

Ladbroke Parish Council

Minutes of the virtual meeting of Ladbroke Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th July 2020 at 19:48 hrs via Zoom

- 1 **Present:** Cllrs Batty, Neal, Morten, Cllr Mrs Kemp, Cllr Mrs Copley, Mrs J Chapman (Clerk), County Cllr Stevens and District Cllr Rock.
- 2 **To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.**
None
- 3 **Declaration of Pecuniary Interests**
None
- 4 **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th March 2020**
The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th March 2020 were signed as being a true and complete record.
5. **Public Participation**
One resident attended the meeting and advised the Church has been awarded a Lottery Grant and repairs to the Church have started. The Church will be open for prayers on Sunday afternoons. A new vicar has been appointed, Andy Batcheler, he may commence work in September 2020.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes and for ongoing attention:**
None
7. **District and County Councillor Reports**
County Cllr Stevens reported:
WCC offices have been shut since lockdown and all staff are working at home. Officers telephones have been transferred to their homes, all meetings are being carried out virtually and it is likely it will stay this way for some time to come.
COVID19 Warwickshire is following the national trend in the reduction in cases. There are spikes in Nuneaton and Bedworth and Coventry is under observation. Stratford District cases were high but now reduced. There is no shortage of PPE in Warwickshire. Testing continues to be easier to get and Coventry Warwickshire and Solihull have been selected as Beacon Authorities for test and trace rollout once details are finalised. Assistance to those who are isolated is well under control and staff who were assigned to these centres are returning to their normal duties. Well done all the parishes who set up help lines and still help the vulnerable. The army assistance has been invaluable in this respect especially planning and distribution. The one-off cost to the County Council after government grants is in the region of £28 million, which can be met from reserves.
The Way ahead - The county council have set up 4 Covid recovery groups to establish what the "new normal" will look like as the council resumes its role in the community. These groups will report to the Cabinet in September.
HS2 - During the lock down period HS2 sub contractors and archaeologists have been working to meet their perceived dates. The first train is still scheduled for 2030 but The Prime Minister would like it sooner. There are protests and traffic disruption along the line as HS2 and their contractors push their interpretation of the hybrid Bill to its limits. Locally there is the preparation for the tunnel Boring machine (TBM) and the massive upheaval as the utility supplies are installed. The route the TBM will take is still under discussion. The TBM has been ordered from a German company and will be delivered in large pieces possible before the end of the year. Other preparations include major works in and around Wormleighton and Ladbroke as plant depots etc are established and the bed for the track is prepared. Planning and communication continue to be HS2's Achilles heel disrupted by

staff reorganisations. Regular liaison meetings will continue including those with the MP and Southam Town council's Forum for all local parishes.

Highways - There have been an enormous number of road closures, traffic lights and diversions and despite diversion signage drivers find their own rat runs. There have been emergency repairs (potholes and bad verges), a disrupted resurfacing programme, Severn Trent emergency repairs and some forestry work. During lock down there has been more speeding, the police handled over 3000 fines in June. 10 out of the 12 parishes in Feldon have asked for speed restrictions/measures and the requests are prioritised by the reduced staff and limited budget. Permanent signs entail a costly legal process and extensive consultation. During the lockdown there have been less accidents. Schemes along the Fosse are still being progressed and there is a call for cycle ways where Sustrans are taking the lead

Community Grants - will again be available, the rules are the same but payment unlikely before Christmas. The highway grant scheme has been modified and will not be available until next year's budget schemes are completed.

District Cllr Rock reported:

The Council has had its first formal meeting by video conferencing, with reduced numbers, on 27 May and a full council with all 36 members is due on 13th of July. Two planning meetings have been held by video conferencing with public participation - the latter was on 1st July and for which I was a member of the Committee. It took four hours to hear two cases. I hope we will improve on timing in the future whilst still being thorough.

It has proved quite difficult to obtain Covid data on a local basis and I have been pressing the Chief Executive to get these numbers, which have now been coming through. The latest news suggests there has been some problem with accuracy because of the mix of private and public testing, in and out of care settings, which has increased the total number of reported cases from 372 to 516 across the district. However, the trend is still coming down, so we have only zeros ones and twos of daily new cases.

The site allocation plan, which you will remember sets an area of restraint around the Southam area has been put back by 20 months. The reasons for this are not totally clear but relate to the county council's forecast for secondary school provision and whether more places can be produced. This has a knock-on effect across the whole District. I fear more uncertainty for a long time.

Stratford District Council is in talks with Warwick District Council about closer working. Central government has signalled the desire to work with greater sized local authorities. Such closer working might be a step towards this. Stratford is already due to have a review of the boundaries.

8. Financial

8.1 To approve the following payments

Payee	Amount £
Clerks Wages payable in April, May, June and July	561.68
HMRC April – June	105.30
Sort IT – Domain registration renewal	36.00
EON	171.23
WALC Membership Renewal 2020 - 2021	123.00
Mr M Neal reimbursement for Parish Council Water Pump Servicing	123.35
Mrs J Chapman reimbursement for Zoom costs	4.80
Insurance Renewal Community Action Suffolk Parish Protect 2020 - 2021	207.48

It was proposed by Cllr Neal, seconded by Cllr Mrs Kemp and **RESOLVED** the payments be made.

A direct debit payment for £35.00 is due to be paid on 16th July 202 to the Information Commissioners Office

8.2 Financial Report 01.04.20 - 30.06.2020

There has been no expenditure since 31.03.2020 due to COVID19 and Parish Council meetings not taking place.

8.3 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/2020 Part 2 – Certificate of exemption authorisation.

It was proposed by Cllr Morten, seconded by Cllr Neal and
RESOLVED the Certificate of Exemption be authorised by the Chairman of the meeting, Cllr Batty and Responsible Financial Officer, Mrs J Chapman

8.4 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/2020 Part 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2019/2020

It was proposed by Cllr Morten, seconded by Cllr Mrs Copley and
RESOLVED to approve the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20

8.5 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/2020 Part 2 – Accounting Statements 2019/2020

It was proposed by Cllr Neal, seconded by Cllr Mrs Kemp and
RESOLVED to approve the Accounting Statements 2019/20

9.0 Items for next Agenda

Update of LPC Emergency Plan – to include COVID19
HS2 Archaeological Developments

Police Surgery Dates in the Village Hall - the Police will contact Cllr Neal when they wish to re-instate these.

Speeding through the Village – to be revisited in the future.

20:20 hrs Cllr Morten left the meeting.

Discussions followed regarding HS2, the closure of roads around Ladbroke and the impact this has on Ladbroke. District Cllr Rock will raise this at the next meeting with Jeremy Wright M.P.

Meeting closed 20:43

Signed

Date

Meeting closed 20:53 hrs