



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
LOOSE PARISH COUNCIL**

Monday 15 November 2021 at 7.30pm  
in the Parish Pavilion, KGVPF

**Councillors taking part:** Vianne Gibbons (Chairman) (VG), Jim Andrew (JA), Susan Luckhurst (SL), Andrew Richards (AR), Tony Oliver (TO) and Velma Bennet (VB) (arrived agenda item 10)

Also present:

Susan Grigg (MBC Ward Councillor for Loose) (SG), Richard Webb (MBC Ward Councillor for Coxheath) (RW), Clive Parker (Chairman of Coxheath Parish Council) (CP), PC Tony Ingram (Kent Police) Nicky Bourne (Deputy Clerk) (NB) and Kim Owen (Clerk) (KO) who took the minutes.

There were two resident members of the public involved in the meeting.

**1. To receive and record any apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Charlie Hollister, Darren Carpenter, Liz Lovatt (Community Warden) (LL) and Brain Amorim (PCSO) (BA).

**2. To receive and agree any decision regarding any item to be taken as confidential**

None.

**3. To receive any declarations of pecuniary interest on items in the agenda**

(In accordance with the NALC Model Code of Conduct for Parish Councils (pursuant to section 27 of the Localism Act 2011). In addition, any declaration of personal or prejudicial interest. (As agreed by LPC 21 Jan 13)

None.

**4. To receive any signed dispensation requests for any item on this agenda**

(Councillors to approve/disapprove as appropriate and to agree the reason for the dispensation if approved. (see dispensation form). This follows the agreement made by the LPC at the meeting held on the 17 July 2017- (item 17)).

None.

**5. To agree and to sign as a correct record the minutes:**

**LPC minutes for the meeting held on the 18 October 2021 (1709 - 1717)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2021 were duly **AGREED** and signed by the Chairman.

**The following approved Minutes were noted and adopted by the Parish:**

- Planning Committee meetings 4 October 2021 (Pages 552-554) and 18 October 2021 (Pages 555-556)
- Pavilion and Community Hub Committee meeting 28 June 2021 (321-326)

**6. To receive any reports from the Loose Ward Councillor Sue Grigg (SG) (ongoing item)**

SG advised:



- That she attended the GP Provision meeting and confirmed that there is national shortage of doctors and it is up to Councillors to question any planning applications that mentions medical facilities as to how they will be staffed.
- Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) is calling on anyone who owns large areas of land in the borough to be part of an ambitious tree-planting project. This is all part of the Council's Biodiversity and Climate Change Action Plan and the project looks to partner with local landowners to plant trees on their land in order to increase biodiversity, combat climate change and to help the borough reduce its carbon footprint. MBC will subsidise or match fund to support landowners planting more trees and link tree planting projects to national government initiatives. With help from the Kent Wildlife Trust and the Woodland Trust the scheme will make sure tree species would be appropriate, determine whether it is possible to create woodland corridors or enhance ancient woodlands, increase flood prevention through tree planting, and enhance natural habitats and increase biodiversity. Any landowners who have land that meets the criteria and would be happy to help improve biodiversity please visit <https://maidstone.gov.uk/home/other-services/campaigns-and-projects/tier-2-primary-areas/call-for-tree-planting>.
- That following her resignation from the Liberal Democrats she has been accepted as an independent Councillor under the Maidstone Group and will be speaking on behalf of residents without a political agenda. She will be sending a letter out to all residents to explain her position in the New Year. She has also been given a seat on Strategic Planning Committee which is helpful going forward with the Local Plan.
- She advised that the Chequers noise issue is still ongoing. A meeting was held in September and an agreement reached about outside events. The minutes were distributed to all who attended the meeting. The Landlord of the Chequers has made some amendments to minutes before he signs them. He has also requested a yearly review of the agreement. She opened the discussion up to the floor. After discussion with Councillors and residents who attended the LPC meeting the Council **AGREED** to circulate the amendments made by Landlord to all who attended the original meeting in September for their comments.
- The Clerk advised that she has been unable to organise the Crime Prevention Officer to come to a LPC meeting as they only work unit 5pm. The Council **AGREED** for clerk to arrange a daytime meeting on a Thursday or Friday and SG and Derek Corbett will attend. The meeting will be held at SG's home.

The Council **AGREED** to move to agenda item 10 and then item 8.

#### **7. To receive an update on the Local Plan Review and make any necessary decisions (SG)**

SG advised that at the last meeting and it was agreed that she would talk to Coxheath Parish Council about a joint objection for Regulation 19. Cllr Parker (Chairman Coxheath Parish Council) and Cllr Webb (MBC Ward Councillor for Coxheath) have attended this meeting to talk the Council through the objection process.

RW advised that originally it was going to be a joint letter of objection. However, an email has been sent out from the Strategic Officer to advise that there is a document to complete. One section is Legal Compliance – whether the process is legally sound. SG will ask to see the comments from the consultation for Reg 18b to see that adding in the new site was as a result



of that consultation. The meeting to do this is on Friday evening. The second section is Test of Soundness – There are various objections at this point including:

- The number of houses on the new site added (85 proposed but 197 could be on the planning application when submitted)
- The land this site is on is grade 1 or 2 agricultural land
- Coxheath has been upgraded to a Rural Service Centre without consultation and has taken more house over the last 6 years than all but one other Rural Service Centre
- The infrastructure will not cope with the additional number of houses and Linton crossroads has not been improved.
- This site will merge Coxheath and Loose.

The Council **AGREED** that the objection will be completed by Coxheath and passed to JA to look over before submission on behalf of Loose.

JA asked if the ransom strip at Pested Barn will it used as access and does SG know if anything is being considered at Leonard Gould? SG will have a look and come back to JA accordingly.

**8. To receive any reports from the KCC Division Councillor Simon Webb (SW) (ongoing item)**

SW advised:

- That with regards to Well street he has sent an email advising that Highways Officers will not come out for an evening meeting. He has proposed a zoom meeting on 6 December 2021 at 4.30pm with officers and residents followed by a meeting at 7pm for residents at the Pavilion to discuss the outcome of the zoom meeting.
- At the KCC Full Council Meeting on 4 November 2021 memories and tributes were the order of the day to celebrate the life of Mrs Ann Allen who sadly died in post as Chairman of the County Council.
- There are two current consultations running across Kent
  - Adult Social Care strategy
  - Libraries

The Council **AGREED** to add these to the Facebook Page.

- There is a new under 5s initiative to have Creative Play sessions for young children and mothers (0-24) taking place in 8 libraries across Kent.
- That he attended an excellent Police Seminar at Mecure Hotel entitled: 'Violence against Women and Girls' on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November.
- An additional bank holiday has been given to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee. Thursday June 2 and Friday 3 June 2022 have now been confirmed, this will allow a four-day period.
- 41,000 trees are to be planted in the Ashford and Swale area.
- The impact of the COVID lockdowns has had an impact on people aged between 53 and 60; with the greatest impact on alcohol consumption being with women of this age. Alcohol awareness information is being sent out to residents.

**9. To receive any reports/information from Community Warden Liz Lovatt (ongoing item)**

No report received as Community Warden is currently off sick.

**10. To receive any reports/information from PCSO and from e-watch (ongoing item)**

The Schools officer advised that Cornwallis have identified the 3 culprits (2 boys and a girl age 12-13 with no police record) who damaged the roof of the shelter in the junior play area. He



confirmed that it is highly unlikely that that the CPS would authorise court action. He asked what the Council would like him to do about the matter. After discussion it was **AGREED** that

- The Schools officer will speak to the Children and their parents in school
- The Deputy Clerk will a quote for the repairs and then forward to the School's Officer
- That they would like to see some contribution from the parents

E-watch reports:

- Between 18:00 on Tuesday 9th of November and 07:30 on Wednesday 10th of November in Boughton Lane. Somebody broke into a container and has stolen various items.  
Crime Report No. 46/228594/21 - Posted 12/11/2021
- On Friday 22nd of October around 17:26 in Walnut Tree Lane. A group of young people climbed onto a metal shelter in a playing field. They broke off a roof panel.  
Crime Report No. 46/216117/21 - Posted 30/10/2021
- On Saturday 16th of October between 17:00 and 23:59 in Bridge Street. Somebody smashed a window of a residential property.  
Crime Report No. 46/212538/21 - Posted 24/10/2021

#### **11. To receive any questions/comments from the public (ongoing item)**

(To include any letters/e-mails received by the Clerk from members of the public)

- A property where we have had issues with overnight parking in the KGVPF by the occupier is up for sale. The Council **AGREED** for the Clerk to contact the Estate Agent to advise that there is no parking available for residents in the KVGPF.
- An email has been received from Secretary of Maidstone Lions Club asking if we could help with recycling of certain products including spectacles, hearing aids, plastic milk bottles, crisp packet etc. Unfortunately, the Council does not have any open facilities or storage. The Council **AGREED** to advise that they cannot help but would put details on their Facebook page.

#### **12. To review the Enquiry, Concern and Complaints Spreadsheet (ongoing item) (KO)**

The spreadsheet was circulated to Councillors and the Clerk advised that the following items had been added since the last meeting:

- Member of public asking if he could use the Church as a drop off point for clothing for the homeless
- Report of fly tipping in Holmesdale close by Community Warden
- Garden bins not collected in Valley Drive
- A man hitting golf balls on the KVGPF
- Concerns from resident re number of houses to be built on the boarder of LPC and Boughton Monchelsea
- Parking issues on Rosemount
- Parking issues on Copper Tree Court – The area concerned is KCC land. SL asked for the item to be put on the December agenda and VG asked that we speak to parking enforcement to get a someone out from MBC to ticket the area.
- Resident reported issue with bull pit fence sticking out and is hazardous
- Lost key following a visit to the Pavilion



**13. To discuss membership of Committees and make any necessary decisions**

The Committee Members list was circulated to all Councillors and after discussion it was **AGREED** that

- AR would join Finance
- SL will come off Finance Committee.
- TO will go back onto McAlpine Trust

Clerk to update Committee List.

**14. To received updates on the Council's Policies and make any necessary decisions**

a. To agree to adopt the following:

- Health & Safety Policy
- Task based risk assessment policy
- Policy for authorisation of payments

The Council **AGREED** all three Policies with one amendment from SL to be altered on H&S.

b. To decide on best practice for Policy reviews/amendments etc going forward

After discussion the Council **AGREED**

- To have an ongoing agenda item for Policies on the meeting
- The Clerk to prepare schedule of policies and when they will be reviewed
- Add a next review date to the policy document once agreed
- The Communication and Media Clerk to check that all policies are on the website.

**15. Promotion of Loose Parish Council & Articles (ongoing item)**

The Communication and Media Clerk's report was circulated to Councillors. The Council **AGREED** to put a note on the Facebook page once the issue with the Shelter damage has been resolved. Deputy Clerk to Action.

**16. To receive information on the Community Coffee Morning and make any decision necessary (SL)**

The next Community Coffee Morning will be 8 December 2021 and will have a Christmas theme.

**17. Risk (ongoing item):**

To receive and discuss any items of concern escalated by committees or concerning any potential risk matters

None.

**18. To ratify any ROUND ROBINS used since 18 October 2021**

None.

**19. To receive an update on SMART and make any necessary decisions (PR)**

PR advised that Joint Transport Board (JTB)B has not met for a while. A SMART meeting was arranged for 3 November 2021 but Officers did not attend. Planning development are going ahead but infrastructure projects such as Boughton Parade, Wheatsheaf and Linton Crossroads do not seem to be progressing. The Wheatsheaf Public House is unlikely to be demolished until



next Summer. It appears that Covid is being used as an excuse not to meet. SMART is frustrated trying to get answers but they are not forthcoming.

**20. Finance & Funding (ongoing item):**

- a. To ratify payments made on Appx A for 15 November 2021  
The Council ratified the Appendix A.
- b. To decide on frequency of 'funding left to spend' information, and publishing on website.  
The Council **AGREED** that this document should be circulated at Committee Meetings but not put on the website.

**21. To receive updates on the defibrillator and make any necessary decisions**

The original defibrillator is still missing and the Council has a loan one from Community Heartbeat. The office is still trying to organise dates with Mick Abbott for Training. The service contract has been looked at but until the original defibrillator is returned the office cannot move forward. The contract expires in March 2022.

**22. Notification of correspondence for discussion/action (ongoing item)**

None.

**23. Information Only (ongoing item)**

- NB advised that the speed survey for the Parish should start tomorrow.
- Cornwallis still want to be involved in the Youth involvement and NB will be meeting with Joe Sutton at the school and will report back.
- JA asked about Jan's leaving do. VG advised that it will be at the Pavilion in January 2022.

**24. Next meeting of the LPC will be on Monday 13 December 2021**

**The Meeting ended 9.40pm**

Dated.....

Signature.....