



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

Monday 19 July 2021 at 7.30pm,
in the Parish Pavilion, KGVPF

Councillors taking part: Charlie Hollister (Vice Chairman) (CH), Peter Rigby (PR), Jim Andrew (JA), Tony Oliver (TO) and Susan Luckhurst (SL).

Also present: Simon Webb (KCC Division Councillor) (SW), PC Tony Ingram (School Officer) (TI), Jan Capon (RFO) (JC), Nicky Bourne (Deputy Clerk) (NB) and Kim Owen (Clerk) (KO) who took the minutes.

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

1. To receive and record any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Vianne Gibbons, Luke Lenz, Velma Bennett, Susan Grigg (MBC Ward Councillor), Brain Amorim (PCSO), and Liz Lovatt (Community Warden). No apologies were received from Lewis Muir.

2. To receive and agree any decision regarding any item to be taken as confidential (Item 19)

The Council **AGREED** to take Item 19 as confidential.

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 21 June 2021 (1682-1691)

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2021 were duly **AGREED** and signed by the Vice Chairman.

The following approved Minutes were noted and adopted by the Parish

- Finance and Admin Committee meetings 6 January 2020 (pages 210-215) and 12 April 2021 (pages 216-219)
- Planning Committee meetings 7 June 2021 (pages 533-535) and 21 June 2021 (pages 536-537)
- Pavilion and Community Hub Committee meeting 22 February 2021 (pages 316-320)
- Environment Committee meeting 8 March 2021 (pages 344-349)

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

No report received.



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

SW advised that regarding Well Street he has two officers who are happy to attend a meeting, Jenny Watson and Ryan Shields. Before the meeting is organised he would like to have a meeting with the Chair of the Parish Council (Vianne Gibbons) and the MBC Ward Councillor (Susan Grigg) to get all the background information on the matter, hopefully in August. He will also be speaking to Highways Planning officers to ensure that any further development around Well Street is covered by a planning constraint.

The Deputy Clerk raised a highways issue at Northleigh Close where residents are parking at the junction and this is causing a problem for the refuse lorries to get down the road and on occasion bins have not been emptied. The Parish Council has tried to help and have reported the issue to MBC and they have been advised that as the issue is not on a busy main road and there is no crash data there is little they do. The repeat offenders have been photographed and their details shared with the PCSO. The Environment Committee have asked that the issue be shared with SW so he is aware of the situation. NB will email all the details to SW.

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

The clerk read out the Community Warden's report:

This month I have been exceptionally busy working with and supporting extremely vulnerable people. This has included referrals to social services and direct support.

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

KO introduced PC Tony Ingram to the Council who is the Schools Officer for Cornwallis and New Line Learning. This is a new role for police officers. Maidstone now has a full complement of officers in post. As of September he will be spending most of his time in and around the schools. There are five officers in Maidstone and they each have between 2 and 5 schools. Their main role is to be a visible presence in school, outside school and to help the schools with safeguarding issues particularly to help divert young people from making mistakes that will impact on their future lives. He looks forward to working with the Parish Council.

Report from PCSO

NB advised that the PCSO is isolating at the moment and he had advised that with regard to the dog poisoning (raised at the last meeting) the contents of the meat were not examined and the file has been closed. The officer in charge of the case should have contacted the victim and updated them about this. There have been several road traffic collisions in the last month in the Loose area. He has been patrolling Lancet Lane to keep an eye on the parking when he is able. There seems to be more well-behaved youths that are hanging around King George V Playing Field, which is good news. He also advised that Loose has been very good in terms of reports and incidents to Police. This will be his last report and with effect 2 August 2021 James Goodwin will return to Loose as the PCSO for Loose.

KO advised that there were no recent reports of crime on e-watch.

10. 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)

The Council has received a contact message asking if we have a community board that a not-for-profit Community Art Centre could advertise in. It is based at Marlpit Farm on Weirton Road and opens on 19 July 2021. The council does not have a community notice board but suggested that in and around Loose would be a good place to advertise as well as the Loose Community Facebook Page. NB will send link to resident.



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

In and around Loose deadline is coming up shortly. Please let the office know if you want any particular items in this edition.

A resident has asked if we could advise residents in the parish when a meeting is taking place using social media (Facebook). She would also like the meeting date sent out on the Community Alert. The Council advised that they do all the statutory requirements with regards to advising residents of meeting ie notice boards and website. The Council **AGREED** that the Office will put a note on Facebook when a meeting is coming up once the agenda is published and add a link to the Council's website. However, they **AGREED** not to use the community alert for this purpose. Clerk to contact resident.

12. To discuss the naming of the Artisan Development in Hubbards Lane and make any necessary decisions

We have received communication from GBA Designs about the name for the development in Hubbards Lane. The Council originally proposed William Tomkin Court and their client would like just Tomkin Court or revert to the original suggestion of Cherry Court. After discussion the Council **AGREED** to stick with William Tomkin Court. NB to deal.

13. Risk (ongoing item):

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

On Saturday evening the padlock to the gates was cut off with bolt cutters and a car removed from the carpark. The CCTV shows that it was a resident who is well know the office. This is not the first time that this resident has cut off a padlock and the matter has been reported to the police.

14. To ratify any ROUND ROBINS used since 21 June 2021

There are no **Round Robins** to ratify.

15. To receive an update on SMART and make any necessary decisions

PR advised that SMART met on 30 June 2021 to discuss the way forward for the group. The meeting was attended by SG, SW, Sean Cater (Chairman of SMART), Paul Cooper (KCC Division Councillor for Maidstone South and himself. As Paul Cooper and SW are KCC Division members they were able to confirm the following:

- The Wheatsheaf junction project has been delayed
- Boughton Lane/Cripple Street junction is still being considered on how to improve the flow of traffic
- Linton Crossroads improvements are also being considered

PR also confirmed that the next meeting is 4 August 2021 and SMART will be looking at the speeding on the A229. Due to Covid, Speedwatch has not to take place in the Parish. Now restrictions have been lifted it is hoped to get new members to join so that it can start up again.

16. To receive information on Queens Platinum Jubilee and make any necessary decisions (VG)

The Council **AGREED** to move this item to the next meeting.

17. Finance & Funding (ongoing item):

- a. To ratify payments made on Appx A for 19 July 2021

The payments were ratified and they were authorised by CH & VG.



- b. To receive full accounts from the RFO
The full accounts were circulated to members.
- c. For Councillors to individually decide whether they wish to receive LCR magazine (x 4 times per year) (cost £13.50 pp per year for x 4 copies)
The Council **AGREED** that they will continue with the same number of the magazines removing LM and adding in LL. RFO to action.
- d. To ratify full report from the Internal Auditor as at the fiscal year ended 31 March 21, as circulated by round robin arrangement, and to discuss any comments as relevant.
The full report was circulated to Councillors. It is RAG rated report and there were no issues raised. The report was ratified.

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

Survey/Consultations - Affordable Housing Developments - Member & Parish Survey
After discussion it was **AGREED** that the survey will be discussed and completed by the Planning Committee at the next planning meeting.

The Meeting was closed to the Public at 8.15pm.

19. To receive information regarding potential new Councillor(s) and make any necessary decisions

At the closed session of the meeting the Council unanimously **AGREED** to co-op Andrew Richards and Darren Carpenter to the Council. The Clerk will organise the necessary paperwork.

The Meeting was reopened at 8.40pm.

20. Information Only (ongoing item)

JC asked if the two new Councilors would like LPC magazines. They confirmed that they are happy to share with other Councillors.

21. Next meeting of the LPC will be on Monday 20 September 2021

The Meeting ended at 8.46pm

Signed

Dated.....