

**Minutes of a virtual meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held on Wednesday, 7 April 2021 at 8 pm
(A virtual meeting was held to comply with Government restrictions on attending meetings that are currently in place in response to the Coronavirus emergency)**

Present: Cllrs Paul Prettejohn, Brian Pulman, Christine Ryder, Andrew Tucker, Michele Turner, Rosalind Buxton (Parish Clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs John Thorne (Chairman), Beth Hooper, Martin Summers, David Key and Colin Brown (EDDC), Iain Chubb (DCC and EDDC)

1.1 Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received as above. As Cllr Thorne was absent, Cllr Pulman took the chair.

1.2 Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 2 March 2021, were unanimously agreed and signed* as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Ryder, seconded by Cllr Turner).

1.3 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations.

2.0 PLANNING

2.1 Applications (for comment, support or objection)

2.1.1 21/0709/FUL – Smithenhayes Farm, Luppitt, Honiton, EX14 4TR – erection of one glamping cabin for holiday let purposes

Cllrs Thorne and Turner had visited the site. The glamping cabin will not be visible from the road and will not impact on neighbours. The Parish Council supports this planning application.

2.2 Decisions

2.2.1 21/0372/FUL – Barn at Otter View Farm, Shaugh, Honiton, EX14 4TP

The Planning Officer had recommended refusal but both Ward members, Cllrs Key and Brown, had objected to the decision which was overturned at the Planning Committee meeting held on 7 April. The Parish Council had supported the application.

2.2.2 20/2738/VAR – Dolish Farmhouse, Luppitt, Honiton, EX14 4RT – variation of condition 2 of planning consent 19/2660/FUL

Approved. The Parish Council appreciated the efforts that the applicants had made to address the concerns that the Parish Council had raised.

2.3 Neighbourhood Plan Communications Programme

Cllr Ryder provided an update. Various documents concerning the Neighbourhood Plan have been mailed out to every household. Three Zoom meetings are scheduled to take place that will allow parishioners to ask questions and make comments on the Neighbourhood Plan. Anyone who would like to join the meetings should register with the clerk who will then send them an invitation. There is a dedicated website at www.luppittneighbourhoodplan.org.uk which Cllr Turner has designed.

2.4 Interim Devon Carbon Plan

Devon Communities Together had held a further remote meeting, which Cllr Turner and Nigel Hurst had attended, about the carbon impact assessment tool. There were 67 participants and Cllr Turner had found it helpful. Another session will be held in June. Nigel Hurst has offered to attend a Parish Council meeting if required. Cllr Turner will forward details of the carbon impact tool web address to the clerk for circulation. Cllrs Thorne and Tucker provided Nigel Hurst with revised numbers of cattle and sheep in the parish. Using these figures, Nigel has produced a document looking at the carbon footprint, particularly from an agricultural point of view. Cllr Turner will forward the document to the clerk for circulation.

3.0 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

3.1 Parish Highways programme – update on Items to Report

LOCATION	REFERENCE	COMMENT/PROGRESS
Loose kerbstones	W201329836/7/8/9	No progress.
Several potholes at the lower part	W201329841	Cllr Tucker has carried out some work.

LOCATION	REFERENCE	COMMENT/PROGRESS
of School Lane towards Ringborough Cross		
Potholes between Higher Wick and Fortfield houses	W201357931	Assessed 28.10.20.
Ringborough Cross to Coombeshead – 4 or 5 potholes and subsidence both sides of the road	W201322761	Clerk to report again.
Ford Bridge to Shaugh – on the left-hand side of the second bend coming from Ford Bridge, one side of the road has sunk	W211409946	No fault found. Clerk will report again.
Mattress dumped between Riggles Cross and Jack's House		Completed.
Damage to road junction at Ringborough Cross		Completed.
Large pothole mid-way on the left-hand side between Overday and Gully Lane		Clerk will report.
Barn Cross – 3 potholes, 2 on one side and 1 on the other		Clerk will report although they will probably not meet the minimum criteria for repair.

3.2 Parish Maintenance

3.2.1 Uxford Bridge

Cllr Thorne and the Chairman of Combe Raleigh Parish Meeting met the Neighbourhood Highways Officer, Phil Morgan, on site to discuss the problem. Combe Raleigh are willing to free the mouths of the drains and the NHO will then send in a jetter. It is believed that Combe Raleigh may be applying for funding towards the work.

3.2.2 Work at Tapsterwater

Cllr Pulman reported that work to replace two posts and a top rail has been carried out at Tapsterwater.

3.2.3 Road Sweeping

Cllr Pulman reported that the road sweeping in Shelves Lane and other locations carried out by Cllr Tucker's team was first-class.

4.0 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

4.1 Footpath Wardens' Reports

There was nothing to report.

4.2 Work on footpath gate at Hillend

The resident at Hillend had contacted Ros Davies at Devon County Council to report a gate was not closing properly. Ros Davies had contacted the clerk to say that she had arranged with a contractor at Farway to carry out the work.

5.0 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES

5.1 Play Area Inspection

The clerk had been quoted £236.00 plus VAT for ROSPA to carry out an inspection. The clerk had queried the cost and had stated that Stockland clerk only pays £86.00 for 7 seven items whereas there are only 2 swings in the play area. ROSPA carry out inspections in Devon in March each year at the discounted price of £68.50 plus VAT. The current certificate is valid until August. It was agreed that a notice should be put on the play area when the current certificate expires to explain that the play area will be closed until a safety inspection can be carried out in March 2022. Equipment is used at users' own risk.

5.2 Parish Council meetings

The legislation permitting remote meetings ends on 6 May 2021 and the Government has indicated that there will be no extension to that date. A case has been taken to the High Court to challenge that decision. Guidance is that face to face meetings will resume from 7 May 2021 onwards.

6.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The clerk updated the figures as follows:

6.1	Receipts	Highways Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund – grant towards lengthsman’s work	£ 896.00
	Account balances at 31.03.2021	P3 balance	1,444.28
		Neighbourhood Plan Grant (balance)	97.25
		Luppitt Parish Council	7,409.99
6.2	Cheque payment for approval and signing	Vision ICT Ltd – website hosting and support DALC membership Clerk’s remuneration (January to March) Clerk’s expenses (January to March) Sharper Print – Neighbourhood Plan A R Tucker Ltd – lengthsman’s work	150.00 110.65 1,548.30 94.13 492.80 3,243.60

6.3 External and Internal Audits

Annual Governance and Accountability Return must be submitted to the external auditor by 2 July 2021.

6.4 Correspondence

6.4.1 An email from the Royal British Legion giving details of a unique range of outdoor Tommy figures was noted.

6.4.2 The clerk had received two emails from residents of Beacon expressing concern at the planning application for a slurry lagoon at Aplins Farm, Monkton, and looking for support from the Parish Council in their objections. Whilst the Parish Council understood and noted the concerns of parishioners in Beacon, they also appreciated that legislation prevents farmers from spreading slurry for several months of the year and so farmers have to provide additional storage for the slurry. The Parish Council felt that the comments put forward by the Blackdown Hills AONB were very balanced in understanding the situation facing farmers yet suggesting measures, such as screening, to lessen the visual impact on the surrounding area. The Parish Council agreed that the concern of residents should be passed on to EDDC Planning together with endorsement of the Blackdown Hills AONB’s comments.

7.0 CHAIRMAN’S DISCRETION

There were no items.

8.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions and the meeting ended at 9.20 pm.

Date for next meeting to be held at 8 pm: Tuesday, 4 May 2021 (Annual General Meeting)

***Minutes will be signed when Parish Council meetings resume.**