

**MINUTES OF A LYMPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN
THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2023.**

PRESENT:	
Councillors	D Atkins, S Culhane, S Francis, K Hill, N Linfoot (Chairman), A Minter, M Moffatt, J Payne and L Staddon
Clerk	Miss L Tyrrell
County Councillors	J Trail
District Councillors	B Ingham and G Jung
Public	6 members

Public session

The Chairman welcomed all present and invited members of the public to speak.

A resident thanked the PC for sorting out the hedge trimming in Shepherds Path. However, he highlighted the overgrown vegetation towards the top of the path to Church Road which was growing out of the walls and properties and causing an obstruction. He also highlighted weeds growing from outside of properties around the village and the graffiti along Nutwell Court estate. County Cllr Trail explained that reporting a problem could be easily made to DCC online on their 'Report a Problem' website page. This would send a report to a Highways officer to investigate. He added that members of public should not be working on the road unless they were Chapter 7 trained. Larger work must be carried out by Highways contractors. He explained that there was nothing stopping an individual to clear weeds outside their own properties. Although he added that no one should use any chemical weedkiller or insecticide, only environmentally friendly controlled methods. The resident suggested a gentle reminder to all members of the public could be written in the Lymestone Herald regarding clearing weeds outside their properties.

District Cllr Jung highlighted that any graffiti should be reported to EDDC Streetscene. At this point, the Chairman thanked the kind person who cleaned the graffiti off the notice boards under the railway bridge.

Another resident enquired whether CIL money could be used to implement a 20mph scheme in the Parish. The Chairman explained it could be.

23/82 Apologies

Cllr R Gale-Hasleham and County Cllr R Scott due to other commitments.

Cllr Payne proposed to approve the apologies. Cllr Francis seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the Apologies were approved by the PC.

23/83 Minutes

Cllr Minter corrected a typo and queried why a resident's name had not been used. The Clerk explained that for privacy reasons, using members of the public's name who were not elected members was a very sensitive subject and as the resident was physically present then they had been witnessed speaking.

Cllr Atkins proposed the minutes of the PC meeting held on the 4th September were accurate. Cllr Moffatt seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the PC meeting held on the 4th September 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

23/84 To receive any Declarations of Interest

Cllr Francis and Minter both declared a personal interest with item 23/85.4.

Cllr Payne and Staddon declared a personal interest with planning application 23/1806/FUL.

This was recorded in the book.

23/85 Clerk's Report

23/85.1 Asset Register Policy and Complaints procedure policy

Cllr Linfoot proposed to approve the reviewed Asset Register Policy. Cllr Atkins seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the reviewed Asset Register Policy was approved.

Cllr Linfoot proposed to approve the reviewed Complaints Procedure Policy. Cllr Staddon seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the reviewed Complaints procedure policy was approved.

23/85.2 Grant request - for Lympstone Advent Trail

Cllr Atkins proposed to support the grant request up to £150. Cllr Linfoot seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that a grant for up to £150 was awarded to Lympstone Advent Trail.

23/85.3 Grant request from Life Education

County Cllr Trail explained that the Primary School's PTFA could apply for a grant from the PC but not a national charity. Cllr Linfoot proposed that the PTFA applied to the PC for their own grant. Cllr Payne seconded. Unan. Cllr Francis abstained.

RESOLVED that the PTFA of Lympstone Primary School complete their own grant application form.

23/85.4 Annual grant request from Lympstone History Society

The Clerk explained that this was an annual request for the insurance cost of £225 which was necessary to preserve the archived records of the Lympstone History Society. Cllr Atkins proposed to award the grant. Cllr Staddon seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the Clerk inform the History Society that their annual grant request was awarded in full.

23/85.5 Finance

The Clerk highlighted that she had found another way to present the finances from the new package and asked for feedback on the look and information provided. It was agreed that the Clerk would meet with the Finance committee to go through the finances to assist next year's budget planning and to explore the new financial package.

Cllr Linfoot proposed to approve the payments and receipts. He noted the financial summary and budget report. Cllr Atkins seconded. Unan. Cllr Minter abstained.

RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:
September 2023 Bank Account Reconciled Statement

Current Account

Statement Number	6	Bank Statement No.	6
Statement Opening Balance	£181,298.01	Opening Date	01/09/23
Statement Closing Balance	£199,188.95	Closing Date	30/09/23
True/ Cashbook Closing Balance	£198,087.95		

Date	Cheque/ Ref.	Supplier/ Customer	Debit (£)	Credit (£)	Balance (£)
22/08/23	3210	Zurich Municipal	1,620.53	0.00	179,677.48
01/09/23	DC 01/09/23	East Devon District Council	0.00	24,250.00	203,927.48
01/09/23	FPI 1/9/23	Herald Advert	0.00	25.00	203,952.48
04/09/23	DD 4/9/23 (401)	EDF Energy Ref: 671024465401 (Toilets)	88.00	0.00	203,864.48
08/09/23	3219	Vine Orchards LLP	360.00	0.00	203,504.48
08/09/23	3221	Lympstone Village Hall CIO	60.00	0.00	203,444.48
08/09/23	FPI 08/01/23	Herald Advert	0.00	6.00	203,450.48
11/09/23	3215	South West Land Surveys Ltd	840.00	0.00	202,610.48
13/09/23	3224	Source For Business	166.34	0.00	202,444.14
14/09/23	3216	Confidential	534.81	0.00	201,909.33
15/09/23	3217	Confidential	2,184.94	0.00	199,724.39
15/09/23	3218	Confidential	123.15	0.00	199,601.24
15/09/23	DD 15/09/23 (135)	EDF Energy Ref: 671079829135 (YC)	119.00	0.00	199,482.24
15/09/23	DD 15/09/23 YC 166	EDF Energy Ref: 671079829166 (YC)	134.00	0.00	199,348.24
15/09/23	DD 15/9/23 CF	EDF Energy Ref: 9208111111 (Candys Field)	143.29	0.00	199,204.95
15/09/23	FPI 01/09/23	Herald Advert	0.00	135.00	199,339.95
15/09/23	FPI 15/9/23	Herald Advert	0.00	25.00	199,364.95
19/09/23	3222	SLCC	236.00	0.00	199,128.95
21/09/23	FPI 21/09/23	Herald Advert	0.00	5.00	199,133.95
25/09/23	CHQ 500067 25/9/23	Herald Advert	0.00	55.00	199,188.95

Uncleared and unrepresented effects

18/05/23	3176	BT Payphones	1.00		199,187.95
22/08/23	3212	Devon Wildlife Consultants	1,100.00		198,087.95
Total uncleared and unrepresented			1101.00	0.00	

Budget Headings View 1/4/23 – 30/9/23

2023/24 Actual				
Exp Heading no	Committee	Description		Net
INCOME				
10	COUN	Precept	£48,500.00	£48,500.00

15	COUN	CIL	£0.00	£22,738.28
20	COUN	DCC re Candys Field	£400.00	£0.00
25	COUN	Herald Adverts	£3,000.00	£2,268.00
30	COUN	Burial Fees	£2,500.00	£1,981.00
35	COUN	Lymp FC	£0.00	£0.00
40	COUN	Flower Beds	£0.00	£0.00
45	COUN	Wayleaves	£10.00	£7.54
50	COUN	Misc	£0.00	£465.00
55	COUN	Web adverts	£0.00	£0.00
60	COUN	Parishes Together	£1,000.00	£0.00
65	COUN	External grants	£1,000.00	£720.00
99	COUN	VAT refund	£9,500.00	£0.00
70	COUN	YC Rech	£1,500.00	£1,446.95
75	COUN	VHMC	£0.00	£0.00
80	COUN	MoD Comm Cov	£0.00	£0.00
85	COUN	DCC error	£0.00	£0.00
90	COUN	Community Hub	£100.00	£0.00
95	COUN	Woodbury PC	£100.00	£0.00
100	COUN	Guildford BG	£0.00	£0.00
105	COUN	FLOS	£0.00	£0.00
EXPENDITURE				
1000	COUN	Salaries	£27,000.00	£14,105.56
1005/1	COUN	Clerk's expenses (WFH)	£2,000.00	£510.00
1015	COUN	Village Hall hire	£1,500.00	£836.00
1020	COUN	Chairman's Allowance	£200.00	£0.00
1025	COUN	Subscriptions	£1,500.00	£3,021.90
1030	COUN	Courses, travel etc	£1,000.00	£0.00
1035	COUN	Insurance, Audit, Electricity	£2,500.00	£746.20
1040	COUN	Misc	£2,500.00	£2,123.98
1045	COUN	Herald Printing	£6,000.00	£3,124.00
1050	COUN	J Morrish	£6,500.00	£4,185.00
1055	COUN	Grass cutting	£2,000.00	£0.00
1060	COUN	Other maintenance	£5,000.00	£2,011.80
1065	COUN	General tree work	£3,000.00	£2,340.00
1070	COUN	Bin emptying	£1,000.00	£298.33
1075	COUN	Handyman	£0.00	£0.00
1080	COUN	Notice boards - maintenance	£5,000.00	£0.00
1085	COUN	Play equipment	£500.00	£0.00
1090	COUN	Lights in CF	£2,000.00	£845.35
1095	COUN	Toilets	£15,000.00	£3,900.07
1100	COUN	Flood equip maintenance	£860.00	£38.96
1105	COUN	LFRG expenses	£860.00	£88.85

1110	COUN	Gulliford cemetery	£600.00	£0.00
1115	COUN	Burial Ground	£12,000.00	£0.00
1120	COUN	YC Maintenance	£1,000.00	£920.00
1125	COUN	YC Utilities	£2,500.00	£1,487.97
1130	COUN	Website etc	£500.00	£0.00
1135	COUN	Adv Weath	£200.00	£0.00
1140	COUN	Gully Emptying	£2,000.00	£0.00
1145	COUN	Parishes Together	£1,500.00	£0.00
1150	COUN	Hub Projects	£4,000.00	£2,135.00
1155	COUN	Cont VH Car Park	£500.00	£0.00
1160	COUN	DCC / DCF Funding	£0.00	£0.00
1165	COUN	YC Recharge	£0.00	£0.00
1170	COUN	Emergency Fund	£5,000.00	£0.00
1175	COUN	Lottery Grant (Jubilee)	£0.00	£0.00
1180	COUN	FLOS	£0.00	£113.50
2000	COUN	S137 Funding	£100.00	£0.00
2010	COUN	Other Grants	£1,000.00	£0.00
9999	COUN	VAT Payments	£5,000.00	£0.00
1005	COUN	Expenses	£3,000.00	£1,055.53
1005/2	COUN	Office Expenses	£1,000.00	£545.53
Income Total			£67,610.00	
Expenditure Total			£122,820.00	

Reserve Movements Start of year 01/04/23

Elections

£3,000.00	Start of year value
£3,000.00	Current value

Village Hall car park

£1,500.00	Start of year value
£1,500.00	Current value

NP Projects

£3,000.00	Start of year value
£3,000.00	Current value

Youth Club

£10,000.00	Start of year value
£10,000.00	Current value

Public Conveniences

£5,000.00	Start of year value
£5,000.00	Current value

Play Area refurb

£20,000.00	Start of year value
£20,000.00	Current value

Emergency funding

	£5,000.00	Start of year value
	£5,000.00	Current value
Field maintenance		
	£10,000.00	Start of year value
	£10,000.00	Current value
Building funding		
	£10,000.00	Start of year value
	£10,000.00	Current value
CIL Funding		
	£93,008.52	Start of year value
05/04/23	-£710.00	: Expenditure transaction 1005, Herald Printing
05/05/23	-£568.00	: Expenditure transaction 1023, Herald Printing
18/05/23	-£50.00	: Expenditure transaction 1032, Work to The Hub building
18/05/23	-£30.00	: Expenditure transaction 1032, Work to phone box book swap
18/05/23	-£71.11	: Expenditure transaction 1032, Work to public toilets
05/06/23	-£568.00	: Expenditure transaction 1043, Herald Printing
15/06/23	-£1,500.00	: Expenditure transaction 1046, 3 new benches
15/06/23	-£170.00	: Expenditure transaction 1049, Electrical repairs to Hub building
15/06/23	-£1,437.50	: Expenditure transaction 1050, Burial ground and cliff field ornate gates
03/07/23	-£105.00	: Expenditure transaction 1058, CCTV service at public toilets
03/07/23	-£349.01	: Expenditure transaction 1057, Wall gate service and lights repairs in toilets
07/07/23	-£710.00	: Expenditure transaction 1062, Herald Printing
22/08/23	£0.00	: Expenditure transaction 1084,
	£86,739.90	Current value
	£154,239.90	Current Reserves total excluding the General Fund
	£182,784.14	Current Reserves total including the General Fund

23/85.6 Clerk's Action List

RESOLVED that the Council received and noted the Clerk's action list.

23/86 Reports from the Chairman, East Devon District Councillors and Devon County Councillors

The Chairman read his report:

Over the weekend Councillor Lewis informed the clerk he was resigning from the Council. During his time with us, his knowledge and expertise on trees and fauna was a great help and guide to the Council, and we will his advice. I would like to thank him for the time, effort and commitment and wish him well for the future.

Councillors are volunteers who dedicate their time to problems that arise within the village and make decisions based on a number of factors and financial restraints.

The commitment and dedication of the Councillors is impressive, with anything from 5 to 20 hours per week required, whilst balancing work and family commitments.

I find that people are slow to praise, but quick to complain, perhaps they should bear this in mind before they make comments that criticise and seek to undermine the work of Councillors.

Sadly, over the weekend a moron decided to graffiti the notice boards under the railway arches. The matter will be reported to the Police. I would like to thank the kind person, who obviously worked very hard to clean the boards. Great job.

If anyone knows who the culprit is, please inform the PC or the police.

County Cllr Trail reported that he had been out with the Highways Officer, he had visited Sowden House and observed the traffic. He had made a recommendation for parking restrictions, this would take 18 months – 2 years to be fully implemented. He explained that any owners of trailers on a public highway must be attached to a vehicle, or they would be removed and impounded. A broken pavement alongside Churchill Court would be repaired. Higher Hulham Road regarding gully emptying was due to be discussed soon. The Mill fields public footpath has been reinstated by DCC and was now with their legal team. Lymstone's 20mph application was in process.

District Cllr Jung read his report:

At the moment in planning terms our Local Plan is out of date, as we cannot demonstrate a 5-year land supply. Therefore, Planning Applications brought forward from developers that are not local plan compliant will probably be to agreed.

In relation to the Housing Land Supply, I had a question from a local resident last week.

Is a tally being kept at the East Devon level?

Where is it currently at?

To this end, will the application just approved in Honiton will be subtracted from this shortfall?

My explanation

I wish it was that easy to explain!!

To work out if we have enough housing coming forward in the next 5 years is a complicated formula that is dictated to by Government.

The basic rules are you cannot count "Outline Planning Applications" but only "Full Planning Applications". However, some large full applications such as Goodmores Farm in Exmouth with 350 houses will take over 5 years to build out from the date they start building. You also have 3 years to start on the build before the planning application permission runs out. Therefore, it's not a straight addition on to the total of the five-year land supply. The amount is reduced by a percentage of non-delivery, using previous years build out figures which are reviewed and considered as a guide, plus developers are asked on the likelihood on their build out figures for their large estates which gives you at best a "guestimate" of what's coming forward.

So yes, to your question, any planning application that is approved will improve the total, but it would be a percentage spread over a period of years.

The problem is the percentage figure has gone down from last year to this year's calculation of only 4.25 years.

The drop is affected by mainly the downturn in the housing market with higher mortgages and the high cost of finding a deposit for a first-time buyer, and difficulty in building housing in the rental market. (The biggest factor in the rental market is Council Housing "right to buy" which requires local authorities to sell at a discount to

the sitting tenant and the proceeds go directly to Government with around one third being returned to the Authority to provide funding to build or buy another rental property)

The other issue is why has East Devon got a higher housing target than most other local authorities in the Southwest. This is because the figure is based on historical figures so as we had built more housing than others since the 1960s then it is expected that trend will continue.

I do not agree to the way the target figures are calculated, and I don't believe that the way we have to calculate the 5-year land supply is fair or accurate.

From the performance table over a 10-year period, there has been an average of 935 dwellings a year built, which is higher than the target figure East Devon is required to hit this financial year of 910.

For the Government to require us to use a guesstimate to decide if our local plan is in or out of date seems nonsensical. I would prefer to look at what has been built in previous years which is 100% accurate rather than rely on a developer's best guess!

Cllr Jung reiterated that due to EDDC not having a five year land supply, developments are able to be passed. The Chairman added that after two years of a local NP it can be overridden.

District Cllr Ingham questioned whether national decisions regarding development were ethically correct for future generations. He would continue to support sustainable development in East Devon with a focus on job development and green issues. He felt agricultural land must be protected and not built on to enable a sustainable community in 2050. He added that requirements from a development can be negotiated between the developer, the PC and EDDC.

The Chairman raised the 3West development application and the EDDC landscape officer's update. He proposed a working group from the planning committee to meet with 3West to negotiate what the Parish would like from a development. Cllr Francis seconded. Unan. Cllr Atkins declared an interest and abstained.

RESOLVED that 3West would be contacted to meet and discuss a wish list of requirements.

23/87 Planning applications

23/1913/FUL - Construction of rear single storey infill extension and first floor balcony at Trelissa Courtlands Lane.

Cllr Linfoot proposed to support the application. Cllr Atkins seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the Clerk send the recommendation of support from LPC to EDDC.

23/1904/FUL - Proposed new roof, incorporating dormer windows to North and South elevations. Insertion of a new double hung sash window in proposed West elevation at 12 Harefield Cottages, The Strand.

Cllr Linfoot proposed to object due to the proposed application being in the conservation area. It was overdevelopment and would affect the visual impact and character of the street scene. Cllr Atkins seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the Clerk send the recommendation of object from LPC to EDDC.

23/1944/FUL - Demolition of part of the boundary wall and construction of a new vehicular access with driveway and entrance gate at Limestones, Wotton Lane.

Cllr Linfoot proposed to support the application as long as the stinger device was retained, repaired or replaced if it was damaged. Cllr Atkins seconded. Unan. Cllr Minter abstained.

RESOLVED that the Clerk send the recommendation of support from LPC to EDDC.

23/1806/FUL - Rear flat roof dormer and front velux roof balcony at 2 Hillside Cottages, Underhill.

Cllr Linfoot proposed to object to the proposed application due to the negative visual impact and character of the street scene. It was overdevelopment and overlooked neighbouring properties. Cllr Francis seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the Clerk send the recommendation of object from LPC to EDDC.

23/88 Planning decisions

RESOLVED that the EDDC decisions were noted.

23/89 Reports of Committees

23/89.1 Committee members

The Chairman read the members of the committees and announced the Chair and Vice Chair of each committee. Unan.

RESOLVED That the following committees, Chair and Vice Chair were approved:

Finance and Advisory Committee	Assets and Amenities committee	Environment committee	Planning and Transport committee	Community committee
Cllr Hill (C) Cllr Atkins (VC) Cllr Minter Cllr Payne	Cllr Atkins (C) Cllr Staddon (VC) Cllr Francis Cllr Hill	Cllr Culhane (C) Cllr Staddon (VC) Cllr Moffatt	Cllr Linfoot (C) Cllr Francis (VC) Cllr Culhane Cllr Minter Cllr Moffatt	Cllr Staddon (C) Cllr Payne (VC) Cllr Culhane Cllr Francis Cllr Linfoot Cllr Minter Cllr Moffatt

NB: Lympstone Parish Council Chair and Vice Chair were ex-officio of all committees.

Cllr Minter reported on meeting structures. He proposed that at least one formal meeting of each committee was arranged in each municipal year (May – April). Cllr Linfoot seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the Chair of each committee would arrange an initial meeting with their members.

Cllr Minter added that action lists were incepted immediately, as soon as a template was agreed. Cllr Minter suggested that committee meetings were signposted on the notice boards to the website for dates and agendas. He wanted to see more involvement of the public in working groups to enhance the PCs visibility and transparency.

23/89.2 Assets and amenities committee

Cllr Atkins reported that tenders had been received for the pathways in the burial ground. Cllr Atkins proposed Halcyon Landscapes was chosen due to the specialist work involved. Cllr Linfoot seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that the Clerk contact Halcyon Landscapes to confirm the contract and start date.

Cllr Culhane reported on the provision of a business notice board under the railway arch and felt this was not feasible. Cllr Atkins proposed that the Clerk direct any businesses to advertise on the website or in the Herald. Cllr Linfoot seconded. Unan.

RESOLVED that any business would have the option to advertise on the website or in the Lympstone Herald.

Cllr Culhane reported on the planting of a replacement TPO Oak tree in Candys field. She recommended a new tree to be planted in the location of the old tree. The Clerk highlighted the fact that the old tree failed due to Honey Fugus. Cllr Culhane added that this location would not be possible, and the Assets committee would need to discuss another location.

Cllr Culhane reported that the replacement tree for the Queens jubilee should be planted in sight line of the other failing tree on Candys field near the play area.

Cllr Culhane explained that costs for work to the next pollarding phase of the Avenue trees, the Beech tree in the cemetery hedge and the Cherry trees along the tennis courts had been circulated. Cllr Atkins felt the Beech tree could be dealt with by the PCs grounds maintenance contractor as he was also a qualified tree surgeon. Cllr Culhane added that the work to the trees needed to be done as soon as possible apart from the pruning of the Cherry trees which would have to wait until the summer. Cllr Linfoot asked the costs to be recirculated and agreed by email.

23/89.4 Environment Committee

Cllr Staddon read her report:

I was fortunate to attend the Exe Management Forum in September set within the beautiful backdrop of Powderham Castle. The main item for this Forum was Sedimentation, levels, build up and patterns. Along with Lidar information teams can help workout erosion and changes in levels. The EA spoke again about Dawlish Warren and their involvement in helping find a happy medium to beach defences and the reserve. This will include taking certain groynes out as they erode and not replacing it. There is still uncertainty as to whether the spit will naturally weather and slowly rotate to still provide the wave defence against both the Estuary and Dawlish. There was also talk about a roll out of CSI projects for the Estuary to help create a log of water quality along with the continuous growth of Pacific oysters, which have in some parts formed solid foreshore reefs, not very tactile to the foot! The next Forum will be on Water Quality and the audience were reminded that we all leave a footprint in the Estuary.

23/89.5 Community Committee

Cllr Hill had attended the Police and Crime commission meeting; he reported that the police were having a focus on violence and systemic violence studies. There were presentations on victim support and crime stoppers. The Crime Commissioner Officer reported on Operation Scorpion and investigating cannabis in the community. There was also a new initiative implemented on rural crime, this would involve an increase in communication between police and local councils. The police were working on

gathering data from the rise in shop lifting offences. He added that the allegations made about the chief constable had been cleared and he would be reinstated soon. Cllr Hill had attended the VHCIO AGM and reported that they were looking at improving and upgrading their kitchen facilities. There had been a change in some trustees. Cllr Atkins highlighted the original agreed cost between the PC and the VHCIO for the resurfacing of the car park should be amended now they were a CIO. Cllr Hill explained that he would get something in writing regarding this from the VHCIO.

Cllr Payne reported that she had met with James Barton from Hilton Barton Architects at The Hub building to discuss the feedback from user groups regarding a rebuild. The next steps would be to discuss the rough costings of a rebuild and formalising detailed plans.

23/90 Items for the next Agenda

Update on the future of The Globe public house.

Meeting closed **9.35pm**

Chairman:

Date: