**LONG LOAD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes** of a meeting of the Long Load Parish Council held at **the Village Hall, Long Load on Tuesday 17 September 2019.**

(7.30 pm - 8.40 pm)

**Present:**

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| Cllr Marsha White (Chair)  Cllr Dave May  Cllr Richard Collis  Cllr Diana Taylor |  |

Ms Dawn Porter (Clerk)

9 residents of the village

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Pat Collins

Cllr Neil Bloomfield

1. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were raised.

The minutes of the meeting held in July 2019 were signed and declared correct by Cllr Marsha White (Chairman)

1. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising

1. **DC/CC Reports**

There were no District or County Councillors present at the meeting.

1. **Bus Shelter**

Cllr Pat Collins had received some information from a company specialising in bus shelters. Although Cllr Collins was not at the meeting he had informed Cllr Marsha White that the shelters were not suitable for the village and were very expensive. Suzanne Weekes informed the meeting that she and Graham were not prepared to put the bus shelter in the graveyard, the wall is listed, the ground is listed and there is a £1000 fine if you accidentally dig up a grave and it is a non starter with regards to costs.

It was agreed that there was nowhere else in the village for it to go and unless another option comes up then the subject is closed.

1. **Footpaths**

Clerk Dawn Porter handed round copies of the general rules regarding the maintenance of footpaths and hedges etc. The District Council are aware of the overgrown footpath but are saying that the bridge beyond is in bad repair so they are leaving the overgrown vegetation to deter people from going through. It was agreed that the landowner is responsible for the hedge cutting.

It was noted that La Lade caravan site is overgrown and a mess inside. Cllr Marsha White agreed that she would go and look and if necessary, contact the council again.

1. **Money raised from the Village Bier**

Cllr Marsha White has received several emails with ideas for using this money. It was noted that this was however a Parish Council decision based on suggestions from the village.

It was noted that these funds were separate from the village day funds and that references to this should be directed to Suzanne Weekes through the details published in the Roundabout Magazine.

Several ideas were put forward and the item will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

1. **Correspondence & Planning Applications**

No correspondence was received.

Two planning applications were discussed – one was passed with no objections. The second planning application raised concerns about over development and parking. Clerk Dawn Porter to send observations back to the planning department.

1. **Accounts**

It was noted that signatories need to change for signing cheques.

Clerk Dawn Porter to obtain forms for next meeting.

1. **Allotment Accounts**

Cllr Dave May brought the accounts to the meeting and a copy was given to Clerk Dawn Porter.

It was noted that there will be a vacant plot coming up in January.

**11. Broadband**

It was noted that the broadband in the village is not good. There are residents in the village that home school their children which is made difficult by the lack of broadband. It was suggested by Sarah Badger that maybe we could start a Steering Group to push things forward as the Parish Council have already failed through several routes to South Somerset Council. It was left that Sarah would try and raise interest.

It was also suggested that the village pays for a dish that would then be connected to the Podimore mast.

Clerk Dawn Porter will research what other villages have done in the past.

**12. Public Participation**

Cllr Marsha White noted that she has not yet found a churchyard plan.

Speeding through the village was again raised with the discussion becoming quite heated – several members of the public stated that they believe the Parish Council have the funds for this and other villages have them. It was noted that the Speed Watch Volunteers had shown to make quite a difference although a lack of volunteers is a problem. It was noted that Andy McNab is prepared to still organise the Speed Watch at the times when people in the village believe it to be most necessary. Cllr Marsha White explained to the members of the village that were present that this problem had been discussed several times in the past and it had always come down to cost and it is not known if it is effective. Cllr Richard Collis will investigate through Neil Bloomfield what it would cost to be involved with the Traffic sign scheme they have in Martock and the matter will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**13. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Wednesday 16th October 2019.

**12. Any Other Business**

It was noted that contractors were working outside Ann Campbell’s property – the water is becoming a problem and Suzanne Weekes stated that it has been raised with Highways and they have proposed doing a survey on the road.

The Chairman Cllr Marsha White declared the meeting closed.

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|  | ..……………………………………Chairman |