

Councillors Atkins (chair), Hill, Staddon, Lewis, Linfoot, Francis, Payne and Beatty.  
No public present.

23/12 No apologies received.

23/13 Minutes of previous meeting approved in full Council meeting in March.

23/14 Matters arising from last meeting:

Oak tree by the playpark.

Councillor Atkins read through a number of messages from 2019 re previous work carried out on the Oak. Councillor Lewis confirmed that this work was not on the part of the tree that now is the area of concern. A number of views were aired as to whether the tree should be completely removed or remedial work carried out to save the tree.

EDDC Arboriculture Tree Manager Alistair Jeans is to view the tree later this week.

It was proposed by Councillor Linfoot that the booking with Dartmoor Tree Surgeons for Tuesday 2nd May be confirmed. This would be for either removal of the tree or remedial work, depending on directions from EDDC.

This was seconded by Councillor Lewis. Unanimous except Councillor Atkins who abstained.

It was agreed that the play park remain shut and repeat the advice on Facebook to avoid until the situation is rectified.

23/15. Front Meadow

Extra posts around Church car park, being installed this week.

Two extra Oak trees are not required/wanted, a smaller tree will be planted to either replace a dying tree, or in an agreed area near the Brook. (For the Lupton family).

Two extra benches will be installed down by The Brook, so that the view back up to the Church can be enjoyed.

Fence by the Brook, posts are being replaced and normal wire replaces barbed wire.

Bollards. The request for battery powered App operated bollards was discussed. Councillor Hill stated that he had discussed the issue with Mr Stratford, he had emphasised that the Church was getting an extremely good deal with the car park, and if the Church required these Bollards, they should pay. It was unanimously agreed that if the Church requires these, they should pay.

Solar Lights. Agreed that they are not required at this time. Action. Lucy to write to Mr Wood, thank him for his quote, but decision has been made not to install at this time.

Dogs in Front Meadow. It was discussed whether dogs should be on leads, and whether this would assist re dog excrement. It was agreed that dogs should be allowed off lead. Councillor Hill proposed that signs be erected by Church entrance and Wotton Brook entrance to encourage users to respect the space and clear up after dogs, seconded by Councillor Beatty. Unanimous agreement. Action wording on sign to be agreed.

Councillor Hill updated re the Lease, all parties are reviewing copies, and it will then go to the Solicitors for preparation for signatures.

23/16. Parish Council Cemetery

The gates are off and away for repair, hopefully back in next four weeks.

Hedge between Cemetery and Parish Hall will be laid in the Autumn (commencing October).

Burial Fees, this will pass to the finance Committee to discuss.

Offer of Bench to be installed in the corner was unanimously supported. Proposed by Councillor Atkins, seconded by Councillor Hill, Unanimous.

The state of the paths around the Cemetery was discussed.

Rich from RBL had inspected the path and stated they were not correctly laid (base not correct). He supplied a quote of several thousand pounds to remove and replace with a concrete path all round. It was agreed that this type of path would make it far easier for those with mobility restrictions to visit the Cemetery.

Action. 2 further quotes to be obtained for this work by Councillor Linfoot.

23/17. Parish Council Maintenance Contractor

Councillor Atkins explained that Mr Weston had retired, and at this time Mr Morrish had taken over the duties this year and was being paid for this. It was intended to offer a five-year contract, for a full specification of work that Councillor Atkins had prepared. Mr Morrish had submitted a quote for this work. Councillor Linfoot suggested that as this is for a 5-year contract, it would be correct and fair to advertise this and invite further quotes before making a decision.

It was agreed that this was the correct course of action, and Mr Morrish be asked to continue his work this year.

Adverts to be placed in The Herald, Facebook and Web site.

Action Councillor Atkins to liaise with Lucy to formulate an advert and provide a list of work required.

23/18. Candy's and Cliff Field maintenance.

It was agreed that we continue as we are awaiting Councillor Lewis finalising an inspection/ maintenance plan.

23/19. Goal posts on Cliff Field

Present position not successful:-

Lots of youths are attending the Field to use the posts. (From outside Lymptone, it can be quite unpleasant, with loud music and bad language).

Locks are broken and posts are pulled out across the path obstructing walkers.

One goal post is broken and dumped behind the lock ups.

Excess wear of grass in this area which is now a muddy unpleasant area.

It was proposed that the Football club be asked to remove the goalposts from Cliff Field, within a week after the last game. Not to be returned till September. (This hopefully will allow the grass to recover, and take away the attraction to attend the Field from elsewhere ). If not done the Council will arrange removal.

Proposed Councillor Atkins, seconded Councillor Lewis.

Councillor Staddon abstained, all others voted in support.

Action. Lucy to write to Lymptone Football Club and inform them of the request.

23/20. Hedge East Side of Candy's Field

Hedge to be laid in October (same time as Cemetery hedge)

23/21. Avenue Field trees.

It was agreed that the work carried out so far has been successful with more light on the Path.

Further work to be carried out in the Autumn in line with Councillor Lewis's plan.

Proposed by Councillor Hill, seconded by Councillor Linfoot, that 3 quotes be obtained for the next stage of work in Autumn. Unanimous.

Action Councillor Lewis to obtain 3 quotes.

23/22. Gate in fence Avenue Field by Burgmanns Hill.

The suggestion to place a gate in the north side of the fence abutting Burgmanns Hill was discussed. This was to take pedestrians of Burgmans Hill and link footpaths.

An approximate cost of £1950 was suggested for supply and fit of a kissing gate.

Councillor Linfoot felt it was not required as it would probably be used infrequently, and only during dry weather in the better months.

Councillor Staddon felt it would take pedestrians off Burgmans Hill, link footpaths and improve safety. It was discussed at length, and it was agreed that it was not supported (Councillor Hill supported the installation).

23/23 Pétanque pitch

All agreed that this was a good suggestion, however it was felt that there was not an ideal location for a pitch. Councillor Hill who has lived in France, stated that pitches there were in the centre of the village, and were a focal point, with benches to watch and café and bars to obtain refreshments.

The area behind The Saddlers was discussed as a possibility, Councillor Atkins stated he would enquire if placement of a pitch here was possible.

Action. Lucy to reply to Mrs Bates, update her re the discussions and ask if she has any suggestions re location.

23/24. Items for next agenda.

Update on Church car park.

Meeting concluded at 8.05 pm

Chairman:

Date: