

LACOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Lana Steward

The Griffin, Bowden Hill, Lacock
Chippenham, Wilts. SN15 2PP

email:stewardpc@btinternet.com
Tel: (01249) 730254

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17 April 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

THOSE TAKING PART:

J Durrant (Chair) J Boldon, P Shaw, C Doel, P Glen, P Holliday, P Burkinshaw, S Gregory, S Wise, H Shepherd and L Heren. Also present were Sonya Macmillan and Andy Cochrane (National Trust) and five members of the public.

1 APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from D Walters and H Shepherd

2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

There were no comments from the public.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:

None

4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

It was agreed (PH/JB) that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2023 be signed as a true record.

5 UPDATE FROM MINUTES/ACTION LOG:

The action log was reviewed and updated.

6 NATIONAL TRUST UPDATE:

SM advised that there are nine voids – one has been let subject to references.

There are seven long term empty properties.

They have circulated to all tenants a note to introduce SM – the next TANT meeting will be in May. Next Wednesday will be holding a Business Network meeting with Ruth Hopkinson, from Wiltshire Council, attending.

SM agreed to provide an update on the Easter parking situation. Due to heavy rainfall NT knew one week ahead that the overflow car park would not be in operation and advised visitors to Go Home or visit another property. The car park surface is not appropriate going forward and they want to change it.

The three up-coming Bank Holidays - looking at some sort of medium term (2 years) solution at a cost of £50K. Visitor numbers usually quieter in May.

Will form a Focus Group and meet with some Parish Councillors to work out a better managed coach parking plan.

Andy Cochrane (Property Curator): Treasure House designation means we are now in the premier league and the ambition is to be world class and internationally significant as the birth place of photography. PH asked what was happening to Tithe Barn and if Jail would be reopened? AC confirmed NT want to improve the experience in Tithe Barn, ramp needs repair and a temporary platform built to protect the flooring. AC to look into reopening of Jail.

7 GRASS CUTTING TENDERS:

Three quotations had been received and after due consideration it was resolved (JD/CD) that Idverde Ltd be awarded the contract for the coming year at a cost of £2462.04 +VAT.

8 AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY REPORTS:

P Holliday-

PH reported that the roof and plumbing works in the pavilion have been completed. Two new trees in the cemetery, to replace the cedars, have been planted. Idverde contract for the Playing Field is out of date and PH is waiting for a new contract.

P Glen –

PG advised that the donation from TANT towards Leo's bench has been received.

S Wise –

SW advised that the community orchard is being maintained at the moment.

Raised beds for Wise Owls and School not started yet.

Footpaths – new MyWilts app is much better.

Lacock 04 diversion order – SW to respond to suggest two exits on to Mons Lane and kissing gates.

C Doel –

Allotments – problem with rats.

Flood meeting – Ringway has been replaced by Milestone as the WC contractor and a lot of Ringway personnel have transferred to Milestone.

A report by CD on a meeting re the Commons with Rob Curtis and Tim Barter had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Householder from Mill Farm had contacted CD re smell from Byde Brook. Egg Packing Station has a licence to pump into the brook (Coppershell Pumping) 270 people work there.

CD wanted the recent successful litter pick minuted – thanks to HS for organising.

S Gregory/P Shaw -

A copy of SG's report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

PS – PC substantive bid was successful – do we need to build up a substantive bid for the next priority interventions? PS to ensure some of the interventions are moved up the LHFIF list.

Potholes at the Abbey bridge reported, make sure pictures and depth of pothole included.

“No Through Road” sign on Abbey Road and Church Street discussed but they have no legal validity.

P Burkinshaw –

Dropbox – intention is to set up an account – in progress.

J Durrant –

All Coronation invitations delivered to each household. Coronation mugs have arrived.

9 WAR MEMORIAL – FLOWERS:

Members of Lacock WI had been looking after the war memorial flowers for many years and as the WI no longer exists there are only two ex members living in the village. More volunteers are needed to carry on the tradition on a rota basis. Also, there is a request for funding of the flowers needed each week. CD agreed to make some enquiries into exactly what is required and how the PC can fund it.

10 GRANT APPLICATION POLICY:

A draft document had been circulated prior to the meeting. Updated version to be issued for approval at next meeting.

11 CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1 Wiltshire PPC - young people to have their say on policing matters at Big Conversation Conference on 16 March 2023.
- 2 Renate Malton (WC) - Funding opportunities from Wessex Water.
- 3 Wiltshire PPC joins forces to fight for tougher rules on fly tipping.
- 4 Briefing Note 23-08 - Response to National Policing Reforms.
- 5 WC - Parish Steward Programme - April - July 2023.
- 6 PPC - Quarterly Performance |Report Newsletter
- 7 Wessex Community Action - Martyn's Law and test fun of Emergency Alert System
- 8 Briefing Note 23-10 - Guidance for Neighbourhood Planning within Wiltshire
- 9 Lacock Cricket Club application for grant for £1440 for the repair of the club's roller
It was resolved (PH/PG) – SW abstained) that the PC grant 50% of the cost of new parts for the existing roller excl delivery.
- 10 WC - Proposed diversion of footpath Lacock 14 - comments by 10 May 2023.

12 FINANCE:

i) It was resolved (PH/SG) that the following accounts be paid:

S Steward	£ 423.19	(for March)
Idverde Ltd	£ 233.99	(PF mtce - March)
AutoSpeedWatch	£ 148.00	(12 months data - retrospective)
P Burkinshaw	£ 199.00	(Dropbox - retrospective)
Wise Choice Plumbing	£ 150.00	(emergency - Pavilion)
Wise Choice Plumbing	£ 364.52	(Pavilion)
Wiltshire Council	£ 230.54	(cemetery NNDR)
Krystal Hosting Ltd	£ 119.99	Domain lacockparishcouncil.gov.uk)
water2business	£ 131.97	(cemetery)
Durant Cricket Ltd	£ 1674.00	(LCC mobile cage)
J Durrant	£ 47.05	(Coronation flyers - retrospective)
Barthers Farm Nurseries	£ 229.56	(trees - all invoiced out)
Communicorp	£ 1689.36	(Coronation mugs - retrospective 1 box for PBG)

ii) **Statement of Account –**

It was resolved (PG/PH) the statement of account showing a balance of £19930.83 as at 5 April 2023 in the Co-operative Bank current account (statement no.219) and £39464.16 in the Cambridge & Counties deposit account should be signed by the chair as being correct.

13 PLANNING:

PL/2022/02259

Rear extension following demolition of existing extensions - 7 Nethercote Hill, Lacock **OBJECT**

The PC considered that the proposed development constituted over development which would have an overbearing effect on the site and be out of keeping with development in that part of the village. As a result it was considered that harm would be done to the character of the area. The Council also objected to the fact that no provision had been made for off street parking on land in the ownership of the applicant.

PL/2023/02309 (Listed Building Consent)

Proposed extension, construction of detached double garage and associated works (resubmission of PL/2022/03751) - Front Lodge, Lacock **NO OBJECTION**

PL/2022/01779

Proposed extension, construction of detached double garage and associated works (resubmission of PL/2022/03570) - Front Lodge, Lacock **NO OBJECTION**

PL/2023/01844

Construction of detached double garage and associated works - Front Lodge, Lacock **NO OBJECTION**

PL/2023/02254

Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area - Lacock Abbey Orchard, Lacock **OBJECT**. The PC objects to the felling of the walnut tree as it is a healthy well-formed mature tree which constitutes a landscape asset. The statement making the case for the felling of the tree is misleading and inaccurate. Yes, walnut trees do produce the compound juglone which can make soil conditions toxic, but only within the canopy of the tree. It is therefore wrong to state that this tree could cause many apple trees to die and prevent the planting of further apple trees.

PL/2023/02097

Covered dining area (retrospective) - The Rising Sun PH, Bowden Hill, Lacock **OBJECT**
The Council had a number of concerns. Firstly, a procedural matter, that the planning application was made as retrospective when in fact no development had taken place. However, the proposed development has now taken place which has given rise to the following concerns.

The Arboricultural Report states the measures that should be undertaken to protect the root zones of the two mature trees affected by the development. There is concern that the work undertaken has not been done under the supervision and with the consent of an Arboricultural expert. Next the Arboricultural Report states that rainwater will not be dealt with by soakaway, but will be collected in gutters draining to nearby flower beds. This conflicts with a statement made in the planning application form which states that surface water would be dealt with by soakaway. If this is the case, there is concern that it may have damaged the root zones of the two main trees.

Finally the Arboricultural Report states that the initial proposal is for the Timber ☉Gazebo☉ to be held in place by fixing it to the wooden decking. The Council is concerned that this may not be sufficient as the structure is located in a very exposed location at the top of Bowden Hill and is susceptible to the effect of very high winds, which caused the previous marquee to be excessively damaged.

PL/2023/02130

Change of Use of main house to B&B and minor alterations including associated car parking and demolition of former garage walls - Bowden Hill House, 36 Bowden Hill, Lacock **NO OBJECTION**

PL/2023/02757

Listed Building Consent - Alterations to facilitate Change of Use of main house to B&B and demolition of former garage walls. **NO OBJECTION**

PL/2023/02746

Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area - Folly House, Folly Lane Lacock **NO COMMENT**

PL/2023/02765

Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area - Fox Talbot Museum and Botanic Garden, Lacock Abbey, Lacock **NO COMMENT**

14 OTHER MATTERS RAISED:

- i) Reminder: 23 April 2023 national emergency alert.

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 15 May 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 30 May 2023

The meeting closed at 10.10pm

Signature of Chair upon approval of Minutes

.....
15 May 2023