

**Lode Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the regular meeting of the Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 9**  
**November 2020**

These minutes comprise 3 pages

**Note:** This meeting was held remotely under the provisions of **THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS (CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020**

**Present:** Cllrs R Stevens (Chairman), F Platten, T Crickmar, C Purbrook, R Small, M Walsh;  
D/Cllr J Trapp, Ms P Ingham-Watts (National Trust)

**112/20 Items from the public:** None

**113/20 Apologies:** C/Cllr M Shuter

**114/20 Declarations of interest:** None

**115/20 Minutes of meeting 12 October 2020:** These were approved

**116/20 Matters arising:**

- **Parish Council Vacancy:** The Clerk had had one expression of interest but unfortunately the person concerned has a commitment every Monday so would not be able to attend meetings. Cllr Stevens had also approached two people and Cllr Crickmar has posted the vacancy on the Whatsapp group
- **Trees:** Bob Rossiter has confirmed to Liz King that all trees identified are now on order. CCC will plant the replacement for the Silver Maple and the others will be delivered to Liz King so that arrangements can be made for volunteers to plant them. Cllr Small noted that unfortunately the volunteer day later this month will not be able to proceed because of the lockdown. Cllr Crickmar had received an email offering Oak saplings and it was agreed that a request would be made for 10
- **Apple tree on Allotments:** Charlie Platten is unable to assess the tree at present but will do so when he is recovered
- **Environment issues:** The hedge opposite the Church has now been cut back. Cllr Stevens thanked Ms Ingham-Watts for arranging this. She will pass on the Council's thanks to the Gardens Manager and his team
- **CIL:** D/Cllr Trapp will make enquiries about whether Lode-Quy Cycle Path remains on the list for consideration against future allocations of CIL or whether it was removed when Cambridgeshire County Council was successful in securing funding. If any funds are available they could be applied to improving safety at the Lode Crossroads

**117/20 Parish Reports:**

- **National Trust, Anglesey Abbey:** Ms Ingham-Watts reported that, with regret, the Winter Lights event has been cancelled as the risks associated with it were greater than the confidence in securing the necessary financial return for the Abbey. This was not due to Covid-19 risks per se as the planned precautions had been signed off by all the bodies involved in authorising the event. The Abbey grounds, are able to remain open but the visitor centre will be closed. Food will only be offered from a couple of takeaway outlets on site to support the social distancing precautions. She confirmed that Trust is awaiting the outcome of the planning application to extend the permission for the temporary toilets in the Car Park

**118/20 County Council Report:** None

**119/20 District Council Report:** D/Cllr Trapp reported that the full Council had considered the government's Planning for the Future White Paper and submitted its comments in the consultation. He regretted that there had not been stronger opposition to what he believes is a centralisation of

the planning process removing influence and control at a local level in the determination of individual planning applications. He noted that the affordable housing requirement would only apply to developments of 50 or more houses. (Under the current provisions, ECDC is applying for “rural designation” which enables it to apply affordable housing quotas to smaller developments than would apply in urban areas – this is recognition of the fact that most rural developments are small in scale.)

D/Cllr Trapp highlighted the importance of the Cambridge Eastern Access Consultation being undertaken by the Greater Cambridge Partnership. The latter comprises Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire DC. As this consultation concerns the access by residents of ECDC to Cambridge, it is vital that their voices are heard. He noted that there are discussions about moving the Newmarket Park and Ride site across the road from its current situation but he believes consideration should be given to a location this side of the Quay roundabout which would reduce traffic on the roundabout which is a major congestion point. An online Webinar is taking place on 19 November which D/Cllr Trapp encouraged members to attend. Cllr Platten highlighted the Local Transport Group’s complementary interest in these issues in its focus on the villages along the B1102. It was agreed that the Eastern Access Consultation would be on the December agenda to facilitate a response being sent from the Parish Council

### 112/20 Parish Council Reports:

- **Finance:** The following payments were approved:

J E Giles	Salary & PAYE	£405.30	Local Govt Act 1972 s111
W Jaggard	Cemetery	£173.39	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10
BP Express Fuel	Cemetery	£5.65+VAT	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10
Zoom (pd by card)	Remote meeting software	£14.39	Local Govt Act 1972 s 111
Truelink	Grass cutting	£345.00+VAT	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10
Truelink	Grass cutting	£45.00+VAT	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10
Parish Online	Online Mapping	£80+VAT	Local Govt Act 1972 s111

- **Planning:**

**20/01387/ARN Anglesey Farm, Lode:** Change of use of two agricultural buildings (barns) to 5 residential dwellinghouses (C3)

The Clerk reported that the Planning Officer had advised that Parish Councils are not consulted on applications designated “ARN” but that comment could be made on material considerations of contamination, highways, noise, flooding and visual impacts. The main issue raised by the Council is whether Anglesey Farm is operating as a farming business and why this application is not being considered as a full planning application in the usual way. D/Cllr Trapp will raise these questions with Rebecca Saunt, Head of Planning at ECDC

**20/00208/LIQ-02: Licence Application, Festival site, Lode Fen:** Application withdrawn

- **Environmental issues - Protocol for raising issues identified by the Parish Council with local residents:** Councillors had sought clarification of the Parish Council’s protocol for dealing with issues in the parish. Unless issues arise on property owned or managed by the Parish Council, the Council’s role in helping to resolve them is to alert the resident informally. This could be by a visit or through a letter sent by the Clerk. If the issue remains unresolved, the Council would notify the relevant authority which could take formal action to resolve it. While the Parish Council’s role is informal, it would, as a courtesy, advise that more formal action could be pursued by the relevant authority

- **Proposal to enhance the Fassage Recreation Ground and Fassage Green:**

Previous discussions have concluded that a priority for deploying the funds arising from the Covid-19 grant should be health and well-being of people living in the parish. Following the last meeting, the FCC Communities Foundation, which draws funds from the Communities Landfill Fund, has invited bids from bodies, including parish councils, for the provision of facilities within their communities. Cllrs Platten and Small have identified options for enhancing the facilities on the Recreation Ground and Fassage Green based on the recent village consultation. While the Play Area provides facilities for young children, those too old for those facilities have identified a Zip-wire as the most desirable addition to the apparatus available. Cllr Small advised that a 10.5% contribution was required from both the main bidder and a 3<sup>rd</sup> party funder. It was agreed that Cllr Crickmar would discuss the potential application with the Lode with Longmeadow Village Trust. Cllr Platten had secured some quotations for various aspects of the work – given the overall size of the application three quotations would be required for all elements. In addition to the Zip-wire, the proposal includes a pathway to complete the circumference of the Fassage Recreation Ground and to improve access to Fassage Green, and a bund to secure the boundary of Fassage Green. The overall indicative cost is around £38,000.

To ensure that the bid can be lodged by 2 December, it was proposed by Cllr Platten, seconded by Cllr Crickmar and unanimously agreed that:

- a) The Parish Council will commit £4,000 of the Covid-19 fund and, if required £1,000 provided within the 2020-21 budget for maintenance of Fassage Green as its contribution to the bid;
- b) Cllr Crickmar will approach the Lode with Longmeadow Village Trust to ask for their support for a match funding contribution of £4,000 towards the project
- c) The final application can be signed off by Cllrs Stevens, Small and Platten to enable the application deadline of 2 December to be met

- **Covid-19 Working Group:**

Cllr Crickmar advised that the GoFundMe appeal through the Whatsapp group has secured £120 towards the target of £200 to sustain the food bank. Cllr Walsh is continuing to check the supplies daily and replenish as necessary. She reports that the bank is being regularly used and the items taken indicate that it is benefitting families with children. She emphasised that the basis of the food bank is trust – the people who benefit remain anonymous and its availability is only made known to people within the village. Although its use is gradually increasing, she indicated that the cost of replenishing supplies is currently running at around £10 per week

- **Environment:**

Cllr Platten advised that the Dragon Patcher had been in action repairing potholes on the Fen Road but that serious problems remain at High Summer on Lode Fen

**113/20 Items for next meeting:**

- Cambridge Eastern Access Consultation response
- Railings surrounding the Village sign: Cllr Platten will obtain a price for their refurbishment

**114/20 Date of next meeting:**

Monday 14 December at 7.30 pm on Zoom

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm