

**Minutes of a meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held in the Village Hall
on Tuesday, 7 January 2020 at 8 pm**

Present: Cllrs John Thorne (Chairman), Tom Nancarrow (Vice-Chairman), Beth Hooper, Paul Prettejohn, Brian Pulman, Andrew Tucker, Michele Turner, David Key (EDDC)

In attendance: Rosalind Buxton (Parish Clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs Christine Ryder and Iain Chubb (DCC and EDDC)

1.1 Receive apologies for absence

Cllr Thorne began the meeting by wishing everyone present a happy new year. Apologies were received as above.

1.2 Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 3 December 2019, were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Hooper and seconded by Cllr Pulman).

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 19/2689/VAR – The Old Post Office, Luppitt, Honiton – removal of condition 3 of planning permission 19/1406/FUL to allow retention of window within the rear extension facing to the south east

Cllr Thorne visited the property before the meeting. The Parish Council raises no objection to the removal of this planning condition.

2.1.2 Decisions

None

2.1.3 Changes to planning applications

It is intended that Householder and advert planning applications will be paperless by the end of January. EDDC hopes to be paperless for all other planning applications, including major applications, by Easter. There is considerable variation in the standard of plans that are submitted so some of the plans are easy to read on screen whilst others are not. Several village halls used for Parish Council meetings do not have internet connection so Cllr Key felt that in some instances clerks will still have to print out applications to pass round at the meeting. The clerk said that a projector has been used for Luppitt applications in the past or simply downloaded to her laptop where the screen can be expanded.

2.2 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllrs Thorne and Ryder, together with the clerk, had had a meeting at Dove Cottage shortly before Christmas with Roger Hicks, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Unfortunately, it had not been a very successful meeting in finding a way forward. Roger contacted Cllr Thorne after the meeting and undertook to complete the amendments by the end of February. He wanted to consider his position over the Christmas period to see whether or not he wanted to take the Neighbourhood Plan to its completion. Roger undertook to contact Cllr Thorne with his decision.

2.2.1 Housing Needs Survey

It has been explained to Janice Alexander that the Housing Needs Survey has caused quite a rift between the Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and the Parish Council which has made progress difficult. It was agreed that the Housing Needs Survey would be put on hold for the time being. The clerk will advise Janice Alexander of this decision. The Parish Council is expecting an amended draft plan by the end of February and the Parish Council should have a clearer idea of timing after that.

3.0 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

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

LOCATION	REFERENCE	COMMENT/PROGRESS
Uxford Bridge to Crook Cross	Phil Morgan	Flood prevention team can do nothing as no hedges have been removed or the water course changed. NHO will price out repair work. Clerk to keep reporting to Highways.
Salt bin at Tillick	W191284549	Estimated assessment by 13.1.20
Loose kerbstones	W191279582	Estimated assessment date 29.12.19
Severe potholes at the end of Gully Lane near Jack's House	Clerk to report	
Several potholes at the lower part of School Lane towards Ringborough Cross	Clerk to report	
Large pothole from Red Doors towards Mohuns Ottery turning	Clerk to report	
Large potholes from Greenlands to Corner House	Clerk to report	
Severe deterioration of road surface past bridge in New Road up to Budgells Farm	Clerk to report	
Shelf Lane needs brushing	Clerk to follow up with Street Scene	

3.2 Parish Maintenance

3.2.1 Road by Whitehall Farm

Cllr Tucker will investigate. There has been water across the road making journeys difficult for residents.

3.2.2 Overhanging tree

The property owners at Shaugh near Ford Bridge have spoken to Cllr Thorne to say that work is in hand to prune and trim the overhanging tree.

4.0 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

4.1 Rotten waymark signs at footpaths 14 and 17

These have been reported to Ros Davies for action.

5.0 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES

5.1 Community Policing Report

No report received

5.2 Devon Free Tree Schemes

The date for applications closed on 6 January. The clerk will see if it is possible to register the Parish Council's interest.

5.3 Climate Change literature

A resident who had attended a seminar on climate change in the Blackdown Hills in November had sent the clerk a link to a short video. The clerk had forwarded this to the Parish Councillors. It was agreed that this was a helpful and informative video. There is a section on climate change in Luppitt's emerging Neighbourhood Plan which will prove useful in the future.

5.4 Request for burial on Luppitt Common

Cllr Thorne had spoken to the Chair of the Commoners who undertook to raise it at their next meeting.

6.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

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

6.1	Receipts	None	£
	Account balances at last statement	P3 balance	1,653.28
		Neighbourhood Plan Grant (balance)	2,668.43
	As per bank reconciliation end December	Luppitt Parish Council	12,101.59
6.2	Cheque payment for approval and signing	S137 donations for 2019/20	
		TRIP	55.00
		Citizens Advice Bureau	55.00
		Devon Air Ambulance	100.00
		Devon Freewheelers	100.00
		British Heart Foundation	50.00
		Clerk's remuneration	1,413.70
		HMRC	134.60
	Clerk's expenses	172.84	

6.3 Projected budget for approval – agree precept

The projected budget for 2020/21 was discussed in detail and accepted. There was a lengthy discussion on whether or not to raise the precept from £11,000 to £12,000. County and District Council cuts continue to impact on local services and maintenance, and it was generally agreed that costs are going up rather than down. Any unspent grant money for the Neighbourhood Plan will have to be returned at the end of March. It is unknown whether there will still be grant money available in the new financial year so expenditure may have to be met from the precept. It was felt prudent to ensure that the Parish Council carries sufficient reserves to meet any unexpected eventualities. Cllr Pulman proposed that the precept should be raised to £12,000, this was seconded by Cllr Hooper. A total of six Parish Councillors voted in favour with one abstention. The precept has remained unchanged since 2011.

6.4 Correspondence

- An email from DALC inviting nominations for the Royal Garden Party 2020 was noted.
- Devon Freewheelers had sent a Christmas card thanking Luppitt Parish Council for its support.

7.0 CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

Final dress rehearsals for the pantomime clash with the next Parish Council meeting due to be held on 4 February. It was unanimously agreed to hold the meeting on **Tuesday, 11 February**. The clerk will check availability of the Committee Room.

8.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

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

Tuesday, 11 February 2020 – PLEASE NOTE AMENDED DATE

Tuesday, 3 March 2020

Tuesday, 7 April 2020

Tuesday, 5 May 2020 (AGM)