

LAXTON AND MOORHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 10 November 2016 in Laxton Visitor Centre commencing 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:

M. Manning (Chair)
D. Brown
J. Hill
R. Hennell
M.Hennell
J.Godson

In attendance:

C. Millward (Clerk)
Councillor Michael

	DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS	ACTION
LMPC/25/ 16	Apologies for absence: Mr S Hill was absent (prior commitment). Councillors consented to the absence. Mr Laughton was also unable to attend (family reasons).	
LMPC/26/ 16	Declarations of interest: Mr Godson declared a disclosable pecuniary interest as tenant with regard to items 14 (Access to the castle site). The chair and Mr Brown also declared an interest as members of the sports field committee in item 10 (Property matters including sports field and ownership of mowing equipment) There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.	
LMPC/27/ 16	Dispensations: None required.	
LMPC/28/ 16	10 Minutes public speaking: No public present.	
LMPC/29/ 16	Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 22 September 2016: The minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2016 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair, subject to the following amendments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LMPC12/16 c iii – Financial arrangements – Mr Hennell to refer to Mr R Hennell. The wording of the resolution relating to signatories was confirmed as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. That a bank account or accounts be continued and HSBC (“the Bank”) is authorised to act on any instructions provided they have been given by those persons named in the specimen signature section of the Bank mandate document (or authorised by such persons in accordance with the applicable authorisation requirements as follows : Any two listed persons together b. That any debt incurred to the Bank under this mandate shall, in the absence of written agreement by the Bank to the contrary, be repayable on demand c. That the secretary is authorised to supply the Bank, as and when necessary, with lists of all persons who are authorised to give instructions on behalf of the parish council, and that the Bank may rely on such lists d. That the parish council accepts the accounts (s) and banking relationship with the Bank will be governed by and 	

	<p>subject to the business banking terms and conditions (a copy of which has been provided) as amended from time to time, together with the terms and conditions of specific products and services requested by the parish council</p> <p>e. That these resolutions be communicated to the bank and remain in force until cancelled in writing to the Bank, signed by the chair or secretary from time to time acting or claiming to act on behalf of the parish council and the bank shall be entitled to act on such notice whether the resolutions have been validly cancelled or not.</p> <p>2. LMPC/14/16 c – Property matters – Removal of sub paragraph i.</p>	
LMPC/30/16	Matters arising: There were no matters arising.	
LMPC/31/16	Reports from district and county councillors: Councillor Michael had nothing to report since the meeting on 22 September 2016.	
LMPC/32/16	Reports from Councillors: No reports.	
LMPC/33/16	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <p>a. Financial position as at 31 October 2016: Councillors considered and noted the clerk’s report showing the precise financial position at 31 October. Councillors welcomed the new format financial report.</p> <p>b. External auditor’s report: Councillors noted the auditor’s comments. They will ensure that all matters raised are addressed at the 2016-17 audit.</p> <p>c. Approve appointment of internal auditor: The chair reported that Ms Naylor had decided to step down from the role. Councillors discussed other potential appointees. Mr Brown will approach a financially qualified individual connected with the parish. Mrs Michael will, as she deems it appropriate, make enquiries of other parish councils regarding their arrangements.</p> <p>d. Accounts for payment: The council unanimously approved twelve payments totalling £1634.88.</p> <p>e. Approve standing order for clerk’s salary: Approved.</p> <p>f. 2016-17 precept – budget planning: Councillors agreed that the precept must be set against a properly prepared budget forecast and at a realistic amount for the future. The clerk will circulate a prospective budget for discussion in advance of the next meeting. Councillors noted that the Government is reviewing parish council’s exemption from referenda requirements where precept increases exceed 2%</p>	<p>DB SM</p> <p>Clerk Agenda</p>
LMPC/34/16	Property matters including sports field and ownership of mowing equipment: The chair read the sports field committee minutes of the meeting on 25 April 2005 which set out the committee’s position in relation to the mower. After discussion, councillors decided to accept that the position regarding ownership of the mower was as set out in those minutes. No other property matters discussed.	
LMPC/35/16	<p>Planning matters:</p> <p>a. Applications: 16/01582/FUL Erection of dwelling Land Adjacent Bar Farm The Bar Laxton Nottinghamshire: By unanimous agreement, this item was deferred to the end of the meeting and was considered after item 22 (2017 meeting dates). Councillors discussed the application and unanimously decided to object to the proposal for the following reasons:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The site is on a known road accident blackspot where there have been previous accidents with vehicles leaving the road and coming to rest where the building itself would stand ii. The position of the proposed building close to the edge of the road and a known dangerous bend places it in the path of any vehicle losing control on the bend. iii. Poor visibility means that the new access closest to the house poses a road safety hazard iv. The building, if approved, would extend the village boundary which is not appropriate in a rural area. <p>b. To note planning decisions by NSDC: None.</p> <p>c. Compliance: Nothing raised.</p>	
<p>LMPC/36/16</p>	<p>Village development:</p> <p>a. Long term strategy: Councillors discussed the uncertainty within the village in relation to the Crown's long term intentions and extent of its commitment to the parish's unique way of life and rural heritage. Councillors recognized and endorsed the real concern that a commercial attitude to the Crown's assets, such as splitting houses up from their fields, posed a real risk to a rural system of agriculture and land ownership which had been preserved for centuries even though it had been lost elsewhere. They emphasised that separate family entities were integral to the open field system. Councillors decided that the Crown should be invited to visit the village and talk about its long term strategy, intentions and plans. In the first instance, they will provide the clerk with examples of decisions which have caused concern within the village. She will then draft a letter to the Crown for approval at the next meeting.</p> <p>b. Approach to the Crown regarding future plans: See a above.</p>	<p>Cllrs</p> <p>Clerk Agenda</p>
<p>LMPC/37/16</p>	<p>Village environment and appearance, including:</p> <p>a. Village Hall refurbishment project: Councillors will await the Lottery funding decision which is expected in December 2016.</p> <p>b. Re-location of Moorhouse Road 30mph speed limit sign at Laxton: NCC's views noted.</p> <p>c. Moorhouse "bumps": The clerk will approach NCC Highways to request warning signs.</p> <p>d. New village signs, Laxton and Moorhouse: The chair reported that four signs had been ordered for Laxton, three funded by the monies from the Crown and the fourth from Police Aid funds. The clerk will check with NCC and NSDC whether any consents will be required for the signs. Councillors noted the potential funding available from the Supporting Local Communities fund, the requirement for supporting evidence and 50% match funding and the closing date, 16 December 2016. They discussed the number of signs for Moorhouse, the cost of each sign, match funding implications and the possible extent of support in Moorhouse. It was decided that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The clerk should establish the views within Moorhouse in relation to signs and the number of signs with Mr S Hill 2. The Moorhouse views and accompanying evidence of support needs to be available to the clerk by 30 November 2016 if an SLC application is to be ready for submission by 16 December 2016 3. If Moorhouse wants one sign only, the clerk to submit an SLC bid, with the match funding to be addressed through the 2017-18 precept. 4. If Moorhouse wants more than one sign, given the match 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk/SH</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>funding which would then be required, the matter to be brought back to the council for further discussion</p> <p>e. Dog fouling: The chair will display signs asking people to clear up behind their dogs Dog bins to be an agenda item for the next meeting.</p>	Chair Agenda
LMPC/38/16	<p>Access to the castle: The clerk reminded councilors of their obligations under Localism Act 2011 in relation to disclosable pecuniary interests. Mr Godson did not participate in the discussion of this item, having declared a disclosable pecuniary interest. Councillors noted that the Crown's access discussions continue with the tenant. Agreed no longer required as agenda item.</p>	
LMPC/39/16	<p>New bus service: Revised timetable noted.</p>	
LMPC/40/16	<p>Defibrillator training – Arrangements – The chair gave a brief update.</p>	
LMPC/41/16	<p>Service faults: The clerk will report that the surface of the footpath from the Dovecote to the church is being damaged by root growth.</p>	Clerk
LMPC/42/16	<p>Correspondence: Item c - NCC- Winter service assistance – The clerk will place an order for the free salt to be delivered to Mr M Hennell.</p> <p>All other items of correspondence noted.</p>	Clerk
LMPC/43/16	<p>10 Minutes public speaking time: No public present</p>	Clerk
LMPC/44/16	<p>Agenda items for next meeting: As above and:</p>	
LMPC/45/16	<p>Date of next meeting: Future meetings to be at 7.30 pm and to take place bi-monthly on the fourth Thursday of the month where possible. Future dates fixed as follows:</p> <p>24 January 2017 28 March 2017 23 May 2017 and APM</p> <p>The meeting reverted to item 11 (Planning matters – Applications – 16/01582/FUL)</p>	

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.