocked ditch at the top of Bowden Hill – o/s.  
Need to request again that WC dig out the collapsed roadside ditch from near Fox'a farm down to Abbey Bridge.

### **C Doel -**

Weeds in the village on the kerbs – some have been sprayed.  
Bowden Bridge on the north side arches the stones are seriously broken and disintegrating. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Bridges section at WC and forward photographs enquiring what plans there are for the bridge.

### **P Holliday -**

Memorial bench – PG has offered to build the bench - Thanks were extended.  
Bench at Melksham Road bus stop – weeds growing through the seat. SW agreed to strim the weeds.  
Probation team – coming four times in July.  
RMH Roofing have completed the work to the cemetery chapel roof.  
Playground checked twice in the last month.

### **S Wise –**

A copy of SW's report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.  
Paul Millard (WC Byways Officer) is considering changing all stiles to kissing gates.  
Community orchard – good working session last Saturday.  
Woodlands Trust – nothing suitable available to apply for.  
SW proposed PC contribute £100 towards rootstock saplings which are available at £20-£25 each. Seconded by PH – all in favour.

### **P Glen –**

What is PC view to planting some trees in 2022 as part of the Platinum Jubilee?  
Renovation of tennis court – now have plan to plant 7-8 trees along the edge of the cleared area.  
It was proposed by PG, seconded PH, that the PC accept the quote from Conservation Contractors for the tree works on the Playing Field at a price of £765 plus VAT. Agreed.  
Fence work quote from the same company for supply and erection of 83 metres of 1.8m-2m high fence at a cost of £61/m.  
Paling fencing is unobtainable until next year. PG to speak to GH to gain agreement on the alternative fencing proposed.  
Gravel board at the bottom around the tennis courts has been completed.  
Quote for aluminium top for plywood sheets of £719 which should allow plywood to last for further 10 years. No decision was taken with regard to this.

Lacock FC – wishing to use the pitch – they need to pay outstanding fees and fix the broken goalposts.

## 7 HIGH STREET/WEST STREET JUNCTION:

What contribution is LPC prepared to make? SG to obtain more information on the level of contribution which would be expected.

Substantive bids will be submitted in September. CATG will pay for the recent assessment. It was agreed that a decision be deferred until the Atkins report is available; it had been previously agreed we would not progress any other road initiatives until we had the strategic traffic review report from Atkins.

## 8 MELKSHAM BYPASS – PREFERRED ROUTE:

There had not been a widespread consultation. Ask NT and PC to lobby WC to extend the 8 August deadline and request a presentation. JB proposed, seconded JD, that PC send an objection to the 10c proposal in case extension request is not accepted. A vote was taken 7 in favour, 3 against.

## 10 CORRESPONDENCE LIST:

- 1 From Wiltshire Council re Planning Appeal - land at Notton
- 2 From Wiltshire Council - A350 Melksham Bypass - Second Public Consultation 24.6.21
- 3 From Lisa Culshaw re Cornerstone Cafe - bad reflection on the village  
**The Clerk to respond to acknowledge but nothing PC are able to do about this.**
- 4 From Kate Davey - High Street/West Street junction - raised table and mini roundabout street lighting options - attaching drawings showing each of the 3 options.
- 5 From Gillian Ballinger re Scarecrow Trail and copy of letter to FLS signed by several residents in the village.
- 6 From Jackie Mitchell re Scarecrow Trail
- 7 From Tom at Relish Running - thank you for hosting the event. 598 runners at £150 = £897
- 8 From Caroline Adams re Scarecrow Trail
- 9 From Neil Ballinger re Scarecrow Trail
- 10 Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 21-10 - Democratic Meetings during the pandemic explaining how Wiltshire Council is managing meetings safely until the restrictions are lifted (not before 19 July 2021)
- 11 Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy Consultation from 1 September for 6 weeks. Full consultation documents and information will be available at: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/green-economy](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/green-economy)
- 12 From Hayley Roberts (Acting Headteacher) and Simon Winfield (Chair of Governors) re Scarecrow Trail — “To protect the current school’s Covid risk assessment and retain the integrity of our protection measures the school management has taken the difficult decision that school staff will not be able to support the event and school buildings will not be used as they normally are”.
- 13 From Tracey Bartels re Scarecrow Trail
- 14 Briefing Note 21-11 - Wiltshire Council mowing policy advising the cutting schedules for rural and urban areas.
- 15 From parishioner via Stuart Gregory re unsightly weeds growing out of the war memorial stonework.

- 16 From Heather Shepherd - enclosing background information to support the grant request (£1,000) in full.

Received after the list was compiled:

- 17 From Edward Heard re Melksham bypass.  
18 From Annelise Nicholas re Melksham bypass.  
19 From Helen Stride re Melksham bypass – calling for a parish meeting to discuss.  
20 Wiltshire Council sewer and land drainage team due to carry out gully clearance w/c 19 July 2021. **SG/PG to identify drains.**

## 11 FINANCE:

### i) Accounts -

It was resolved (PG/JD) that the following accounts be paid:

|      |                |          |                     |
|------|----------------|----------|---------------------|
| BACS | S J White      | £ 470.05 | (for June)          |
| BACS | S Steward      | £ 421.39 | (for June)          |
| BACS | Idverde Ltd    | £ 233.98 | (grounds mtce June) |
| BACS | HMRC           | £ 303.98 | (PAYE)              |
| BACS | J Durrant      | £ 45.60  | (commty orchard)    |
| BACS | water2business | £ 42.58  | (H/way allotments)  |
| BACS | G Ballinger    | £ 100.00 | (internal audit)    |

### ii) Statement of Account -

It was resolved (PH/CD) that the Statement of Account showing a balance of £24037.63 as at 1 July 2021 in the Co-operative Bank current account and £53511.68 in the Cambridge & Counties deposit account should be signed by the Chair as being correct.

### iii) Request from Lacock School for £1000 to fund Mud Kitchen and Picnic Tables

It was resolved (CD/JB) that this be approved.

### iv) To approve August 2021 payments

It was resolved (JD/SW) that the payments to S J White, S Steward and Idverde Ltd be paid by BACS during August.

## 12 PLANNING:

### 20/06840/FUL

Construction of a solar farm and battery storage facility together with all associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure – Land north of Melksham Substation near Melksham Wiltshire. **NO OBJECTION**

### PL/2021/05712 & PL/2021/06718 (listed building consent)

Proposed replacement of an existing conservatory with a glazed single storey dining and family room – The Coach House, Notton Lacock. **NO OBJECTION**

### PL/2021/05235 & PL/2021/06411 (listed building consent)

Proposed roof, fenestration alterations and internal alterations – Showell Farm, B4528, Showell, Lacock. **NO OBJECTION**

**Planning Appeal Notification**

Land at Notton, Lacock – Erection of 8 dwellings and associated works.  
It was agreed that the PC previous objection (to Wiltshire Council) be re-iterated.

**PL/2021/06011**

Single storey flat roof rear extension to accommodate a hydropool – 1 Bewley Edge, Lacock. **NO OBJECTION**

**PL/2021/06011**

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**13 OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION:**

- i) SG reported that the large Cherry tree, on unadopted grass land outside 5 Cantax Hill is potentially dangerous and in need of pruning. Log with WC.
- ii) Bypass extension of 2 months?
- iii) GH leaves on 30 July – card passed round for signing.
- iv) JD received telephone call – WC called a meeting about the Chippenham Local Plan at 11 am on Thursday, questions by 12 noon!
- v) Parishioner, who tends the flowers on the War memorial, asked for the larger pink weeds growing on the walls either side of the memorial to be removed. They are unsightly and damaging the stone work. To be investigated PH and CD.

**12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Monday 13 September 2021 – in the Village Hall

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Signature of Chair upon approval of Minutes

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13 September 2021