**LONG LOAD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes** of a meeting of the Long Load Parish Council held at **the Village Hall, Long Load on Wednesday 16 October 2019.**

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**Present:**

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| Cllr Marsha White (Chair)Cllr Pat Collins (Vice Chair)Cllr Dave MayCllr Richard Collis |   |

Ms Dawn Porter (Clerk)

3 residents of the village

Before the meeting started Cllr Marsha White gave her apologies for the last meeting. She felt that she had allowed the public participation to get out of hand somewhat and had not taken control of the meeting. Cllr White said that she would allow public participation at the end and Cllr Pat Collins agreed that the public should put their views or points forward as set out on the agenda, usually at the end of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Diana Taylor

1. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were raised.

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

1. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising – all issues are already on the agenda apart from the speeding issue. Cllr Richard Collis had spoken to Martock regarding the speeding signs and it was noted that Martock are happy to lend them to us. Cllr Collis had asked Cllr Neil Bloomfield from Martock if we were able to join the scheme at this stage and it was noted that Cllr Bloomfield will discuss at the next committee meeting and let us know.

Cllr Marsha White had spoken to the speed watch team and had been told that there are some speed enforcements units that flash and log speeds although they are not widely available at the present time. It was noted that the units used in the past had made a difference and that it was worth looking into.

Cllr Pat Collins noted that the council had looked into joining the Martock Scheme two years ago but the cost was prohibitive. It was agreed that it needs to be cost effective.

1. **DC/CC Reports**

There were no District or County Councillors present at the meeting. Clerk Dawn Porter will contact the District and County Councillors and ask them to attend future meetings if they can.

1. **Footpaths**

An email from Fiona McKenzie who lives in the village was shared at the meeting – the email voiced concerns around the footpath. Cllr Richard Collis said that he has tried the route and he has managed to get through but it was noted that the footpath sign is missing at the end of the footpath. The caravan site was also mentioned and it was noted that the caravans now have fences and gardens and it is looking more like a residential site. It was noted that members of the public could be trespassing if they go off the footpath. Cllr Pat Collins said that there must be an enforcement officer that can walk the path.

It was agreed that Clerk Dawn Porter would write again to the District Council about the caravan site and their duty of care to inspect it.

Cllr Marsha White gave details to the Clerk with details of the footpath to write to them regarding the state of the footpath.

1. **Correspondence & Planning Application**

There was no correspondence or planning applications.

1. **Broadband**

It was noted that Sarah Badger was not present at the meeting although Cllr Marsha White had seen Megan that week and Megan explained that someone from Wellington was going to put a dish up at their house to check the satellite signal and that Sarah was following this up.

The Clerk had looked into how other villages get broadband but had not found anything of interest or anything that had not already been discussed.

1. **Money Raised from Bier**

Cllr Pat Collins had received a telephone call from a member of the family that had donated the bier in memory of another family member in 1901. They were not happy that the bier had been sold but it was noted and agreed that the only option we had been left with was to get rid of it. The bier was obsolete, it could not go outside anywhere and we had tried hard to find a good use or a good home for it with no luck.

It was noted that no one has come back with any suggestions for using the money but it was agreed that it should probably be something that is of benefit to the village hall as this is the village’s only asset. Blinds or curtains had been discussed at one stage as had sound proofing for the hall.

It was suggested that maybe it could be used to get broadband into the hall which may bring in some revenue.

It was agreed to put something in the Roundabout magazine.

1. **Accounts**

1 cheque was written.

**10. Public Participation**

It was noted that feelings were that the bridge was looking tatty and that the brambles needed clearing. Olwen Herridge suggested that if Craig was unable to do it with his tools then she would be prepared to do it. Cllr Richard Collis agreed to speak to Craig.

It was suggested that maybe the money from the bier could be used to fund a defibrillator. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

The Clerk to write to Long Sutton and Martock Parish Councils to get information on theirs.

It was noted that the members of the public attending were saying that it is annoying to not be able to go on the footpath.

**13. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Tuesday 19th November 2019.

**12. Any Other Business**

The plan of the churchyard was raised. Cllr White and Cllr Collins thought there was a hard copy and will look again.

It was agreed to put the village seat on the agenda for the next meeting.

The Chairman Cllr Marsha White declared the meeting closed.

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|  | ..……………………………………Chairman |