

# Lawford Parish Council



## Minutes of the Public Realm Committee Meeting held virtually via Zoom on Monday 6 April 2021 at 7.00pm.

Members of the public were welcome to attend. Requests for the link and password to join the meeting to have been received by 11am on the day of the meeting to [clerk@lawfordpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@lawfordpc.org.uk)

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Peachey

### MINUTES

#### 1. Present:

Councillors C Guglielmi (Host) (*Left meeting at 19.56 passing hosting to the Clerk*) Woods (Chair), Adcock-Jones, Pretty, Thurlow, Barrett and Newman-Wright

Clerk: Mrs Peachey (Co-host)

#### Apologies for Absence:

None

#### Members of the public:

None

#### 2. Minutes:

Minutes of the **Public Realm** meeting held **Monday 1 February 2021** were approved

**Proposed:** Cllr Pretty **Seconded:** Cllr Adcock-Jones **Agreed**  
(Clerk will deliver minutes to Chairman for signing)

#### 3. Action Points from the meetings held on 1 February 2021:

It was agreed Cllr Guglielmi would informally contact Steven Rose to discuss a course of action to eliminate standing water.	Update Cllr C Guglielmi
SUDS Maintenance – It was agreed the outcome of Cllr C Guglielmi’s conversation with Steven Rose be conveyed to council before entering into a maintenance contract and to place on the next Public Realm agenda.	Completed
Clerk was asked to enquire of solicitors regarding delay in completion of the Riverview Purchase.	Completed and now in Council’s ownership
Clerk to request a meeting with NEPP at Colchester Road with Cllrs C Guglielmi, Pretty & Thurlow, to discuss parking in and around Colchester Road, Cotman Avenue and Hungerdown Lane.	Completed and meeting has taken place.

#### 4. Declarations of interest:

Cllr Pretty – Frankenberg Society

#### 5. Frankenberg Partnership Association:

a) Cllr Pretty advised the society is going ahead with plans for an October visit ref 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the society, but Covid regulation in both the UK and Germany may affect plans.

#### 6. Council Meetings:

a) Having been advised the Government do not intend to extend remote meeting powers. NALC, EALC & SLCC have all raised objections and written to MP’s/government. Virtual meetings would end on May 7<sup>th</sup> before many Covid restrictions are lifted. Councils feeling is Councillors and Clerk’s

health should not be put at risk and believe face to face meetings should not be taking place until after June 21<sup>st</sup>. Clerk has enquired and other larger halls are not available on arranged meeting dates. The hall currently used only provides for six people when socially distanced. It was proposed the Annual meeting take place via Zoom before the Full Council Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021, that a Parish Meeting would not be called for 2021 and meetings be cancelled until July when it is expected Covid rules will be lifted. The Clerk continues to have delegated authority and together with the Chair and Vice Chair will make decisions, involving Councillors as necessary.

**Proposed:** Cllr Adcock Jones **Seconded:** Cllr Woods **Agreed**  
**Action Clerk**

#### 7. School Lane:

- a) Emails received requesting continued access for a fitness class being held on Mondays at the 'Lawford Field' (Assume this to be School Lane) No permission has been previously sought through the Clerk. Councillors advised a class had relocated to Riverview in addition to the one being held at School Lane. It is not known if classes are being run as a business and it has also been noted there are far more than 6 people in some classes and suggest this goes against Covid rules. Neither have sought permission and are in contempt of the Byelaws. It was agreed the Clerk will contact and advise classes must stop until they have applied to council for permission and council have approved their applications.
- b) Tennis Court fencing has been removed (Invoice received).
- c) A request was received from a young resident to install a skate park in place of the Tennis Courts. Although councillors thought this to be a good idea, it was felt School Lane was not a suitable site, being surrounded by housing. It would create a great deal of noise and could be a magnet for undesirable behaviour. It would likely stop the use of the under 7's play area given the close proximity to the old Tennis Courts. Cllr C Guglielmi mentioned the difficulty experienced at Mistley and the vandalism, which cost council a vast amount of money to rectify. Cllr Barrett commented that although worth investigating, there is a culture attached to Skate Parks of noise and mess and therefore would need to be on a suitable site. Cllr C Guglielmi suggested engaging with Tendring/Mistley to discuss the possibility and where a Skate Park could go in the area. One suggestion being in the vicinity of the Industrial Area on the coming development in Mistley that abuts Lawford. Cllr Adcock Jones agreed with Cllr Barrett and suggested rather than limiting the area at School Lane to one use, a better idea would be a multi-function facility. Cllr Thurlow raised the condition of the surface of the old tennis courts and suggested it be put back to grass.  
It was proposed *this be taken to Full Council to discuss returning the area to grass.* **Action Clerk**  
*Cllr Woods asked the Clerk to write thanking the young resident for her suggestion.* **Action Clerk**
- d) There were no other actions raised.

#### 8. Summers Park:

- a) Update ref standing water and action council wish to undertake – there has been no substantial rain of late.
- b) SUDS Maintenance – it was suggested the Clerk obtain a quote from Landscape Services to strim the Suds twice a year whilst cutting the grass. **Action Clerk**  
It was raised that concrete had broken off and was in the ditch – Cllr C Guglielmi will check and advise council. **Action Cllr C Guglielmi**
- c) There were no other actions raised.

#### 9. Lawford Green:

- a) Cllr Thurlow updated the meeting ref water retention advising that whilst it had not rained for a couple of days standing water had gone but it was still very muddy, and a boot left an imprint. He also advised work had started on the Pre School building.
- b) There were no other actions raised.

#### 10. Projects:

- a) Summers Park footpaths – it was agreed the path between Owls Flight Dell/Summers Park be installed and that D A Cant be instructed, installing a 2.5metre wide 'Y' shaped path at a cost

£5,696.00 + vat. Grant(s) would be sought to complete paths 2,3 and 4 at Summers Park, the surface of Riverview Car Park together with fencing. Cllr Thurlow is investigating Grant availability.

**Proposed:** Cllr Thurlow **Seconded:** Cllr Adcock-Jones **Agreed**  
**Action Clerk**

- b) Riverview projects – see item 10 b. John Glover has carried out the tree work on Riverview. Note: TDC have long promised work to carry out on one tree at Riverview.
- c) No other Projects were raised/discussed

**11. Highways Matters:**

- a) Parking and other matters relating to Lawford’s Highways raised:
  - i. Poggles Wood – fenced off tree stump remains and encroaches on the pavement. Now marked up for work.
  - ii. The VAS sign on Wignall Street hasn’t worked for some months
  - iii. Cllr C Guglielmi has chased work needed under the Railway BridgeCllr Thurlow will email a list of works needing attention to the Clerk for reporting if possible, or inclusion on Full Council Agenda.

**Action Cllr Thurlow**

**12. For note:** Cllr Newman - Wright advised he has agreed to be TDALC’s secretary

The meeting ended at 20.10pm

The next **Public Realm Meeting** is scheduled for **Monday 2 August 2021**.

Signature: (Chairman) .....Date: .....