

ST LEONARDS & ST IVES PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Full Council
Minutes of the Meeting Held in the Village Hall, Braeside Road,
on Wednesday 26th October 2022 at 7pm

Present: Cllr JB Parker, Chair

Cllr N Hindmarch Cllr A Davies Cllr S Marshall Cllr B Goringe
Cllr M Goringe Cllr C Johnson Cllr JW Parker Cllr M Dyer
Cllr R Bryan (left at 8.30pm)

In attendance: Mr. Jonathan Ross, Parish Clerk

Public Open Forum:

No residents attended

129. Pecuniary Interests: No pecuniary interests were declared.

130. Apologies: Apologies were received from: Cllr K Gawler and Cllr B Waugh. Members voted to accept apologies from those councillors listed. Proposed by Cllr C Johnson, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed.

RESOLVED: That the apologies from the Councillors listed were accepted.

131. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th September 2022. The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr C Johnson, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th September 2022 were adopted.

132. Matters arising from the minutes:

Control of Dogs on the recreation ground. Following on from the discussion at Full Council on 29th September 2022 and a meeting with Dogs of Dorset on 4th October 2022. The Clerk presented various options on how the recreation area could be developed to create an area for dogs on leads and an area for dogs off leads. Included in the options that were presented were works to improve some of the recreational facilities the park has to offer. Members felt that zoning off a very large area of the park with a long metal mesh fence and gates could make the park look unattractive. They felt it would create an unnecessary segregation and was not a suitable solution. Members also considered the high cost of the proposed fence and gates could not be justified in that location. Therefore, none of the options presented were approved for further action.

Members were mindful that a solution to make the park safe for all users was still required. The Clerk has been tasked with investigating how the Braeside Copse area could be transformed into an area suitable for dogs to be let of their leads. Clerk to report back with options. The Clerk is to investigate how the PC can work with other local towns and parish councils in providing a

local dog warden service. It is thought an increased dog warden presence could be beneficial.

Proposed by Cllr A Davies, seconded by Cllr C Johnson, agreed.

RESOLVED: The Clerk is to investigate and report back on how the Braeside Copse area can be transformed into an area suitable for dogs off lead and to investigate how the PC can work with other local town and parish councils with the joint provision of a local dog warden.

133. Correspondence to be noted:

A letter was received from Citizens Advice East and Purbeck thanking the Parish Council for its recent grant of £1500.

134. Finance:

134.1. Payment Schedules. Members reviewed and approved the schedule of payments for October 2022. Copies of the schedule appear at Appendix A to these minutes in the minute book. Proposed by Cllr A Davies, seconded by Cllr N Hindmarch. Agreed.

RESOLVED: The schedule of payments for October 2022 were approved.

134.2. Bank Reconciliations. Members reviewed and approved the bank reconciliation for September 2022. A copy of the reconciliation appears as Appendix B to these minutes in the minute book. Proposed by Cllr M Goringe, seconded by Cllr B Goringe. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The bank reconciliation for September 2022 was approved.

134.3. Budget v Expenditure. Members received the figures for the end of the 2nd quarter. Noted.

134.4. Review the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit. Members agreed that the system of Internal Audit is effective and meets the standards required under the current account and audit regulations. Proposed by Cllr A Davies, seconded by Cllr C Johnson, agreed.

RESOLVED. That the system of Internal Audit is effective and meets the standards required under the current account and audit regulations.

134.5. CIL Payment. Members were informed that the PC has received a further £14,725.41 CIL payment. Noted.

134.6. Fees for Website Hosting. Members approved entering a 3-year contract with 123-Reg for the continuing website support they provide at a cost of £129 for the 3 years.

RESOLVED: The PC will enter a 3-year contract with 123-Reg for continued website support for the sum of £129 for 3 years.

135. Precept for 2023/2024. The Clerk briefed members on the proposed budget for 2023/2024 and the proposed precept request. Members discussed the proposals. Concerns were expressed over the current cost of utilities and how they would affect next year's budget. The Clerk will present an updated budget proposal in January 2023 when it is hoped further information on future utility costs will be known.

136. Grants to Outside Bodies:

136.1. Grant for the Ex-Services Club. Members approved a grant request of £250 to the Ex-Services Club to offset the cost of the Remembrance Day event held at the club. Proposed by Cllr A Davies, seconded by Cllr R Bryan. Agreed. Cllrs N Hindmarch abstained from the vote.

RESOLVED. The grant request from the Ex-Services Club of £250 is approved.

136.2. Grant for Age UK. The grant request from Age UK was not approved as the group have not started meeting again in the Village Hall. The grant covers the cost of the meeting room used by the group. The grant request will be considered when the group start meeting in the Village Hall again.

136.3. Grant for Village Hall – Solar Batteries. The Village Hall Management Committee presented two quotes for the works to supply and fit solar batteries. They will endeavour to obtain at least one further quote and bring this item back to council for recommendation and approval.

136.4. Grant for Summer Fair, 11th June 2023. The Village Hall Management Committee are planning to hold a Summer Fair on 11th June 2023. Members approved a grant request to help support the event. A grant of £500 was suggested as no detailed amount was specified. Proposed by Cllr N Hindmarch, seconded by Cllr JW Parker, agreed. Cllr B Goringe and Cllr M Goringe abstained from the vote.

RESOLVED: A grant of £500 is to be given to the VHMC to support the proposed Summer Fair on 11th June 2023.

137. Clerks Report.

Equality and Diversity Policy. The PC does not have an Equality and Diversity policy. The Clerk recommended that the PC should have one and apply it when making decisions. The Clerk was tasked with preparing a policy and presenting it to council for comment. Proposed by Cllr JW Parker, seconded by Cllr S Marshall. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The Clerk is to prepare an Equality and Diversity Policy and present it to council for comment.

138. Community Engagement. The clerk briefed members on community engagement initiatives.

138.1. Alternative to a Neighbourhood Plan. Members agreed that the PC will not be commissioning a full Neighbourhood Plan. However, members felt that some form of document should be created that identifies what residents may want regarding facilities, infrastructure and planning. A sub-committee is to be set up to discuss this. The Chair will liaise with members on the creation of the sub-committee and its membership.

138.2. Communication Plan. The PC aims to improve its communication with residents. It utilises its website, social media and noticeboards to publicise and promote its business, local interest and useful information. The PC wants to do more and intends improving its promotion in local advertiser magazines.

A series of articles will be prepared each month on a variety of topics that the PC is involved with.

139. Brief Reports from Dorset Council Members. Members received a joint report on Dorset Council business from Cllr B Goringe.

140. Parish Councillor Reports. No reports.

141. Amenities. The Clerk updated members on the 'Warm Space' initiative. The 'Warm Space' is a place where residents can come once a week to have a lunch of soup and a roll, tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided free of charge. Residents can relax and chat, read newspapers, play cards, games, jig saws etc. It will take place every Wednesday from 12 midday to 5pm starting from 9th November 2022. It will run through until next spring. It will be held in the annexe to the Village Hall in Braeside Road. There is no need to book.

142. Climate Change. No climate change issues were discussed.

143. Exchange of Information. Next meeting date is Wednesday 30th November 2022.