

Assets and Amenities Committee meeting
Monday 19th June 2023 at 6pm in the Meeting Room of Lymptstone Village Hall

Present: Councillors Atkins (Chair), Hill, Staddon, Lewis, Linfoot and Francis.

No public present

23/25. Apologies PC Clerk Lucy Tyrrell

23/26 Minutes approved at last full Parish meeting, noted.

23/27 Public Conveniences

Discussion on the running costs, which were over £12000 last financial year. Over £4500 of this cost was repairs to damage and installation of CCTV.

Councillor Atkins hoped this would not be replicated this year, but stated that the running costs were far in excess of similar toilets in Woodbury. Toilet paper costs were over double, and all agreed the Exe Estuary Trail running through the village was responsible for the extra costs.

Councillor Atkins recommended that we report back to full PC meeting with a proposal that the Clerk write to both EDDC and DCC asking for a £1000 (each) towards the running costs.

The overhanging trees from Dr Telfers garden are starting to affect the roof of the toilets.

Councillor Atkins to approach Dr Telfer to discuss trimming back the trees. If he is in agreement, the Clerk will write to EDDC to ask they trim the trees back (they overhang the car park, maintained by EDDC).

23/28. Nettles behind preschool require trimming.

In hand Mr Morrish has been asked to complete this, and will move the goalposts and complete ASAP.

23/29. Candy's Field play equipment

A weekly inspection is required (insurance requirements).

Discussion took place as to role requirements and experience. Councillor Lewis stated that it was important that it was an experienced person, who should be properly trained. Councillor Atkins pointed out that some of the wood was already splitting and this should be monitored.

Action. Councillor Linfoot to liaise with the Clerk to both check the required frequency of the inspection regime, and prepare an advert for a suitable candidate to inspect the play equipment.

23/30 Jubilee Oak in Candy's Field

Councillors Lewis and Atkins agreed that sadly this Oak is dead. It was noted that although watered regularly, it was planted at the wrong time of year and did not have a chance to establish.

Councillor Atkins proposed that the clerk be asked to write to EDDC re a replacement, seconded Councillor Hill, Unanimous.

23/31. Lymptstone cemetery

RBL are yet to supply the specifications for the path. It was believed that they had quoted for a path 1.2 metres wide, the current path is 1.1 metres wide. Correct width to be confirmed, RBL will supply the specifications they have quoted for. Councillor Linfoot will obtain two further quotes.

It has been noticed that people (believed parents cutting through) have started to use a cut through from the Luptons orchard through a gap in their hedge and then through the cemetery. Councillor Atkins was concerned that this would create a right of way.

Councillor Linfoot suggested repairing the fence, Councillor Atkins stated that there is a footpath through the new development and stops at the burial ground hedge on the Eastern side.

Action Councillor Atkins will discuss with Penny Lupton her views of people creating a short cut through the Orchard and report back.

23/32. Room hire costs Village Hall.

Councillor Atkins explained the history of the present agreement that ends in July. The PC agreed to place £500 a year in a fund allocated for repair of the car park. For this the PC received 12 free meetings a year (3 hrs a month at £8 an hour =£24).

The Village Hall have written to the PC pointing out that the agreement ends in July, and the PC need to start paying for the rooms. (See Appendix 1)

After a long discussion it was agreed to ask the full PC to decide between two proposals:-

A) Request that the Village Hall extend the current agreement for the £500 a year into a fund.

B) We start to pay for room hire, price is rising, so 11 meetings a year would cost £330.

23/33. Weeds in village streets and pavements

Councillor Atkins stated that there are several areas around the village where weeding is required.

A discussion re when and how any action takes place agreed that September would be a good month to promote a day of action.

Action Councillor Lewis to discuss with Rebecca (wild Lymptone) their involvement, and possible long-term solutions avoiding chemical weedkiller, and report back.

23/34 Items for next agenda

Quotes for cemetery pathway

The gap in the hedge in the cemetery

Third quote re the Lime trees in Avenue Field

Meeting closed 7.30pm

Chairman:

Date:

Appendix 1:

11th April 2023

Hi Lucy

Just to advise that the agreement made in 2018 between LVH and LPC, granting the Parish Council free use of the village hall's facilities for 5 years, runs out in July 2023. You will be aware that the agreement stemmed from the re-surfacing and re-lining of the village hall car park, paid for in full by LPC. The village hall's share of the costs of re-surfacing were calculated to be £2,340 (or 18% of the total cost of £13,000). LVH did not pay this, instead granting LPC 5 years' free use of the hall's facilities.

With effect from the LPC meeting scheduled for 4/9/23, the "village rate" of £8 per hour will be charged for the Meeting Room facility, and £12 per hour for booking the Main Hall.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards

*Steve Morgan
Treasurer, LVH CIO*