**LONG LOAD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes** of a meeting of the Long Load Parish Council held at **the Village Hall, Long Load on Tuesday 21 September 2021.**

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**Present:**

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| Cllr Marsha White (Chair)  llr Richard Collis  Cllr Diana Taylor  Cllr Dave May  Clerk Dawn Porter  Cllr Neil Bloomfield (County/District)  2 members of the public were present at the meeting |  |

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Pat Collins.

1. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were raised.

**3. Matters arising**

Cllr Marsha White confirmed that she has been trying to organise a stone mason regarding the village stone without much success.

Cllr Neil Bloomfield suggested that we may be able to get a contribution from the District Council and he will look into it.

It was agreed that the wording on the stone would be in black with a picture of the 5-arch bridge. Cllr Marsha White suggested that perhaps someone from District Council could come and look at where it should be sited.

**4. DC/CC Reports**

Cllr Neil Bloomfield confirmed that elections will be brought forward to May 2022. District Council elections will run to 2023, at which point the positions will cease to exist and the two councils will merge into one. He confirmed that the plan is for one Somerset council and that there will be 110 councillors on the unitary council. There are also plans for boundary changes after the elections. Parish elections will run alongside the 2022 elections.

Cllr Neil Bloomfield explained how the District Council is working because of Covid-19. Planning has been affected and all final decisions are made by the Chief Executive.

He confirmed that Highways will be doing more small improvement schemes and it was agreed to add this to the agenda for the November meeting.

**5. La Lade Caravan Site**

Clerk Dawn Porter confirmed that she has notified the planning department but again has not received a response. She sited the planning conditions that she had confirmed from the planning applications previously and noted that these conditions were in breach of the planning conditions.

Cllr Neil Bloomfield suggested that the clerk write to the planning department stating that this is a material breach of conditions that was upheld on appeal and would like it enforced. It was agreed that the clerk would do this.

**6. Church Lane**

Clerk Dawn Porter has reported this to Highways under reference number 591992 and has had notification that it is being reviewed by a highways officer. Further information will be forwarded once she has a response.

**7. Correspondence & Planning**

There were no planning applications or correspondence.

It was noted that the structure in a village garden was erected under permitted planning and would not be taken any further.

**8. Traffic Enforcement**

Clerk Dawn Porter confirmed that she had received a response from Martock regarding their equipment and that it was in high demand in their area.

Cllr Neil Bloomfield suggested that we could apply for assistance under the Highways Small Improvement Scheme.

**9. Defibrillator**

Clerk Dawn Porter confirmed that she has received an email from a company stating that they offer grants for village defibrillators. She will look into this and bring the information to the next meeting.

**10. Accounts**

Two cheques were written for Clerk’s salary and groundsman invoice.

**11. Public Participation**

Two members of the public were present at the meeting. Concerns were raised regarding the structure erected in a village garden under permitted planning and the fact that no planning had been obtained for the access. It was noted that the building had been erected under permitted planning and further information on the planning for access was still awaited.

**12. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 16 November 2021.

**13. Any other business**

The water harvesters on the allotments were discussed. We had paid our half as promised but are still waiting for the other half payment from Ash Parish Council as previously agreed. Cllr Neil Bloomfield suggested funding from the District Council could contribute to this and he would look into it and get back to Cllr Marsha White.

It was noted that Cllr Marsha White had received a request for the current owners of the churchyard to paint the notice board. It was agreed that this could be done and the owner of the ground would be notified.

It was noted that the minutes were not being added to the notice board after council meetings. Cllr David May agreed to do this in future.

Gated villages were discussed and it was suggested that this may be worth thinking about. Martock have half a gate. It was agreed to add this to the agenda for the next meeting.

It was agreed to add the Jubilee Celebrations to the agenda for November.

Chairman Cllr Marsha White declared the meeting closed.

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