

Lockerley Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes

Monday 15th May 2023 7:00 pm.

Lockerley and East Dean Memorial Hall

Present: Councillors: Jane Waller, Tim Coomer, Len Arthur, Caroline Loveridge, Peter Funnell, Alison Johnston from TVBC. Also present was minute taker to the council, Alex Walker.
There were 8 members of the public

Apologies and Introduction: Nick Adams-King

1. Minutes of last formal Annual Parish Meeting: 8th April 2019: Approved

2. Chair Annual Report:

I have only held the position of Chair for the past two months and must, therefore, report with care on the issues, initiatives and successes that have taken place in our parish in the whole twelve months period. I had previously relinquished the post of Vice Chair and only carried responsibilities for countryside issues. The comments that I make below come mainly from my personal knowledge as a councillor and as a contributor at meetings and events.

The early part of our year was still being dominated by the outcomes resulting from the discussions regarding the proposed installation of an O2 mobile phone mast by the company Galliford Try. The site on Lockerley Green was rejected and the alternative proposed sites were not considered.

Galliford Try have since pulled out and the problem of poor mobile connectivity remains unresolved.

A Village Greens Policy was proposed in March 2022. A document has since been drafted and discussed in council, but not yet adopted. This has since been augmented by a survey of all 8 of our village greens and common lands. Safety and maintenance issues were considered bearing in mind the different characteristics of each of our greens.

A plan to plant flowering trees on Butts Green was agreed and a row of 10 trees were planted behind the parking area on the green. One tree appears to have died and needs to be replaced.

A new clerk was appointed who took on the task of sorting out additional financial issues. A laptop computer and printer were purchased for this purpose. The change to an online banking system was also considered, but no further action could be taken as the problems within our existing TSB account were still unresolved.

On 5th June 2022 a celebration picnic on Butts Green was arranged to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Parishioners were entertained by the Lockerley Silver band.

Our meeting on 16 th May and the Jubilee event on 5 th June turned out to be our last point of contact as a council for many months. A meeting was planned for 18 th July, but was cancelled due to the hot weather, without an alternative date being arranged. The next date for a meeting on 19 th September 2022 was also cancelled following the death of Queen Elizabeth. Once again, no alternative date was given. Communications between councillors became difficult, our clerk resigned, and the work of the council was interrupted.

An Extraordinary Meeting was called for 18 th October 2022 to attempt to resolve these communication difficulties and to complete agenda items. The work of the council continued with difficulty for the following 2 or 3 months and eventually resulted in the resignation of the chair and of 3 other councillors.

A new chair was elected at the meeting on 13 th March. Ongoing agenda items were discussed and practical tasks permitted.

At short notice the decision was made to hold a Coronation Celebration. The available grant was applied for and the council agreed to further supplement that amount. An afternoon tea, free to all parishioners, was held at the Lockerley and East Dean Memorial Hall. The following evening a quiz and Coronation Chicken event was held at the same venue.

At the call for election, two candidates applied and we can now go forward with a council of 5 representatives.

3. HCC Report Cllr Nick Adams-King: None

4. TVBC Report: Cllr Alison Johnston:

This coming year LPC may want to work on applying for TVBC grants.

There is a new member on the TVBC team - Stewart MacDonald. Tony Ward is stepping down. The new committees haven't been set up yet.

If LPC want to work on the Neighbourhood Plan then Ali can put the parish council in touch with other parish councils for support and a plan template.

Mobile connectivity in many areas of Lockerley is still poor.

Ali will check that TVBC planning office has up to date contact details for LPC so that planning information is sent through.

5. Parishioners Open Forum:

There were questions on the parking of cars on the pavement and road around the two Lockerley garages and Butts Green, and a phone mast.

The meeting closed at 7:30pm