

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 27th JUNE 2022 AT LEGBOURNE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT P Maw (Vice Chairman), M Chapman, D Harrison, A Hallifax, V Conduit - members of the Parish Council; District Councillor A Grist; County Councillor S Parkin. Guest speakers – M Booth & L Pocklington (Legbourne Community Centre), Father James (All Saints Church).
There were 9 residents present.
M Hoad (Clerk - Minutes)

1. **CHAIRMAN’S WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Vice Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting as the Chairman Cllr Stephenson had had to give his apologies for the meeting. Apologies were also received from Cllr Cole and Ms B Dhami (East Wold CE Primary School).

2. **MINUTES**

The notes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 18th October 2021 had been circulated prior to the meeting and placed on the web site. The chairman signed the record as correct and complete. (p MC & s DH)

3. **VICE CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Cllr P Maw**

Cllr Paul Maw (Vice Chairman) welcomed everyone to the meeting and was stepping in for Cllr Cat Stevenson (Chairman) who was unable to attend on the night. The Vice Chairman presented a ‘highlight’ of activities undertaken by the Parish Council since the last Annual Parish Meeting (APM) in October 2021 and explained that the Council were working to get the APM back to its normal date of April/May for 2023 being the end /beginning of the civic year.

Highlights of the past months had included:

November 2021: The Parish Council attended the Remembrance Service and laid a poppy wreath on behalf of the village, additional large poppies and two ‘Tommy Statues’ had also been purchased and would be displayed this November as a mark of remembrance. The statues would then live near the Commonwealth War Grave and the War Memorial in the churchyard during the year until being displayed at the village entrances in November.

December 2021: Speed was on the agenda and following LCC’s agreement to apply a 40mph zone coming into the village from the west end a survey was requested on the east side of the village for a similar zone in reduction in speed before entering the 30mph. Unfortunately, the east end was not deemed suitable by LCC for a 40pmh zone, however the Parish Council will continue to press this issue to try and secure a speed reduction at this end of the village.

January 2022: The level set for the Precept for the forthcoming year was voted in and the amount held at the same overall level as the previous year. With an increase in the tax base this resulted in a decrease for individual households of approximately 4.28%. The Parish Council took the stance to continue to finance ongoing projects from reserves and to pass this savings onto residents in what was expected to be an economically challenging year for most.

February 2022: The focus was on speed again and the reactive speed sign was deployed at the east end of Station Road to capture data with a view to proving speeding on entering the outskirts of the village. First feedback on the data showed 60% of motorist were breaking the speed limit entering the village and of those 85% were travelling at 39mph as an average speed.

March 2022: The planning decision for erection of two detached properties on the land between Boothby House and Ann’s Cottage on Station Road, came up for appeal and was again refused. A new dog waste bin was installed on the grassy island down Mill Lane in response to the dog fouling issue in this area. The Parish Cllrs also ran a successful Litter Pick in conjunction with the Keep Britain Tidy campaign and this was well supported with an additional seven residents helping.

April 2022: This month saw the resurfacing of the side roads around the village with mixed response to the work carried out. Unfortunately, no resurfacing was undertaken on the main road and the Parish Council continues to report defects and work with our LCC Cllr Parkin to put pressure on Highways to repair problems in the village. A reminder to residents that the quickest way to report any highways/footpath or such like defect to LCC is via FixMyStreet. The more reports from individuals the more the Parish Council can bring Highways attention to these problems.

May 2022: Our Annual Parish Council Meeting was held in May and Cllr Cat Stephenson was elected as Chairman of the Council with Cllr Paul Maw Vice Chair. Cllr Grist (ELDC) informed us of the new Community Partnership Group being created to consult on the Theddlethorpe nuclear waste project. This group would provide residents with a greater opportunity to discuss the proposals and hear more about the pros and cons of the project. The Parish Council will stay very much involved with this topic on behalf of the local community.

June 2022: The Parish Council were pleased to support Legbourne Community Centre as volunteers and with a grant towards the Queen's Jubilee Event run on the 5th June for the village. This month the Parish Council also looked to identify possible sites of historic interest within the village that could be marked with plaques. This will be an ongoing project across the year. In addition, Legbourne Parish Council have agreed a joint project with Little Cawthorpe Parish Council with a view to clearing the silt build up along the pathway of the wet road. It is hoped works will begin in the Autumn.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT – Mrs M Hoad, Clerk

This Financial Report covers the accounting period from the 1st April 2021 to the 31st March 2022, the accounts of which have now been audited. During the last financial year, the Council continued to work to the budget set by my predecessor and began to move ahead with some of the earmarked projects that had been shelved due to the Covid restrictions.

At the end of the financial year 2021/22 the Council had an overall spend of £3195.51 against cash received of £5073.20 (precept and a very small amount of interest). The precept being the main source of income for the Parish Council had been retained at the same rate per band D property as the year beforehand, with the view that reserves would be used to finance projects and maintenance work. Year end balances totalled £12,714 to carry forward, this included earmarked reserves for possible election costs (£2100) asset replacement (£5100) and future projects (£2500). There was an underspend of £354 overall for year as covid restrictions had delayed projects and planned maintenance work, plus there had been reduced hall hires during the period.

There were additional purchases under our S137 option including two new Tommy Statues for the village (£400) and the provision of a poppy wreath on remembrance Sunday on behalf of the community. Project works began to get started on refurbishment of our new noticeboard and village map board, costs of which will fall into this year's accounts.

Budget statements for 2021/22 and the new year 2022/23 are available on our parish website and will be updated with expenditure across the year.

The 2021/22 accounting statement and AGAR audited forms are also available on the website and residents can apply to view any additional financial information under the public rights notification by contacting the Clerk any time between 13th June 2022 and 22nd July 2022.

The precept for 2022/23 has been held at the same overall level of £5073 as at 2021/22 even though there has been a rise in the tax base for the village. Cllrs considered this appropriate due to the level of reserves held and in recognition of the general cost of living rises.

Our current year's proposed budget is set higher than the precept requested as we start to use reserved funds to finance some expenditures.

5. PRESENTATION OF VILLAGE MAP – John Burrell

Local designer John Burrell presented the initial draft of a segment of the proposed new village map. The map will incorporate six local illustrations taken from an original hand painted map of the village with a more modern street map which can identify house names/numbers and locations. Combining the uniqueness of the hand painted map with the practicality of a map which can be used for locating addresses for deliveries etc. The map will then be housed in a notice board similar in size to the one in the centre of the village and located close to it as a feature and reference point. The Parish Council are creating a subgroup to work with the designer on moving this project forward and if any residents have any suggestions regarding the new village map or would like to be involved in the project then please get in touch.

6. COMMUNITY UPDATES

All Saints Church – Father James

Father James looked back over the last months activities and was proud of what the church group had achieved. Coffee mornings had resumed, with a new coffee machine installed, hymns could now be sung, and the welcome Wednesday morning groups had resumed on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Links had been retained with the school and Father James expressed his gratitude to the band of people who help take care of the churchyard and the wildlife within it (some of that wildlife getting bigger with owl boxes being installed).

East Wold CE Primary School

Ms Dhami had been unable to attend the meeting but sent in a short report for residents which was read out by the Clerk. It is fantastic that life in school has returned to almost pre pandemic operations (we have retained increased hygiene measures, and still suffer with staff absences but things have moved on so much!). The children have been enjoying educational visits to Lincoln Cathedral, Lincoln Castle and the Wolds Wildlife Park. Plus our Key Stage 2 children are looking forward to going to the theatre in York to see Billionaire Boy. We are engaged with the Lincolnshire Wolds Sports Partnership and the children have attended a range of sporting competitions which they have loved - we did rather well too! East Wold is also hosting a Greek Day for Year 5 and 6 children with North Cockerington children coming across for the day too.

We are pleased that this year we are holding our traditional sports day so will be welcoming our families to this special event. As it is the time of year when pupils are moving to the next phase of their education, we are involved with a number of transition activities.

We continue to be very well supported by FEWS (PTA) members who have funded many trips and resources for our pupils. FEWS are organising the summer fayre which again will be a lovely event.

Our children thoroughly enjoyed being involved with the Jubilee celebrations in the village - creating artwork and the maypole dancing. Our FEWS team are now progressing on our 'Jubilee Wildlife Garden' which will provide a lasting legacy to the jubilee and further our ambitions to sustainability/protect the planet.

Legbourne Community Centre / Legbourne Newsletter – Mick Booth / Linda Pocklington

Mick Booth advised that the Community Centre was currently in a feel-good period having just had a successful community jubilee event the grounds and pavilion were looking good. He thanked the Parish Council for their support for the Jubilee and thanked the volunteers who had helped out at four successful car boot events raising £2680 for the Centre. The previous Covid grants obtained had enabled the committee to undertake some remedial projects and introduce some new things. The committee was now however getting back to looking at funding from its key income generators of children's parties, village lottery, car boots and Parish Council grants. Works that were being carried out included repair to tarmac worn areas of the car park, which would require the car park to be closed for a few days and a peripheral clear up to the grounds at the rear and side of the hall. The BMX track project had seen only slow progress but was still ongoing. Regular monthly inspections of the play area were being carried out as required by insurance and ROSPA. A refurbishment of the gents' toilets was also

planned. Mike finished by expressing how good the Community Centre and grounds were looking and that had been reconfirmed by the car booters who had expressed their delight at the facilities provided.

Linda advised the meeting that the village newsletter was a free magazine distributed to 360 households monthly. There were 10 copies per year with July and December being double editions. The newsletter was also provided electronically via email and a copy linked to the Parish Council website. The magazine is edited by Michelle Oats and additional donations to the newsletter were always welcome.

7. PROVISION OF HISTORIC PLAQUES IN LEGBOURNE – Cllr Chapman

Cllr Chapman outlined the Parish Council's planned project to introduce plaques at certain sites in Legbourne which could be of historic interest. Residents were asked for their thoughts on the possible locations. It was noted that some sites of historic interest were privately owned and therefore any plaque to inform visitors about the site would obviously have to have the owner's permission before being considered.

8. LOCAL POLICING REPORT – Cllr Maw

Cllr Maw presented a table of the neighbourhood policing teams from the Lincs police website. ELDC overall has a low crime rate and bucks the national trend for rural areas. Opinions for this low crime rate have been put down to smaller communities where people know each other and the demographics of reality older and higher academic residents. Or it could be in Legbourne we are all just good eggs, whichever we obviously benefit from this. Overall, in the ELDC area there are between 70-80 crimes reported each month, but in Legbourne's case there have been 6 since November 2021. According to the police UK website these breakdown as 1 criminal damage/arson, 2 anti-social behaviour, 1 public order, 1 burglary and 1 theft. Each quarter the neighbourhood policing team focus on certain areas of local crime and currently these are driving related crimes (in particular the fatal 4), ASB – underage drinking and rural theft such as farm equipment and metal theft. The quarterly police newsletter (NPT) is linked to the parish web site and for the latest crime stats and policing priorities please visit the Lincs Police website or link onto to the social network 'Nextdoor'

@ <https://www.lincs.police.uk/area/your-area/lincolnshire/east-lindsey/louth-rural/about-us/>

9. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR – Cllr A Grist COUNTY COUNCILLOR - Cllr S Parkin

District Council (ELDC)

Cllr Grist introduced himself and explained the ELDC had been busy over the past year updating their strategies on several key policies including that of homelessness, housing and the Local Plan which were under review. Significant chunks of money were coming through under the levelling up agenda. These included the coastal town funds for Skegness and Mablethorpe, assigned to the Sutton-on-Sea colonnade replacement and Mablethorpe College. Bids had also received support for Alford and Spilsby towards the Manor House refurbishment and market town renovation. Local government as a whole in Lincolnshire is looking at reorganisation, finding smarter ways of working and removing some tiers of government. The debates were still ongoing with the County Council. The Horncastle Hub has been created in conjunction with Boston College and some LCC functions and Teddar Hall is being sold off. Discussions are ongoing with the nuclear industry regarding the site at Theddlethorpe although these are in the early stages of what could be a 10year consultation process. One other possible option for the site is that of carbon capture and this is also being explored.

ELDC are undertaking their biggest changes to domestic waste collection, rolling out this coming September/October. This will include doorstep collection of glass in the current grey re-cycling bin and a new purple bin for the clean paper and card. Households will receive a leaflet drop regarding the changes prior to the new bins being dispatched. Lastly ELDC are introducing a community lottery scheme where local not for profit group can register to benefit from the funds raised. This is in conjunction with the community grant scheme available across the district for local groups with funds of up to £1000 available.

County Council (LCC)

Cllr Parkin advised she had been concentrating on highways issues in the Legbourne area over the last months. She has been pursuing a staggered speed limit reduction on the east entry into the village like that already in place

on the west side. Unfortunately, this has not met LCC's criteria for a traffic restriction order, but she will keep pursuing this requirement. There have been three new area highways managers in the last two years which hasn't helped with continuity of dealing with issues raised, but Cllr Parkin will keep the pressure on LCC Highways especially following the disgraceful road resurfacing issues experienced. Regarding the Beck that is a legal vehicle right of way which can not be removed and trying to limit access or speed of vehicle through it has proved difficult.

At the last APM Cllr Parkin had asked for feedback from residents regarding the acute services review. She thanked those residents that got involved with the consultation which made a difference. Centralisation of services had now been undertaken at key hospitals which was aimed at providing better trained and specialist support for key care. Louth hospital will retain its orthopaedic surgery and rehabilitation care. It would also act as a new community diagnostics centre which would allow for self-referral to diagnostic centre tests. This was good on the health front for the community locally but also on the economic one. Public health and awareness / prevention such as health living programs were being handed down to communities and funded locally. Adult social care however remained a funding problem especially support for rehabilitation in the community following a hospital stay. Cllr Parking asked if any residents were experiencing problems in the area to contact her. Children's services – some youth services had closed following covid however the schools in the area were performing well. The children's care system in Lincolnshire is outstanding.

As Cllr Grist has mentioned local government are looking at reorganisation, change does need to happen so that services do not drop through the gap between County and District levels. Feedback from local communities and Parishes is therefore very important.

10. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

A question was raised regarding the graffiti on the outskirts of the village and Louth. Cllr Parkin advised Layla Watkins, Highways Officer will be visiting locally, and she will bring her attention to this. Unfortunately, it is a lower priority as does not affect highways safety.

A resident asked how the situation around highways repairs could be changed at County level. Cllr Parkin advised many Councils were starved of central government money following Covid and Lincolnshire is a large county with a huge road network. In her opinion the size of the county was too large for some services to be managed centrally at LCC and hopefully the re-organisation of local government structure would look at this issue in Lincolnshire.

As there was no further business the Vice Chairman advised that refreshments were available, and residents were welcome to stay and informally chat with any Cllrs.

The Vice Chairman thanked everybody for attending & the discussions held and closed the meeting at 21:05 pm.

Signed Chairman

Signed Clerk

Date: