

# **Lea & Cleverton Parish Council**

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Minutes of the Lea & Cleverton Parish Council meeting held on **19<sup>th</sup> March 2019** in Lea Village Hall at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs J Cull (Chair), T Culling (Vice Chair), P Fuller, B Gore, J Crockett, A Barnes, S Suter & D Maidment.

**Also present:** John Parmiter (RFO), Claire Mann (Parish Clerk) & Cllr T Sturgis (WC), Head Teacher & Chair of Governors at Lea & Garsdon Primary School and 6 members of the public

**19/19 To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies received from Cllr N Maidment.

**20/19 To receive declarations of interest.**

Cllr Barnes declared an interest in item 12 ref 19/01545/FUL and will leave the room during discussion.

**21/19 To receive any public questions.**

The Head Teacher & Chair of Governors at Lea & Gardson Primary School gave an overview on the application at the School & the amendments that have been made. The meeting was notified that the Hydrock survey has not yet been completed & that an additional 19 parking spaces have been included. A multi-purpose hard surface for parking before and after school is also now included. The mobile classroom has been relocated to create space. The School recognises that there is a serious traffic issue & is working with Wiltshire Council to ameliorate this. The school will actively promote the before & after school club to ensure that arrival times and pick up times can be staggered. It was noted that the education budget is extremely restricted and that expansion is necessary for the school's infrastructure. The school has grave concerns of the alternatives if the school is not expanded.

The Parish Council stated that they are fully supportive of the improvements that will be made towards education & pupil provision but that they object to the traffic plan & external traffic management. The Parish Council also noted that they want to see a drop-off/pick-up zone **off road**.

Members of the public stated concerns about the temporary parking and its use once the building has been finished. It was also noted that lorries will not be arriving/leaving at the beginning or end of school.

Cllr Sturgis stated that Malmesbury Primary School Board of Governors forced the decision to be made to expand the School at Lea because they had refused to do so within their capacity as an academy.

Cllr Cull thanked the Head & Chair of Governors of Lea & Gardson for their attendance at the meeting.

**22/19 To approve minutes of parish council meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January.**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> January were approved and signed as a correct record.

**23/19 To receive a report from Cllr Sturgis.**

Cllr Sturgis reported that Wiltshire Council’s Budget meeting had recently taken place and had been agreed very quickly. It had also been resolved by Wiltshire Council that the Council intends to become ‘carbon neutral’ by 2030. Extra funds have been made available for Street Scene and that the Parish Council should inform Matthew Perrott of five priority areas for improvement.

It was also noted that whilst many residents are unhappy about proposed parking charge increases around the county, it is the parking charges that subsidise the underfunded bus services.

**24/19 To receive Chairman’s comments**

**Village Hall**

A meeting with the VH committee resulted in a three stage process.

Article in the Parish Newsletter then in mid-April a document to be distributed giving the options and some approximate costs. Followed by an open discussion at the Annual Parish meeting on the 7 May when a decision on the future of the hall will be made.

**Playing Field**

A piece has been placed in the Newsletter seeking volunteers for an ad hoc workforce for the small items of maintenance on the playing field.

**Risk Assessments**

All of the risk assessments have now been completed and signed off

**Emergency Plan**

The Emergency Plan will soon be updated.

**25/19 To receive financial report from RFO & note recommendations**

Members noted & approved the financial report that had been circulated to all by the RFO. It was resolved that the internal audit would be undertaken by Andrew Gill.

**26/19 To discuss website development.**

Cllr Cull & the Parish Clerk had met with Atema Ltd to review the draft website. It was agreed that the website is user-friendly and attractive with a few minor amendments to be made. More pictures of the Parish will be included.

**27/19 To receive an update on the Jubilee Playing Field.**

John Parmiter had circulated the minutes of the Jubilee Playing Field Management Committee. It transpired that weekly inspections by members other than councillors are becoming difficult to achieve and Cllr Cull proposed that a separate 'Maintenance Group' is set up, all agreed.

Three quotes for the new equipment will go to the Committee for approval.

**28/19 To receive an update on the allotments & to consider repair of gates & fences**

It was noted that all plots are now occupied and new tenants are keenly involved. Cllrs Crockett & Fuller will investigate the work to be done to the fences & gates and will bring proposal for completion of work to the next meeting.

**29/19 To receive & approve the minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

The minutes were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

**30/19 To discuss planning applications received.**

**19/01403/FUL 3 The Chestnuts, SN16 9PG** – The Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds that excavation of the foundations of the wall would almost certainly intercept and sever major root systems, with potential direct and indirect adverse impacts on the health and stability of mature specimens in this line of trees. Such an event would potentially result in the loss of trees valued locally for their habitat diversity and landscape services, and as such would contravene CP50 of the Council's development policies

**19/01545/FUL Lovett Farm, SN15 5BP** – The Parish Council supports this application.

**18/11135/FUL West End, Tanners Bridge, SN16 9NT** – The Parish Council supports this application.

**19/01596/VAR Former Spinney Car Park** – The Parish Council has no comment to make on this application.

**31/19 To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Culling summarised the findings of the consultation and stated that the responses collected have provided a very rich foundation from which the Neighbourhood Plan Committee & Steering Group can now inform much of their further work;

- 350 paper surveys were hand-delivered to ALL residents in the Parish
- An online version of the survey was also created for those who would prefer to respond electronically
- 86 paper and 60 online responses were made – a total of 146 and a 41.7% response rate. (This is considered to be an extremely positive response to a first survey in this process).

Thanks were extended to the Neighbourhood Plan Committee for the compilation of the questionnaire and their work completed so far.

**32/19 To receive an update on Highway issues in the Parish**

Cllr Fuller stated that the Parish Steward has been in constant contact and completing tasks forwarded by the Parish Council. Thanks were passed to the owners of Brillscote Farm for the timely cutting back of the hedge at the property. It was asked what could be done to protect the verge from erosion between the church and the Rose & Crown and resolved that the clerk will investigate.

Speeding is an ongoing issue in the parish & will be pursued.

**33/19 To receive an update on Public Rights of Way issues in the Parish**

Cllr Crockett stated that the bridle path had been re-opened at Cresswell Lane.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm