



# Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Milford, Bishopdown Farm, Old Sarum & Longhedge

## Extraordinary Meeting held at the River Bourne Community Farm at 7.00pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

### MINUTES

**Councillors present:** Baker, Birkett (Chairman), Bussereau, Dean, Hayes, Hilliard, Lovibond, Lynn, Tucker, Waller.

**In attendance:** Prince (Clerk), Deane (Asst.)

There were no members of the public present. The Chairman introduced Trudi Deane who has joined the Council as the new Assistant to the Clerk.

The meeting started at 7.00pm.

**20.001 APOLOGIES.** There were no apologies.

**20.002 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.** Nil.

**20.003 PLANNING. Planning Application 19/11119/FUL. Further consultation on amended plans.** A brief discussion followed. Cllr Hayes reported that the Laverstock and Milford Planning Team recommended an unchanged response.

**Resolved:** To Support the application subject to conditions.

1. No external lighting over the double glass doors, which might illuminate the property in 19 Glendale Crescent, will be permitted.
2. The proposed glass balustrade, creating a balcony on the roof, should be no greater than is required to allow the opening of the double doors on to the flat topped roof space.
3. The proposed glass balustrade which creates a balcony outside the French doors will be constructed of obscure glass which will prevent visual access to the bedrooms of 19 Glendale Crescent.

**20.004 FINANCE. Approval of payment to the Land Restoration Trust.** The Clerk explained that the invoice, which is a stage payment for hard landscaping work to Castle Hill Country Park by Idverde Ltd, had been received on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 with a request for payment in early January 2020. This is less than the agreed 30-days notice for such payments but he would like to proceed.

**Resolved:** To approve the payment of £123,269.34 to the Land Restoration Trust.

**20.005 APPROVAL OF BUDGET FOR 2020-2021.**

The Clerk had previously distributed a draft budget proposal and explanatory notes. He explained how each of the figures for Administration and Environment Expenditure had been calculated.

Discussion followed on both the Salaries and Business Development budgets. In the current year the overspend on salaries has been funded from part of the Business Development budget. Several Councillors expressed the view that there needed to be extra provision in both budgets for 2020-2021. In the absence of a final report on the current External Review of the Council it was difficult to define the exact sums required. The budget, as drafted, had a significant reduction on the 2019-2021 level. It was suggested that the Business Development budget be increased to a level that ensured the Band D precept remained the same for 2020-2021.

The Clerk drew attention to the fact that, for the first time, the Newsletter is not self-financing. Income is currently limited to £5000 due to the HMRC vat dispensation. The editorial fee and the increased cost of printing mean that there is now a £3904 cost to the precept.

There was a lengthy discussion on bus shelters and no clear resolution. It was agreed that the outstanding issues did not affect the budget or precept and could be deferred to a later meeting of the Council or Facility Management Subgroup.

A further £40,000 was included for Wiltshire Council play areas. The current reserve of £80,000 was not sufficient to carry out all of the required repairs and refurbishment.

The 'sinking fund' allocation for future Asset Replacement has been increased to £50,000 based on the current value of assets and an estimate of those assets expected to be acquired during the 2020-2021 financial year. The figure is based on 1/20<sup>th</sup> of the asset value.

The Clerk explained and answered questions on each of the sources of Income. Maintenance funds from S106 agreements had been written down at the rate of 1/20<sup>th</sup> for the year.

In a final discussion it was agreed to add £20,541 to the Business Development budget, which would achieve a Band D precept of £49.35.

**Resolved:** To approve a Budget of £378,772 for 2020-2021.

#### **20.007 APPROVAL OF PRECEPT FOR 2020-2021.**

**Resolved:** To approve a Precept of £187,720 for 2020-2021.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

**The next meeting of the Council will be held at 7.00pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at the River Bourne Community Farm.**