**LONG LOAD PARISH COUNCIL**

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

(7.30 pm - 8.40 pm)

**Present:**

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

Ms Dawn Porter (Clerk)

4 residents of the village

1. **Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

1. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were raised.

1. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising – all issues are already on the agenda.

Cllr Marsha White signed off minutes for October and November 2019.

1. **DC/CC Reports**

No Councillor were present so therefore no reports were discussed.

1. **Footpaths and La Lade Caravan Site**

Clerk Dawn Porter reported that no response had been received as yet from the District Council.

Cllr Pat Collins asked how many caravans were on the La Lade site. The general feeling was that even if they were selling caravans, they must be in excess of the numbers allowed by their licence. It was agreed to wait until a reply was received from the District Council.

Clerk Dawn Porter will write again between Christmas and the January meeting and send a copy to Neil Bloomfield.

1. **Pot holes in road/Highways**

It was noted that some of the pot holes had been repaired but some have not.

Clerk Dawn Porter to write to Highways and send a copy to Neil Bloomfield. The majority of the pot holes are in Church Lane.

1. **Correspondence and Planning Applications**

No correspondence was received, and no planning applications were reported.

1. **Broadband**

Clerk Dawn Porter had spoken to Pitminster Parish Council with regard to the scheme they were on with Openreach. It was confirmed that this scheme was no longer available.

Cllr Pat Collins reported that he had had the wiring renewed going into his house and the speed has improved.

There were no other ideas for improvement and the general feeling was that the internet in the village was sufficient for domestic use. It was suggested that perhaps we could write to the new MP. This was agreed to be a good idea, but everyone would need to write as individuals.

1. **Money raised from the Bier**

The idea of a defibrillator was raised again.

Cllr Marsha White said that it may be a good idea if someone could come to a meeting and explain everything to us. This was agreed and Cllr White will go back to the suppliers and invite them to a meeting.

It was noted that the defibrillator will need to be fitted to a wall. It was noted that the permission of the Village Hall Committee would need to be obtained. Andy McKay was at the meeting and said that the matter had been discussed and that there were no objections.

It was agreed that the money from the Bier would go towards this and the rest would come from the Parish Council.

It was noted that the cost would be around £2,000.

**10. Village Seat**

It was agreed that the seat would be placed outside the front of the village room. It was also agreed that the seat would need to be bolted down. It was suggested that Graham Weekes had said previously that he would arrange for it to be installed outside the village room.

Cllr Marsha White agreed to contact Graham and Suzanne.

**11. Traffic Enforcement**

Neil Bloomfield was not present at the meeting, so it was not possible to discuss the renting of equipment from Martock.

Cllr Pat Collins noted that the cost to rent the equipment is not unreasonable. It was agreed that the data collection is more important than the compliance of the equipment.

**12. Lengthsman**

The lengthsman has served notice on Long Load and Aller. His tree surgery business is taking off and he no longer has the time to do the work.

It was agreed that a replacement was probably needed. Duties to include clearing ditches, grass cutting, weed killing and tree cutting.

It was agreed that a gardener type person would be more than suitable, and an advert would be placed for someone to start for Spring/Summer. Cllr Marsha White agreed to arrange the advert.

**13. Dog Fouling**

It was noted that black bags containing dogs mess were being left at several locations. So people were picking up after their dogs but not taking the bags with them. Cllr Richard Collis suggested Streetscene could put up some signs.

It was noted that all wildlife websites state that dogs should be kept on leads in the countryside but generally they are not, and nothing is said by members of the public because they are likely to be susceptible to verbal abuse.

It was agreed that we probably have enough signs in the village and we don’t want any more. Most dog owners are careful and law abiding – the ones that are not give all a bad name.

**14. Accounts**

Change of address form was signed for the bank.

No cheques were written.

**15. Public Participation**

It was noted from the members of the public that speeding for them is an issue. It was agreed by the Council that when data was collected previously the figures were not that bad which perhaps proved that speed enforcement was a good deterrent.

Andy McKay agreed to take the team out at the times considered to be most effective.

**16. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 21 January 2020.

**17. Any other business**

It was noted that there is a caravan in Church Lane. It does not appear to belong to anyone. Cllr Richard Collis said that he had reported this to SSDC who were already aware. A notice had already been placed on the caravan to say that would be removed if there was no contact from the owner.

The Chairman Cllr Marsha White declared the meeting closed.

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|  | ..……………………………………Chairman |