

LUXBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 27th June 2018 in Luxborough village hall commencing at 8pm.

Present: Chairman, D. Powell, Vice Chairman, A. Sparling, Cllr Duke, Cllr Henson, F Nicholson, M Dewdney and Clerk, D Wass.

1. **Apologies for Absence** were given by Cllr Tombleson, Cllr O'Hare, P. Bolton and R. Lillis and the reasons given were approved.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** M Dewdney re planning.
3. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 30th May 2018.** The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Planning.** Martyn Dewdney and F. Nicholson left the room.

Planning Application No: 6/3/18/103 Amended Plans

Applicant: Mr Martyn Sedlen

Proposal: Creation of vehicular access and hardstanding.

Location: 1 Loftbrook.

The amended plans put forward were discussed and it was unanimously felt that there is a major problem with visibility in exiting the proposed location particularly to the west as it is completely blind and the amended plans have not addressed this. The councillors voted unanimously to object again.

5. **Appointment of new councillor.** The only applicant to come forward is Douglas Yiend of the Royal Oak, who is a popular candidate. Proposed: Chairman, Seconded Cllr Duke.
6. **Chairmans Announcements**
The next Exmoor Panel Meeting will be held on Thursday 5th July and Cllr Sparling and the Chairman (work permitting) will attend.

The Chairman proposed a letter is sent to Colin Blackburn who is moving from the village shortly, thanking him for all he has done for the village over the years including acting as rights of way officer, repairing the bridge, painting the telephone box, acting as an early flood warning when the river rises, putting up and taking down the marquees for the fete and so on.

Resolution: the Clerk to draft a letter on behalf of the council thanking Mr Blackburn.

7. Littering

As was discussed at the last meeting this is a recurring problem on the lanes leading into the village. The Chairman asked Cllr Duke to contact Rev David Weir with a view to a mention in the parish magazine re litter prevention and organised litter picks. It was agreed that litter picks are best carried out in the spring before the foliage covers the litter up.

Resolution: Cllr Duke to contact Rev Weir re the parish magazine.

8. Financial Matters

The Clerk produced the latest bank statement dated 30th May which showed a balance of £4,308.95 which included a repayment from HMRC for VAT in the sum of £214.83.

The Clerk produced an invoice for the final payment from the Transparency Fund for the website and for postage costs and a cheque for £71.96 was signed.

9. Items of Interest

An email had been received from Somerset Highways Road Closure Team regarding the closure of the Luxborough to Roadwater road for 9 days commencing on 2nd July for works to the bridge near Langridge. Cllr Henson was concerned about the signage for the road closure as on a recent closure the signs were in the wrong place and closed roads unnecessarily causing a lot of inconvenience. F. Nicholson suggested the Clerk contact the contractor to ascertain the signage schedule and report to the PC.

Resolution: The Clerk to ring Crestmoor Construction Services Ltd to obtain the signage schedule and forward this to the Chairman and Cllr Henson.

Exmoor Consultative and Parish Forum had sent an email regarding funding available from Western Power for undergrounding of power lines through protected landscapes such as ENP. Although Luxborough is not in the funding scheme there is still money available should a need be identified.

Resolution: All councillors to investigate whether there is a need in the parish and report to the Clerk in order to apply for funding.

The first draft copy of the Housing Needs Survey results has been received and the PC is asked to comment by 31st August 2018.

Resolution: the Clerk to email the report to all councillors and comments/feedback to be returned to the Clerk to forward to Heather Crockford at West Somerset District Council.

Peter Bolton being unable to attend the meeting had sent a report in which he raised awareness of a couple incidents of theft where a ride on mower and a quad bike were stolen from rural premises recently (not Luxborough) . He is not aware of any incidents in Luxborough thankfully but would ask all residents if they could inform the police via the Avon and Somerset Constabulary website or 101 if they see anything suspicious in the locality, especially people or vehicles who look like they could be scoping vulnerable premises for scrap metal, quads, ride ons, power tools etc. Registration numbers, dates, times, places and description of vehicles and people are requested.

F. Nicholson reported that as usual money was short. An example of shortage of funding is the fact that West Somerset has to spend nine times the national average on school transport because of the rural location.

M. Dewdney reported that he had attended the first meeting of the new shadow council and the Shadow Executive is up and running of which he is a member and currently is looking at the structure of senior management.

10. Items for the next meeting.

There were no items raised for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed Chairman

Date