

**Minutes of a virtual meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held on Tuesday, 7 July 2020 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 John Thorne (Chairman), Brian Pulman, Christine Ryder, Andrew Tucker, Michele Turner, David Key (EDDC), Iain Chubb (EDDC and DCC) and Rosalind Buxton (Parish Clerk)
Apologies: Cllrs Tom Nancarrow (Vice-Chairman), Beth Hooper, Paul Prettejohn, Colin Brown (EDDC)

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 June 2020, were unanimously agreed and signed* as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Ryder and seconded by Cllr Turner).

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 20/1088/FUL – Old Spurtham Farm New Road, Upottery – erection of hay storage barn

The Parish Council has no objection to this planning application.

2.1.2 20/0947/FUL – Mohuns Ottery, Luppitt, Honiton, EX14 4TS – amendments for proposed private in-ground swimming pool and plant/pool room

The Parish Council has no comments to make on the amendments.

2.2 Decisions

No decisions to report.

2.3 Shaugh

Nothing to report.

2.4 Neighbourhood Plan

Roger Hicks has sent an update on progress. As a result of comments received from EDDC and AONB, Roger is working on amendments to the draft plan which he hopes will be completed shortly. He feels that the comments have been positive. Cllr Turner has been working on rebuilding the Neighbourhood Plan website. She has put a digital version of the Luppitt Packet on the website. It is intended that eventually the Neighbourhood Plan website will become more community based. Cllrs Turner, Ryder and the clerk will liaise.

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	NHO is planning to dig out the ditch and put in a concrete pipe and haunch and will then resurface the road using heavy-duty tarmac.
Loose kerbstones at Millrise		Cllr Key was told that work has been completed but will chase up as the problem has not been solved.
Several potholes at the lower part of School Lane towards Ringborough Cross	W201329841	Discussed with and reported to Neighbourhood Highways Officer.
Defective sign at Mathayes	W201314452	Clerk confirms that signpost is now upright.
Potholes between Higher Wick and Fortfield houses	W201322757	Repair still awaited.

Ringborough Cross to Coombeshead – potholes and subsidence	W201322761	With contractor for repair. Discussed and reported to Neighbourhood Highways Officer.
Maple Cross to Pound Farm – severe edge of road deterioration both sides	W201329842	Discussed with and reported to Neighbourhood Highways Officer.
Up towards Pound from Maple Cross by bungalow on right-hand side – road has subsided – urgent	W201333782	Clerk to follow up with Neighbourhood Highways Officer as the road needs urgent repair.
Pothole between bridge on New Road and the two cottages	D203538009	Passed to contractor for repair. Work due to start early August.

3.1.1 Meeting with Neighbourhood Highways Officer on future highway maintenance – Doing What Matters – and resulting actions

Cllrs Thorne, Pulman and the clerk had a helpful meeting with Phil Morgan, the Neighbourhood Highways Officer, on 24 June. The main thoroughfares through the parish were identified and roads needing repair and drainage issues were prioritised. The NHO will work through the problem areas as his budget allows. He recognises the road maintenance work carried out by the Parish Council and will do his best to complement that work where possible.

The Parish Council can apply under the Road Warden Scheme for materials and tools to use for minor road repairs.

Cllr Chubb advised that Highways now has new equipment to repair potholes and resurface roads.

3.2 Parish Maintenance

3.2.1 Tree Maintenance –

- **Ash bush by The Linhay** – Cllr Thorne has spoken to the landowner who will investigate.
- **Dead ash tree in the hedge of Chescroft field** – Cllr Thorne is meeting up with the landowner.
- **Dead ash tree in the hedge near the play area at Millrise** – Cllr Pulman will investigate.

3.2.2 Mill Lane

There is an issue where grating by The Mill blocks up. Cllrs Thorne, Tucker and Pulman to investigate and discuss at next meeting.

4.0 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

4.1 Footpath 3

Carried forward to the next meeting.

4.2 Footpath opposite Church gate – new waymarker needed. Clerk to check with Cllr Nancarrow for footpath number and will then report to Ros Davies, Parish Paths Liaison Officer at Devon County Council.

5.0 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES

5.1 Community Policing Report

No report received and the lack of contact with the police was discussed. Cllr Key said that additional police officers are being recruited so, hopefully, there may be more contact in future. Luppitt does have a very low crime rate but the Parish Council feels it is reassuring to have some sort of ongoing contact.

5.2 Luppitt Packet

Cllr Thorne had received a letter from the editors and treasurer of the Luppitt Packet expressing their concern that the May Parish Council Minutes gave the impression that the Parish Council is responsible for the publication of the Luppitt Packet, whereas the decision to print and publish is entirely at the discretion of the editors. The Parish Council regretted the misunderstanding. At the start of Lockdown, the editors had indicated that the distribution of the magazine would not be possible because the majority of the distribution team were either self-isolating or shielding and the editors would not have wanted any of the distributors to face unnecessary risks. Cllrs Ryder and Turner had spoken to the editors about producing a digital version and the discussion at the May meeting had been mainly concerned with that aspect. In those circumstances and at that time, a digital version seemed a sensible solution but the Parish Council

was keen that this should be a temporary measure only. As things progressed, the editors took the decision to have the April issue printed and posted to residents and the Parish Council was only too willing to help out and pay half the cost of the postage. Cllr Thorne will reply to the letter and make clear that the Parish Council fully understands that the responsibility for the Luppitt Packet rests with the editors and had no wish to imply otherwise or interfere in any way other than to help out.

5.3 Locality Budget

Cllr Chubb advised that he has some money available for community projects.

6.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

6.1	Receipts	None	£
	Account balances at 07.07.20	P3 balance	1,558.28
		Neighbourhood Plan Grant (balance)	310.38
		Luppitt Parish Council	10,440.40
6.2	Cheque payment for approval and signing	Zoom Video (June & July – by card)	28.78
		Luppitt Village Hall (Jan-Mar)	30.00
		Clerk's remuneration and expenses	1,648.83

6.3 Internal Audit

Matters raised by the internal auditor have been, or are being, dealt with by the clerk.

6.4 External Audit

The clerk confirmed that the Notice of Public Rights has been displayed on the Village Hall noticeboard and posted on the website. The clerk confirmed that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) and associated papers have been sent to the external auditor.

6.5 NALC advice on virtual meetings for Parish Councils

NALC advice is that virtual meeting should continue for the foreseeable future and possibly until May 2021.

6.6 Defibrillator (clerk)

The clerk has been checking the two defibrillators weekly since they were installed. It was felt that it may be possible that this could be done by local residents and Cllrs Thorne and Tucker undertook to follow up.

6.7 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

7.0 CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

- The opening of the Village Hall as Lockdown eases was discussed.
- Cllr Chubb undertook to send details of BT's Universal Service Obligation for Broadband.

8.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 9.32 pm.

Dates for next virtual meetings to be held at 8 pm:

Tuesday, 4 August 2020

Tuesday, 1 September 2020

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