

ST LEONARDS & ST IVES PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Full Council
Minutes of the Meeting Held in the Village Hall, Braeside Road,
on Wednesday 30th November 2022 at 7pm

Present: Cllr JB Parker, Chair

Cllr N Hindmarch	Cllr A Davies	Cllr S Marshall	Cllr C Johnson
Cllr JW Parker	Cllr M Dyer	Cllr R Bryan	

In attendance: Mr. Jonathan Ross, Parish Clerk

Public Open Forum:

Several members of public attended the meeting and addressed the committee on the control of dogs on the recreation ground. Residents stressed the social importance of the recreation ground and how it brings people together in a positive and friendly manner. Residents urged members to consider the social benefits the recreation ground offers before making any decisions. Residents also felt that it was not a suitable solution to create a dogs off lead area on Braeside Copse. They considered it too small an area, can be very dark and is boggy in the winter. It would create a segregated area away from the main park which would isolate dog walkers and eliminate the social benefits the park offers.

160. Pecuniary Interests: No pecuniary interests were declared.

161. Apologies: Apologies were received from: Cllr K Gawler, Cllr B Waugh, Cllr U Lucas, Cllr M Goringe and Cllr B Goringe. Members voted to accept apologies from those councillors listed. Proposed by Cllr S Marshall, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed.

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

162. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th October 2022. The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr S Marshall, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th October 2022 were adopted.

163. Matters arising from the minutes: Control of Dogs. Members discussed the points raised by the attending residents and considered them extremely valid and well-articulated. They agreed that the approach to be taken should be one of self-policing and local management as opposed to creating segregated areas. They felt the creation of a Friends of Braeside Park would create a positive group of people that would help to manage and self-police the park. Members also suggested setting up a Working Group, consisting of a mix of residents and Councillors, that could discuss the issues and solutions that would allow the park to be used by all residents. The Clerk is tasked with setting up the Working Group and facilitating its first meeting.

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

RESOLVED: The Clerk to setup a Working Group, consisting of a mix of residents and councillors, to discuss the issues of the park and to report back to Full Council with recommendations. The Clerk was also tasked with collecting data on dog fouling and reports of issues concerning uncontrolled dogs.

164. Correspondence to be noted:

None

165. Finance:

165.1. Payment Schedules. Members reviewed and approved the schedule of payments for November 2022. Copies of the schedule appear at Appendix A to these minutes in the minute book. Proposed by Cllr A Davies, seconded by Cllr C Johnson. Agreed.

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

165.2. Bank Reconciliations. Members reviewed and approved the bank reconciliation for October 2022. A copy of the reconciliation appears as Appendix B to these minutes in the minute book. Members requested the Clerk investigate the banking market to see if an improved interest rate could be achieved and to make recommendations. Proposed by Cllr S Marshall, seconded by Cllr John W Parker. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The bank reconciliation for October 2022 was approved.

166. VAT Report – Making Tax Digital. The Clerk informed members that the PC had experienced some issues with submitting their VAT returns. All issues have been resolved and it is now submitting all its VAT returns correctly under 'Making Tax Digital'.

167. Grants for Village Hall – Solar Batteries. At Full Council on 31st August 2022 (Min.88.4) members approved a grant in principle to the Village Hall for the purchase and installation of batteries to support the solar panels. The Village Hall have obtained two quotes and are waiting for a third. It was agreed that a decision to award the contract to the contractor that offers the best value for money be delegated to the Clerk, Chair and Vice-chair. Proposed by Cllr R Bryan, seconded by Cllr S Marshall. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The Clerk, Chair and Vice-chair are given delegated powers to select and award the contract for the supply and installation of solar batteries to the contractor that offers the best value for money from the three quotes received.

168. Clerks Report.

168.1. Equality and Diversity Policy. The Clerk briefed members on the proposed new Equality and Diversity Policy that would replace the existing Equal Opportunities Policy. Proposed by Cllr R Bryan, seconded by Cllr S Marshall. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The PC adopts the new Equality and Diversity Policy which will replace the old Equal Opportunities Policy.

168.2. Signage. Members discussed the signage at the entrance to the Village Hall complex. The Clerk is tasked with investigating the current signage and to report back with details.

169. Brief Reports from Dorset Council Members. Members received a joint report on Dorset Council business from Cllr B Goringe. A copy of which can be found at Appendix C in the minute book.

170. Parish Councillor Reports. Cllr A Davies informed members that he attended the recent DAPTC AGM. He briefed members on the 'working together document' that is currently being formulated by DAPTC. Its aim is to improve the communication and working practices between Dorset Council and the Parish and Town Councils. Cllr Davies also briefed members on several motions that were discussed at the meeting.

171. Amenities. No additional amenity issues were discussed.

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

173. Rental of Parish Facilities. Members agreed that this item should be discussed in confidential session. Proposed by Cllr R Bryan, Seconded by Cllr S Marshall. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The Rental of Parish Facilities to be discussed in confidential session. The discussion and decisions approved in the confidential session will be reported under a separate confidential minute.

Following the discussion on the Rental of Parish Facilities members agreed that the meeting should come out of confidential session. Proposed by Cllr R Bryan, seconded by Cllr S Marshall. Agreed.

RESOLVED. Following the discussion on the Rental of Parish Facilities that the PC comes out of confidential session.

174. Exchange of Information. Next meeting date is Wednesday 25th January 2023.