

## Minutes for Luppitt Parish Council 6/1/09

### LUPPITT PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** for a meeting of **Luppitt Parish Council** held in the Village Hall at **8pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 8pm.**

Present: Mr Gavin Brake (Chairman), Mrs Lindsey Dalgety (Vice Chairman), Mrs Julia Sparks, Messrs Bernard Clapp, Andrew Tucker, Brian Pulman, Paul Prettejohn, District Councillor Mr D Key, and no members of the public.

Apologies: Derek Hooper, County Councillor Mr Roger Boote, PC Vickery 4783, PCSO Anning 30012

**All councillors are politely reminded of their obligation to declare interests under the Code of Conduct**

**In making decisions the Parish Council recognise their statutory duties provided for in Section 11A(2) of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 (National Parks) and Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (AONBs) that in exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land, they shall have regard to their purposes (ie conserve and enhance their natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage and to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of their special qualities by the public).**

1 **Minutes** of the previous meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2008 were signed as a correct record of that meeting. AGREED.

1.2 **Receive apologies for absence.** AS ABOVE.

**2 PLANNING** [http://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/PublicAccess/tdc/DcApplication/application\\_searchform.aspx](http://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/PublicAccess/tdc/DcApplication/application_searchform.aspx) for full details

1. **Decisions** (for information)

1. 08/2868/LBC Palmerhayes Farm, Wick – permission granted for internal alterations.

2. **Applications** (For comment, support or objection)

1. 08/2616/LBC Combeshead Farm – Installation of new window (front) and replace window on rear. COMMENTS: The Parish Council support this application. Mr Prettejohn declared an interest as he owns the property and left the room while the application was discussed and voted on. Mr Brake declared an interest as a neighbour and abstained from voting (although he had no pecuniary interest).

3. **EDDC – Extension of public speaking to the Development Control Committee**  
– from 13<sup>th</sup> January 2009 parish councils and public (objectors and supporters) will be allowed to speak at Development Control meetings on any application which falls within their area. There will be no requirement to apply in writing or inform EDDC that you intend to speak at the committee meeting. Each speaker will be allowed three minutes and there will be no provision for supplementary comments, questions or to make additional points. Speakers are not allowed to table any information or other material for Members at the meeting and will be strictly only allowed to refer to planning considerations. It is asked that if a previous speaker makes your point that you do not restate the point, if you do you may be stopped. Speakers may be asked questions by the committee in order to clarify any points and at the close the planning officer may choose to respond on any points raised, the committee will then debate the item.
  
4. **EDDC – Systems Thinking Review in Development Control** - update – Although concern was expressed by some parishes regarding the new processes EDDC are pleased that their fundamental internal changes to the way they process planning applications has resulted in a clear improvement in turnaround times for applications and in levels of customer satisfaction, they have also been able to divert more resources into planning enforcement. There has been some distrust about the Councils motives for changing the very visible public notification procedures and delegations, the council assure us that these are not intended to undermine local democracy, but do reflect current planning law and policy. EDDC are now working more closely with Ward Members (even where decisions are delegated), officers will put the most contentious issues to committee even if they have powers to make delegated decisions, the Chief Executive is acting as an arbiter where Members feel there are reasons for minor matters to go to committee and as from January there will be public speaking at Development Control Meetings.
  
5. **Communities and Local Government** – Communities in Control: Real People Real Power – code of recommended practice on local authority publicity – A consultation. Views sought by 12<sup>th</sup> March 2009. Full document available online at [www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk)
  
6. **EDDC – Local Development Framework Issues and Options Report** – for comment by 13<sup>th</sup> February 2009. Full document and questionnaire available at [www.eastdevon.gov.uk](http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk)

### 3. HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

1. Map of highways issues in the parish – Steve Tucker and Gavin Brake have spent much time on the telephone and having surveyed every site on the list a plan has been drawn up and agreed between the parish council and Highways as to what work can be carried out by each party legally and within current budget restraints. Parish Council have costed some of the basic off highway work with a suitably insured contractor and it was agreed to instruct works to the value of £1000 in the first instance with the intention to precept for further improvements in the next financial year. Cllr Tucker abstained from the discussion as he has tendered for the work and left the room while the vote was taken.

2. Mud in road at Wick – a complaint was received and Highways have asked the farm owner to reduce the level of mud left on the road.
3. Pothole at Mathayes Cross – this is a huge pothole about 8” deep. Tapsterwater there is also a huge pothole. Coal Hill bridge – there is a road side pothole about 3 feet deep apparently this has been issued to the contractor, but no repair has been made. Greenlands (past Moorlands – corner house Cross) bridge/culvert needs digger to unchoke the blockage. Clerk to request chevron to warn of the double bends on the approach to the village from Luppitt Cross.

## 1. FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

4.1 Mrs Sparks reported that work has been authorised and will begin shortly to finish this years maintenance schedule. Bridge at Wick has been passed to special team who deal with bridges over 6m long for repair.

## 2. ENVIRONMENT

5.1 Environment Agency – copy of Riparian Responsibilities in the parish of Luppitt for information, clerk to ask EDDC to serve notice on the landowner at Ford Bridge to clear impediment.

## 6 COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- 6.1 **Community policing report** – one crime – car broken into and binoculars stolen.
2. **Parish plan** –
3. **Emergency Plan** – Devon Primary Care Trust has written to the Parish Council explaining that government are predicting a pandemic flu as seen last in 1968, they anticipate half the population becoming infected during a fifteen week period, this may even carry an increased mortality rate than is usual with seasonal flu with secondary infections such as pneumonia. They are therefore urging parishes to write an emergency plan and publish this incase of an outbreak (see below for reminders on avoidance!). A model plan is available at [http://www.devon.gov.uk/model\\_plan.pdf](http://www.devon.gov.uk/model_plan.pdf) (taken for completion by plan committee).
4. **Best Kept Village** – Entry form taken for consideration by plan committee.

## 7 FINANCE

7.1 **Receipts** –

7.2 **Cheque payments** - Audit Commission (audit 2007-8) £155.25  
(Cheque agreed).

Account balances - at 1/1/09 Paths Account £817.85

Parish Account £4776.84

7.3 Mrs Dalgety to collect the minute book from Mr Sage.

4. Notice boards – aluminium notice board approximately 1 metre square has been ordered at a cost of £300.
5. Freedom of Information Act – approval of all previous schemes expires on 31 December 2008, from the 1<sup>st</sup>

January 2009 all Parishes are expected to have adopted the new model code –parish council agreed to

adopt the new model. Full information can be see at [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk). Agreed clerk to update.

7.6 Website – clerk is happy to produce a website for the parish council if required in order to help avoid issues over the new FOI Act rules. Cost would be approximately £30 per annum for domain and hosting, plus time to update as required. Mr Tucker to enquire about the possibility of minutes being added to Luppitt.net first.

7.7 Clerks annual pay review – letter received from Lesley Smith Devon Association of Parish Councils with observations regarding formalising a clerks pay award. At Scale Point 19 this would allow for 2.5 hours per week, as this is probably not adequate to allow for a monthly meeting, plus ward, annual and other district/county meetings, annual accounts and audit as well as general duties the council must ensure it is not in danger of contravening minimum wage requirements. A number of hours must be set and agreed at this meeting in order to budget for the forthcoming year, plus a scale point agreed. Clerks position should be as an employee of the council, this matter to be rectified. Agreed to raise the clerks hours to 5 per week in order to allow for additional work at NALC payscale point 19 with immediate effect.

7.8 Budget, donations and precept 2009/10 for agreement. Donations agreed as per last year, with a rise to £125 for the Packet. An increased precept of £8000 was agreed to allow for carrying out maintenance in the parish as identified by the recent Parish Plan questionnaire.

7.9 Honiton Town Council – notes from meeting with local parishes held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2008 received.

## **8 CHAIRMANS DISCRETION**

**QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC** (The meeting to be closed before questions from the public).

### **Dates for next meetings –**

8pm Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2009 Luppitt Village Hall

8pm Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009 Luppitt Village Hall

8pm Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2009 Luppitt Village Hall

7pm Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2009 Luppitt Village Hall (APM)

8pm Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2009 Luppitt Village Hall (AGM)

8pm Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009 Luppitt Village Hall

8pm Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009 Luppitt Village Hall

8pm Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2009 Luppitt Village Hall

8pm Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009 Luppitt Village Hall

8pm Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2009 Luppitt Village Hall

8pm Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009 Luppitt Village Hall

8pm Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009 Luppitt Village Hall

This months useful information....from the World Health Organisation

**Some basic measures can be taken at individual level to reduce the risk of flu infection this winter:**

- respiratory hygiene: covering the mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing
- disposing of dirty tissues promptly and carefully – bagging and binning them
- avoiding non-essential travel and large crowds, where possible
- hand washing frequently with soap and water: reduces acquiring the virus from contact with infected surfaces and from passing it on
- cleaning hard surfaces (e.g. kitchen worktops, door handles) frequently, using a normal cleaning product
- making sure your children follow this advice.