

LOCKERLEY PARISH COUNCIL

LOCKERLEY PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

Monday 8th January 2024 at 7:00 in the Memorial Hall

Minutes

1. **Present:** Jane Waller (JW), Chair; Peter Funnell (PF), Vice Chair; Tim Coomer (TC), Councillor, Len Arthur (LA), Councillor, Nick Adams-King (NAK) from HCC, Alex Walker (AW), Clerk for the evening, Corinne Davis-Cooke, HCC Community Ranger and 12 members of the public
2. **Welcome:** JW welcomed councillors and thanked everyone for coming
3. **Apologies:** Alison Johnston (AJ) from TVBC
4. **Declarations of Interest relating to agenda items only:** None
5. **To Approve Minutes from the Meeting on 13th November 2023:**
Matters arising from the minutes. Minutes approved and signed and dated by the Chair
6. **Open Forum**
 - a. What can be done about the ditch opposite School Farm and the subsequent flooding?
 - b. There is no longer a public bus service to Romsey. Is there a plan to reinstate this?
 - c. The road surface on Pain's Hill is very poor and the water sits on the road and the grips need clearing. The last repairs have not lasted.
 - d. There are 2 caravans parked at private residences on Mount Lane. Should these still be there?

Report from NAK from HCC

In answer to questions:

- AW to email NAK with exact location of the caravans on Mount Lane. NAK will inform the highways team about the poor condition of the road.
- The bus route to Romsey was being subsidised at a rate of about £50 per person so the route was unviable. Unity is looking at a 'call and go' type service. The challenge they have is the amount of subsidy needed.
- The area around School Farm is a high flooding area. The road was closed about 5 years ago and the ditches cleared and culverts cut but the flooding is worse. NAK has highlighted Lockerley as a priority area to be assessed for improvements. We are consistently having higher than average rainfall. Homeowners own sandbags can be put on private land but not on the highway. HCC don't clear ditches that they don't own anymore - this is the landowners responsibility. Parishioners need to report

problems then there is a standard letter which LPC can send out requesting that the landowner completes maintenance work.

There is no coordination between ditches being cleared and hedges cut. Often it seems a ditch is cleared then a hedge cut - filling the ditch. No real way to avoid this. JW informed NAK that there is a gap in the railings by the winterbourne which runs past Clems Way. AW to email NAK with the exact location of the gap.

Community Engagement Ranger, Corinne Davis-Cooke.

Talk and discussion on footpaths, stiles and open spaces

HCC is working with volunteers - path wardens. Issues with footpaths and stiles need to be reported so that the Hampshire Rights of Way team can deal with them. Volunteers can help with issues around signage and vegetation - they will be trained to do this. The Priority Cutting List (PCL) means that only 2 footpaths 6 and 33 get cut by HCC. These have not been cut recently. JW to contact Norman Court Estate re billing them to cut the top end of footpath 33. The surface vegetation should be cut by HCC but often the landowners oblige and cut this. Gates and stiles are the responsibility of landowners to maintain. Gates are needed now and not stiles. There might be funding for replacing stiles with gates but landowners need to apply for this.

Paths across fields need to be reinstated by landowners if ploughed - to 1 metre in width.

The wording for a notice about dogs is 'Please keep your dog under close control'. Dogs have to stay on the legal width of the path. There is no legal obligation for a dog to pass through a stile or a gate.

Landowners are liable if a user falls off a damaged stile.

Volunteers need a ticket for a maintenance job and need to wear proper PPE. Path warden kits will be given out along with basic tools.

Interested parishioners should volunteer through LPC.

Other footpath issues

Footpaths 5 and 17 are in hand

Footpath 7 is not in an area of SSSI – nothing to report on this path

JW to ask School Farm about the footpath along Romsey Road. Is this a permissive route?

7. Finance:

Account Balances

Current Account £30,255.96

Deposit Account £15,176.91

Deposit Account (Green Preservation Reserve) £11,953.00

Playground Account £11,952.52

Monies in

None

Cheques

18/12/2023 Shane Ling 001334/001335 £560

8/1/2024 Alex Walker 001336 £150

Precept

No budget has been agreed and there are no big projects for the forthcoming year. Councillors voted and agreed to keep the precept the same at £22,656

8. Co-option of, up to, 3 councillors:

Two members of the public offered to be co opted. AW has taken contact details.

9. New Email addresses:

New email addresses (.gov) have been given to councillors and are being used but the old email addresses are still in use.

10. Lockerley Parish Website:

When the new website is up and running and a job description has been written, the council will advertise for a new clerk.

11. Highways:

Already discussed.

12. Footpaths:

Already discussed.

13. Greens and Open Spaces:

Lockerley Green: Unadopted Road - contractor waiting for better weather to carry out resurfacing.

Tote Hill Common: Tree survey - Ongoing.

14. Playground:

Regular inspection: LA passed round the inspection report. Inspected on 13.12.23 and 8.1.24. No immediate action required.

15: Other outstanding issues:

Parish Room improvements, roof repairs and decorating. The internal decorating starts this Wednesday

16. Planning: None

17. Correspondence:

The hire of the hall for this meeting will be £16

18. AOB

Mobile phone mast. PF reported that a local landowner is willing to have a mobile phone mast on his land. LPC representatives hope to meet with MP Caroline Noakes to get providers to provide a signal for Lockerley.

19. Parishioners' questions: On agenda items discussed.

A member of the public reminded councillors that a proposal had been made to reduce the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph on the stretch of road past the playground. ? to email NAK and Highways to action this.

Date of Next Meeting:

Monday March 11th 2024

Meeting closed: 8:45