

**Minutes of a meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held in the Village Hall  
on Tuesday, 6 February 2024 at 8 pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Michele Turner (Chair), John Thorne (Vice-Chair), Paul Prettejohn, Brian Pulman, Martin Summers, Andrew Tucker, Colin Brown and Yehudi Levine (EDDC), Iain Chubb (DCC)

**In attendance:** Rosalind Buxton (Parish Clerk)

**Apologies:** Cllr Charles Murray

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**1.1 Receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received as above.

**1.2 Minutes of previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 2 January 2024, were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Thorne and seconded by Cllr Summers).

**1.3 Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**2.0 PLANNING**

**2.1 Applications (for comment, support or objection)**

**2.1.1 23/2229/FUL – Fieldhead, Luppitt, EX14 4RX**

The additional documents submitted by the applicants were discussed. The comments made by the Parish Council on the planning application had been addressed by the applicants.

**2.1.2 Decisions**

There were no decisions.

**2.2 REPORTS**

**2.2.1 Ward Councillor(s)**

- Cllr Brown commented that the £2 all day parking charge in EDDC car parks had been abused in some areas by train passengers leaving their cars all day and thus restricting the number of car parking spaces available for shoppers.
- Empty properties will be charged double council tax.
- Grant Thornton are carrying out an audit governance at East Devon District Council.
- As part of its digital transformation, East Devon District Council (EDDC) have worked with HM Land Registry to transfer the local land charges (LLC) service to their national digital register. The LLC Register allows users to search information online instantly, enabling buying decisions to be made earlier in the conveyancing process.
- There was a discussion on the lack of enforcement being carried out by EDDC.

**2.2.2 County Councillor**

The clerk will forward Cllr Chubb's report to Parish Councillors. Key points covered are as follows:

- Extra funding for highway repairs, in particular potholes.
- The proposed devolution deal between Devon County Council and Torbay Council which could see the transfer of a range of powers and funding to a Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority, subject to public consultation. The aim would be to enable more decisions to be made locally by people who know their areas best and on things that matter to local people such as building more affordable homes, investing in new quality jobs and skills, and improving public transport.

**3.0 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC**

**3.1 Parish Highways programme** - update on Items to Report as follows:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Culvert at Maple Cross	W 231686842	The pipe was rodded and the pipe was clear. The ditch leading to the inlet of the pipe is partially blocking the inlet. Ditches are the responsibility of the riparian land owner to maintain and keep clear.
Large pothole Maple Cross to Halsdon	W241704543/4	Problem has been repaired.
Serious road deterioration at Higher Wick		With the contractor for repair. No timescale given.
Several potholes between Coombeshead and Ringborough Cross	W241704534/5/6/7/8	Some but not all repaired.
Pothole at the junction of Penny Thorne Cross	W241704541	Passed to the contractor for review or repair.
Pothole by turning to Little Shelvin	W241704542	Repaired.

Items to report:

- School Lane – severe edge of road deterioration on both sides and potholes near Fieldhead.
- Goulds Farm to Messhays – edge of road deterioration
- Several potholes between Whitehall Farm and Ford Cottages
- Potholes at Jack’s House by Gully Lane
- Edge of road deterioration and potholes between Pound Cottage and Mohuns Ottery

**3.1.1 Highways Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund**

The clerk has established that the new round of funding opens in April.

**3.1.2 Invalid Locations**

The clerk has established that the road from the Old School House to Honeywells is serviced by Devon Highways but part of the road shows up as a bridlepath so potholes can only be reported on certain stretches of the road. There are other anomalies which the clerk will follow up with the new Neighbourhood Highways Officer.

**3.2 Parish Maintenance**

**3.2.1 Overhanging Hedges**

- The clerk had received a response to her letter from Devon Wildlife Trust. This item to be carried forward to the next meeting.
- The clerk will write to the owner of fields at Penny Thorne to request that the hedges are cut.

**4.0 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS**

**4.1 P3 Annual Survey**

The clerk has established that all three Footpath Wardens are willing to continue. The P3 annual survey has been delayed by a month and must be submitted by the middle of March.

**4.2 Work between Whites Plot and the Brewery**

The Chairman of Luppitt Commons Ltd had written to the clerk to suggest that some digger work would be beneficial where a section has become impassable due to thick mud under the phone line. The clerk confirmed that there is money available in the P3 fund and Cllr Tucker was asked to carry out the work (proposed by Cllr Thorne, seconded by Cllr Pulman).

**5.0 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

**5.1 Community Actions**

Cllr Turner went through the Community Actions that are part of the Neighbourhood Plan. A Community Action Management Group was formed in May 2022 comprising Cllr Turner, the clerk, Christine Ryder and Roger Hicks. Cllr Turner will contact Christine and Roger to confirm they are happy to continue. Several of the Community Actions are ongoing and led by the Parish Council.

- **CA6 – Keeping Luppitt Tidy:** Luppitt Common to Jack’s House is one of the worst for untidiness. Cllr Turner will approach the resident who has arranged litter picks in the past to see whether they would be willing to continue.
- **CA12 – St Mary’s Church:** there are some plans to explore the possibility for holding music events in the future.
- **CA13 – Housing Needs Survey:** the Parish Council had not taken advantage of funding that was available for a Housing Needs Survey at the time of writing the Neighbourhood Plan and that funding has now been withdrawn by the Government. The clerk has spoken to Angela King at EDDC and it is possible that EDDC will fund a very small number of Housing Needs Surveys each year (probably no more than 3). The clerk understands that priority would be given to those areas that have suitable land available. The clerk will follow up with Angela King.
- **CA16 – Green Code for Luppitt:** Cllr Turner will take the lead on this and will establish who might be interested in volunteering to be part of a team to take this forward.

**5.2 Date for Annual Parish Meeting**

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, 7 May 2024, at 7 pm.**

**5.3 Arrangements for 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day**

It was agreed to hold a barbecue on Hartridge. The clerk will email the Chairman of Luppitt Commons Ltd to request use of the field again. Beacons will be lit nationwide at 9.15 pm and the evening will end with a bonfire and firework display. Cllr Thorne undertook to order the fireworks and speak to the resident who has arranged the firework display at previous events.

**6.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

The following payments were authorised at the meeting. The clerk updated the figures as follows:

			£
<b>6.1</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	None	
	<b>Account balances at last statement</b>	P3 balance	1,312.28
	<b>As per bank reconciliation end January</b>	Luppitt Parish Council	9,630.23
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Cheque payment for approval and signing</b>	ICO – GDPR/Data Protection C F Tottle (play area maintenance)	40.00 400.00

**6.3 Casual Vacancy**

Details on eligibility and how to apply are on the Parish Council website. The clerk will put a message on the WhatsApp group with a closing date of 29 February.

**6.4 Quarterly Check – Internal Financial Controls**

Carried forward to the next meeting.

**6.5 Approval of Internal Auditor**

It was agreed to appoint the same internal auditor as last year.

**6.6 Correspondence**

Letters of thanks have been received from Devon Freewheelers, Devon Air Ambulance, British Heart Foundation and TRIP for the S137 donations made by the Parish Council.

**7.0 CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION**

There were no items.

**8.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 10 pm.

**Dates for next meetings to be held in Luppitt Village Hall at 8 pm:**

**Tuesday, 5 March 2024**

**Tuesday, 2 April 2024**

**Tuesday, 7 May 2024 – Annual Parish Meeting at 7 pm**

**Tuesday, 7 May 2024 – Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council at 8 pm**