

LUXBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Luxborough Parish Council held on 16 March 2022 at Luxborough Village Hall at 8.15 pm.

Present: Cllrs: D Powell (*Chair*), C Henson, R O'Hare, F Nicholson (County), S Pugsley (District). **Clerk:** Jeanna Grenville.

Public Question Time: No members of the public were present.

21/62 The Chairman opened the meeting at 8.15 pm.

21/63 Apologies for absence. Cllrs A Sparling, J Tombleson.

21/64 Declarations of interest. Cllr Powell for agenda item 13.3

21/65 Minutes of the meeting of 12 January 2022. The minutes were resolved as a true and accurate record.

21/66 Chairman's Report / Update from District and County Councillors. The Chairman noted the disruption created by recent storms, including Storm Eunice, observing that some villages were seeking to adopt a local emergency plan to ensure that vulnerable residents were supported. Cllrs were of the opinion that a formal plan was not necessary for Luxborough since the community already provides support and assistance to each other in emergencies. Regarding the emergency services' mast, Cllr O'Hare's had received no response to his enquiries and Cllr Pugsley is still chasing information about when this will become operational. Cllr Pugsley advised that the National Parks Consultative forum will take place tomorrow. The Glover report will be the main discussion item, with its central premise that governance of national parks is conducted by nationally recruited, and not local, bodies. The social and economic well-being of local communities is omitted from the proposals for the new governing bodies. The opportunity for the Parish Council (PC's) to comment on the proposals ends in April. Cllrs reported ongoing progress of the Local Community Network proposals for Highways in advance of the unitary council. Proposals for the Local Steward were advanced with an appointment anticipated in quarter one of 2022/23. An additional discretionary budget of £20k was being made available in support of the trial. Local works will include clearing of grips and gullies - these are plotted on the Council Council's website, although it is possible that some may be omitted. Cllrs noted that the Steward will have to tackle the backlog of work that has built up over recent months. Cllr Nicholson noted that the re-organisation of the First Schools seems to be going well under the new structure.

21/67 Parish Council Elections. The Clerk ran through the key dates for forthcoming elections with the requirement for nominations to be delivered by hand no later than 4 pm on 5 April. The Chairman reported that three individuals had approached him regarding the current vacancy, however there was little use in going through a co-option process in advance of imminent elections. Existing Cllrs remain in post until 9 May when new Cllrs take up their positions, prior to being sworn in before the Annual Parish Meeting.

21/68 Illegal Rave Parties. Councillors have engaged with the Forestry Commission and the local MP in an attempt to prevent further rave parties which create significant noise and disruption to Luxborough and reaching as far as Rodhuish and Roadwater. A meeting is planned with Forestry when Cllrs will request whether additional physical barriers could be put in place. Parishioners will be encouraged via the village email to report every incident to the Police. Thanks were noted to Nigel Duke for his assistance in progressing this matter.

21/69 Risk Policy and Register. The Councillors resolved to adopt the policy and Register prepared by the Clerk.

21/70 Finance. Cllrs resolved to approve the Clerk's backdated pay increase of 1.75% based on the NJC approved rates. 2) Cllrs resolved to approve the quarter three financial statements presented by the Clerk, noting the balance at the bank of £3050.82 as at 28 February 2022. 3) Cllrs resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments. 4) The Clerk reported that, at its next meeting, the PC will be able to certify exemption from the limited assurance review by the government-appointed auditors as both income and expenditure will be below the £25k threshold. The internal audit by Mrs P McGlynn will take place early in May with the intention of approving the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) at the May PC meeting. The period of public inspection must commence by 1 July.

21/71 Planning. A new application for Hall Farm has been received and will be considered at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 30 March. A new outbuilding under construction has been noticed on the Hall farm site the Clerk was asked to investigate this with Planning.

21/72 Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Cllrs resolved that the commemorative tree and a plaque would be paid for by the PC under S.137 (Local Government Act). The Chairman is researching options for Jubilee mugs for each of the Parish's 37 schoolchildren.

21/73 Correspondence Meetings. Nothing to report.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 18 May – Annual Parish Council meeting. Cllrs will need to be sworn in prior to the meeting. This will be preceded by the annual meeting of Electors.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Signed

Dated

Appendix to Minutes - Schedule of Payments

Payments	
Function 28	£24.00
Clerk	£309.25
HMRC	£71.60
D Powell	£45.60
Village Hall	£83.70
Information Commissioner's Office	40.00
Total	574.15