



Minutes: Ordinary Meeting of Leysdown Parish Council
Tuesday 28th January 2025 at Leysdown Village Hall at 7pm

Present: Cllr Moore, Cllr Noe, Cllr Partis, Cllr Bowman, Cllr Switters, Cllr Munns, RFO/Proper Officer Mrs S Poole

Members of the Public: 21 parishioners and PC Kinrade

LOSPC24/25/151 Apologies:

No apologies received.

LOSPC24/25/152 For Members to make or receive declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests:

None disclosed.

LOSPC24/25/153 Approval and Adoption of Minutes:

The minutes from 19th June 2024, 10th July 2024 and 14th August 2024 were provided at the meeting; each were approved by Cllr Partis and seconded by Cllr Moore. All agreed. **Resolved: Accepted.**

LOSPC24/25/154 Matters Arising; Briefing on Council:

Cllr Noe gave a brief update on the recent progress of Leysdown Parish Council. There were some attempts to get an election going, but by December 2024 there was only one active Parish Councillor left. Cllr Noe has been liaising with Swale Borough Council to ensure that the Parish Council can be quorate and to ensure that three new Parish Councillors can be co-opted.

LOSCPC25/155 Vacancies, co-opting (3)

The meeting heard from Kimberley Bowman, Louise Switters and Sharon Munns, who had applied to be co-opted as Parish Councillors.

Cllr Partis proposed that the three parishioners were co-opted onto the Parish Council. Cllr Noe seconded. All agreed. **Resolved: Accepted.** The Councillors were then welcomed onto the Parish Council and joined the other Parish Councillors at the table.

- LOSPC24/25/156 Vacancies to advertise:**
There is one definite Parish Councillor co-option vacancy to advertise. There has been no further communication from Cllr Brennan and in three weeks' time, it will be six months since the last communication was received. This would mean that there would be two co-option vacancies for Parish Councillors available for advertisement.
- LOSPC24/25/157 Briefing on Devolution:**
Cllr Noe provided an update on the current situation. KCC are to hold elections in Spring 2025, but these cannot be confirmed until the issue of potential devolution of KCC has been decided.
- LOSPC24/25/158 Bandstand:**
Hiring of contractor to block off bandstand: The safety issues surrounding the bandstand were discussed. It is unclear to the Parish Council whether any recent works have been completed to ensure that the bandstand is safe for public use. This means that the Parish Council are liable for any injuries caused relating to the bandstand.
Cllr Noe proposed that a contractor be hired to install temporary safety fencing, and that another company is sourced to provide a construction survey of the issues that need rectifying. Cllr Partis seconded. All agreed. **Resolved.**
- LOSPC24/25/159 Consultation on Shingle Bank, Shellness Road and Barton's Point:**
Cllr Moore asked for opinions from members of public in attendance as to their views on Shellness Road, primarily. The members of public in attendance were split, with approximately half of attendees suggesting that overnight charges should be implemented, and half of attendees suggesting that overnight parking should not be allowed at all. The members of public were unanimous in their views that any parking on Shellness Road is dangerous as the road is deemed to be unsafe to park alongside. Cllr Noe is to feed this back to Swale Borough Council.
- LOSPC24/25/160 Police Report from PC Kinrade:**
PC Kinrade provided an update on reported crime issues within the parish throughout December 2024. Members of the public were invited to ask PC Kinrade any questions. PC Kinrade reconfirmed the most appropriate ways to report crimes, and it was suggested that he attend a 'drop-in surgery' at the Village Hall in the coming months.

LOSPC24/25/161 Planning Appeal:
22/505752/FULL Vanity Farm Camp Jan22. Cllr Noe explained that the appeal had expired and that it is now with Swale Borough Council Planning Committee for decision.

LOSPC24/25/162 Public Session (15 minutes):
A member of public asked if previous Parish Councillors would still be drawing a Parish Councillor allowance. It was confirmed that the previous Councillors are not able to draw any allowance.

A member of public asked that the Parish Council ensure that they are communicating to the public via a variety of difference means, i.e. posters on the noticeboards, details on the website and on social media.

A member of public asked that Christmas Lights be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

LOSPC24/25/163 Finance:
a) **Cleanscape:** 3 payments of £490 per month = £1470
b) **Pritchard:** 7th October, Professional Services for payroll = £72
These items were adjourned until the next meeting, as the Parish Council are awaiting bank signatories to be changed.

LOSPC24/25/164 Website and Email to become GDPR compliant:
£100 for .gov.uk. Cllr Noe noted that to become compliant, the website and email addresses need to be .gov.uk compliant. Cllr Partis proposed. Cllr Munns seconded. All agreed. **Resolved: Accepted.**

Payment of £199 to Aubergine for ongoing website support and training. Cllr Partis proposed. Cllr Switters seconded. All agreed. **Resolved: Accepted.**

Payment of £50 per year to CloudNext for .gov.uk email addresses and up to 20 inboxes. Cllr Switters proposed. Cllr Partis seconded. All agreed. **Resolved: Accepted.**

LOSPC24/25/165 Precept 2025 / Budget 2025-2026:
The draft budget was circulated to Councillors by Mrs S Poole. An Extraordinary Meeting will be called for the budget and precept to be agreed.

A Member of Public enquired the amount that was in the Parish Council bank account. Mrs S Poole looked at the bank statements

and confirmed that as of 24th December 2024, there was £44,281.34 in the bank account.

LOSPC24/25/166 Any Other Business:

Cllr Partis requested that he be refunded for the three wreaths that he purchased on behalf of the Parish Council for Remembrance Day 2024. Mrs Poole asked for a copy of the receipt.

LOSPC24/25/167 Second Public Session:

A member of public noted that Leysdown village needs to be tidied up and made to be more welcoming to visitors. Cllr Switters noted that she would like to organise litter picks to help with this.

A member of public queried whether Seashells Children's Centre fund the Leysdown Family Hub. Cllr Moore confirmed this was not the case.

LOSPC24/25/168 Date of Next Meeting:

This will be confirmed and advertised within the Parish.

LOSPC24/25/169 Closed Session:

Hiring of a Clerk:

Mrs E O'Neill was interviewed in December 2024 by Cllr Moore and Cllr Noe. Cllr Noe proposed and Cllr Moore seconded. All agreed. **Resolved: Accepted.**

Hiring of a Responsible Financial Officer, Mrs S Poole. Cllr Noe proposed and Cllr Moore seconded. All agreed. **Resolved: Accepted.**

LOSPC24/25/170 Close of Meeting: 21.25pm

Signed: *Paper copy signed by Cllr Moore on 25th February 2025*