

**MINUTES OF A LYMPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL ASSETS MEETING HELD IN
THE VILLAGE HALL AT 6.30PM ON MONDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2022.**

PRESENT:	
Councillors	D Atkins (Chairman), D Beatty, S Francis, M Moffatt, J Payne, L Staddon and D Tyrrell,
Clerk	Miss L Tyrrell
County Councillors	R Scott
Public	2 members

Public session

No members of the public spoke at this time.

22/110 Apologies

Cllr Hill due to work commitments.

Cllr Linfoot due to annual leave.

Cllr Atkins proposed to approve the apologies. Cllr Staddon seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the Apologies were approved by the PC.

22/111 To receive any Declarations of Interest

Cllr Staddon declared a personal interest in any resolutions involving the football club.

This was recorded in the book.

22/112 Candy's Field use

The Clerk listed all the current regular users on Candys Field. She went through the draft user policy and booking form. This was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the draft user policy and booking form was approved.

Cllr Atkins read his motion 1 and 2:

1. *That the LPC hereby gives notice to the LFC that the use of any part of Candys field ceases to be used for league games and training from the season 1st September 2023 dated this 29th day of September 2022.*
2. *That for the current season to the 31st July 2023 the candys field users are notified that the areas used are to be zoned. Details below:*
 - a. *7 and 8 year old's use of the North East area two pitches alternate use for training (U7s Tues and U8s Wed evenings).*
 - b. *League matches to be allowed on alternate Saturday mornings through the season and on no other occasions.*

Note the other zoned areas are: preschool (tots), youth club and primary school Northwest corner. The air ambulance area is the Southwest side.

Candys Field is open for the use of the village children and all members of the public for recreational use. Unofficial groups of Lympstone children and their friends. All other activities to be approved in writing through the Clerk.

Cllr Tyrrell explained that the field needed at least 10 weeks to rest. Cllr Atkins felt 12 months' notice to all users was not unreasonable. Mr Webster was present and added that LFC was made up with children from Lympstone. He added that there were other users who were profiting from their organised activities on Candys field. He explained that Southwest development football club were not part of LFC and was a private organisation. Cllr Tyrrell asked Mr Webster if he agreed that Candys field was looking worn. Mr Webster explained that St. Peters field was regularly used and was always fine. He added that Candys field always looked worn due to members of the public sharing the field. Cllr Tyrrell asked why the youth could not use Cliff Field. Mr Webster explained that due to the age of the children playing there was more parents and more vehicles parked along the Highway. Candys field had more parking provision. He added that more users on Cliff field would be detrimental to the wear on that field. Cllr Staddon asked if a longer-term action plan would be to move more users to Cliff field? Cllr Tyrrell felt more users should come off Candys field. He added that the FC had not completed actions that had been asked of them and the PC was constantly chasing this up. Mr Webster was not aware of any outstanding actions. Cllr Tyrrell would support LFC using Cliff Field. Cllr Payne suggested that the Parishioners were asked for their opinion. Cllr Atkins read the Exmouth community Facebook page advert which he believed indicated that the FC opened play for members to attend from Exmouth so it was not just a Lympstone provision. He felt he would like to meet with Exmouth Town Council to discuss a football pitch to be included at Goodmores development. County Cllr Scott asked why Candys field was not suitable, but Goodmores was? Cllr Atkins reiterated that Candys field was unsuitable because it was a recreational field. Cllr Scott felt that children running around to play was a recreational use. He asked if the PC had canvassed the public. Mrs Briggs was present and asked if the PC wanted to stop all users and anyone turning up to use the field. Cllr Atkins felt zoned areas would help protect the field. Cllr Tyrrell highlighted that the PC and the Clerk were dealing with an increase in users. The PC could either try and be responsible for all users or leave the field to run itself. The PC and the Clerk was spending more and more time on the field and any accidents would ultimately be the PCs responsibility as it was PC property. Cllr Payne added that people wanted to be outdoors and there was not another facility. She asked how the field could be improved. She added that the Clerk had provided information that now needed implementing. How could this situation be made better? Cllr Moffatt added that children should be encouraged to play outside and socialise, but the field did also need protecting from overuse. Mrs Briggs asked if the seed could be changed to a hard-wearing grass seed? Cllr Atkins explained that there had to be a costs and maintenance review. Cllr Scott felt the cost should be contributed by everyone and could be accommodated by a temporary increase in the Parish precept.

Cllr Francis proposed to continue use of Candys Field with a PC working party to continue the Clerks work, consider the agreements already in place and

charge a fee to cover admin and maintenance costs. Cllr Moffatt seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that a working party within the Assets committee would be set up to manage users and Candys field.

Cllr Beatty felt that the football pitches could be easily rotated to allow time for pitches to recover. She did not want to see the FC leave the field as after last time they were asked to leave she was terrified of the threats received via social media towards Cllrs. The Clerk highlighted that no-one should feel threatened at any time. The PC made a decision as a body and not as individuals. Cllr Atkins reiterated that pitches must be rotated. Cllr Beatty felt the school and DCC should pay more for their annual use of the field. Cllr Scott believed this was a reasonable request and funding could be available. Mr Webster explained that the FC had no issue with paying for the use of the field. Cllr Tyrrell added that even with a working party the RFO and the PC were ultimately responsible.

Public meeting closed at **7.50pm.**

Chairman:

Date: