

Lydford Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 9th May 2017 at 6.30pm

Public Time

Nine members of the public attended and were welcomed by the Chair.

1. Apologies

None

2. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th May 2016.

The PC agreed that the minutes were an accurate record and they were approved.

3. Chairman's Report 2016

See Appendix A. There were no comments

4. Dartmoor National Park Rangers report

Grazing animals workshop – The ranger reported on a workshop attended which included discussions on the problems associated with grazing on access land and peoples' behaviour especially those without dogs on leads during the bird breeding and lambing season. Issues were highlighted surrounding the enforcement of dogs on leads in relation to lambs and grazing cattle. A range of access officers attended from various regions and topics also included the behaviour of people around cattle.

Ten Tors – no major incidents, well organised and supported by emergency services and the DNPA. A total of 2900 people took part.

Voluntary wardens – There are now 4 voluntary warden including P Brookes from Lydford. Their work includes public rights of way maintenance. Devolved responsibility requested by the core group to organise themselves to do repair work and maintenance has been agreed.

Forest school – annual appraisal has been carried out and as a result visits to primary schools will increase to encourage getting involved. The Ranger is working with federated schools governors to develop the most effective approach.

Head Ranger – there is no such designation now. The main contact for commons, military and erosion issues is being decided currently. Decisions on the structure of the ranger group is under discussion – it will possibly be a sector based group.

PR work – There are plans to attend shows in 2017.

Lydford – There are 3 accompanied cycle rides planned: Ranger Ralph, Junior Rangers and a staff training day. These will start at the cycle path in Lydford

Two moors walking festival – two guided walks planned. Lyd Head to Lydford Gorge

Oct/Nov – Lydford Castle Event

Winter Fair – planned for the end of the year

Questions for the ranger

Litch way walk – June 4th planned for 2017 and led by Paul Brookes was highlighted and noted by the ranger.

Forest schools – home educated children – can they be included? The ranger noted that this idea will be considered.

DNPA – carpark charging? The ranger responded that the DNPA is currently going through a consultation process to decide. Comments from floor suggested that if charges are levied then cars will be parked anywhere and may block access and cause more problems. There was a discussion on whether or not people will expect to pay.

5. Questions from the floor

There were no questions from the floor.

The meeting closed at 18.57 pm

Signed

Date

Appendix A

Lydford Parish Council Annual Report 2017
9th May 2017

Lydford Parish Council continues to go about its business on the second Tuesday of each month, for eleven months of the year (no meeting in August). We have a few stalwart parishioners who often attend these meetings but even so, public attendance is generally low. Contentious issues, often involving planning applications, usually draw a larger audience. We can only assume that, by and large, Lydford residents are happy with the way the Parish Council operates.

Our precept this year was retained at the same amount as previously (£6,300) and grants have been made to Lydford School, St. Petrocs and the MUGA funds, with future commitments to support the football club and the proposed skateboard park.

This year saw the installation of the village defibrillator and the roll out of some training on its use. Further training can be made available if there is sufficient interest.

The Vehicle Activated Sign was finally erected on the A386 Vale Down. This has been a long and rather complicated process and we have still to identify a site for the second sign which is acceptable to both Highways and landowners.

An application for Town and Parish funding towards the possible development of a Night Landing site for Devon Air Ambulance was successful and parishioners will be consulted as the project progresses.

We continue to report problems around the village to the appropriate county and borough councils eg. potholes. Sometimes these are resolved promptly, sometimes there is a long delay, and sometimes, nothing happens due to the oft quoted 'lack of funds'.

A brief report on each Parish Council meeting is included in the Parish magazine and full minutes can be found on the website or notice board.

The Parish Council would like to record thanks to Mr. G Browne and Mr. G Leigh - Tyler for the repair of Home Guard benches this year. We also wish to take the opportunity to thank all those who continue to run village events and organisations and in doing so enrich the experience of being a Lydfordian (or Lydforder, or Lydfordee !).

Lesley Fowler
Chairperson 2016 - 17