



Langford Parish Council Informal Meeting

19 July 2023 at 7.00pm

**The meeting was held at
Langford Village Hall**

291

Draft Minutes

**Present Councillors: Richard Kemp, Chairman, Mark Harris, Vice Chairman, Cllr Nick Leverton
Clerk, Caroline Parsons
Members of the Public: None**

- 1. Apologies received:** Cllrs IB, CK
- 2. In the absence of a quorum the Councillors present held an informal meeting**
- 3. Planning**
 - 3.1 6 Church Lane - minor amendment to plans, no need for PC comment
The Laurels -Cllr RK had called round to JS, no reply and also emailed JS for an update, but no reply as yet
 - 3.2 Update on affordable housing and rural exception site - Cllr RK had received a reply from Finn McEwan advising that she has met with the Architect on site who has drawn up some initial sketches and would like to meet with Councillors on site to show them to discuss. They are hoping to build 8 social housing units and have 8 self build plots. Cllr NL advised that this seemed like a high ratio of self build plots to social housing, the ratio of 5% is more usual. He advised that self build houses are usually aimed at first time buyers. The need to ensure that the Planners and Architects respect the heritage of the village and follow the Langford design guide was discussed and it was agreed to discuss this and any other issues in detail at the site meeting.
- 4**
 - 4.1 Playground - an email from a parishioner concerned about the uncut grass and various other issues was discussed, Cllr MH has spoken with the parishioner. As a result the grass has been cut by WODC, who for some reason had missed the playground off their schedule this year. The bark has been spread, litter picked up and the tractor is being painted by RH. The Clerk is to find out from WODC how many cuts a year we should have. It was advised that we could do with some more play sand, the Clerk to obtain a quote for 2 or 3 tonne bags.
Another Parishioner has questioned whether we could fence the playground, due to the traffic close by. Cllr MH said the PC had made a conscious decision not to fence the newly rebuilt playground as it is built on such a small footprint that it would make the playground very tight and also due to public liability issues. Cllr RK will speak to the Parishioner.
 - 4.2 Potential Unregistered land near the Allotments - Cllr RK updated Cllr NL on this situation. Cllr RK suggested the best way forward would be for the PC to coordinate the process: he has previously spoken with the other parties involved (Langford Charity, Village Hall Committee and PK) and they were all in agreement with proceeding this way. Cllr IB had previously indicated that he was happy to take on the role of coordinator.
 - 4.3 The PC has received a letter from OCC regarding implementing a possible speed limit of 20 mph within the village. We had previously decided to stick with a 30mph limit as the evidence produced by the

Speedwatch initiative showed that speeding was not a problem.

Our flashing speed warning lights would need to be adjusted and it is not clear if OCC would implement this. CClr NL advised that some PC's choose to put a 20mph limit on specific roads within an area and leave some at 30mph. Some councils like Bampton and Witney have taken down some of their 20 mph signs

Clr MH believes that the PC are not qualified to choose which roads would have the 20 mph and that we should have some technical guidance from OCC. CClr NL will give Geoff Barrell at OCC a call for advice. We should also check out what Broadwell is doing.

We have 18 months to make a decision so it was decided to put on the agenda for our next meeting

CClr NI then appraised us with what is happening at County/Government. There will be an initiative to reduce obesity aimed at changing people's habits, it is thought this will reduce pressure on the NHS and save money.

Vaping has become hugely addictive and Councils in England and Wales have called on the UK government to ban the sale of vapes in 2024

The road from Carterton is due to be repaired in this tax year and CClr NL will try to put pressure on to get it repaired sooner, as it is not safe.

5 Business Items

5.1 Financial report - After cheques the PC has £11048 in the Treasurers Account and £6772 in the Reserves Account

5.2 AOB - CClr RK recommends that the Village hold the Produce Fair and cancel Village Day as there has been a lot going on in the village this year

6 Date of next meeting - Wednesday 27 September at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.35

Signed byRichard Kemp, Chairman