



# Lydford on Fosse Parish Council Meeting

Meeting of the above named Parish Council held on  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 1900 hrs in the Parish Hall, West Lydford**

Present: Parish Cllrs Frampton (Chair), Fielding, Purcell, Seehra, Stankiewicz, and Steel  
 Also the Clerk x 9 members of the public

**OUR PARISH WEBSITE: [lydfordonfosse.co.uk](http://lydfordonfosse.co.uk)**

## DECEMBER 2024 MINUTES

Item No.	Subject	Lead
	The Chairman opened the meeting. He advised that the minutes would be recorded, and any objections should be raised with the Clerk.	
168/24	<b>Public participation session</b> No comments made.	
<b>Council Session</b>		
169/24	<b>To receive apologies for absence</b> No apologies.	Chair
170/24	<b>Declaration of Members Interest</b> None	Chair
171/24	<b>Report from County Councillors</b> As Cllr Sully's arrival coincided at this time, she was present to discuss some of the points in her monthly report. Cllr Sully spoke about Storm Darragh and the destruction it had caused seeing crews working round the clock. The devolution proposal between Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire is attracting media attention, however it was explained that it could unlock additional funding opportunities. Cllr Sully explained that now the winter fuel allowance has been stopped, there is a Household Support Fund in place to help with energy bills this winter. This and lots of further details in Cllr Sully's report can be found on the Parish website. The Chair took this opportunity to discuss a letter that was sent to Cllr Sully outlining the parish's frustration in some recent matters with SC. Cllr Sully fully supported this letter detailing our position in such an articulate and reasonable way. Some responses from SC have been received, and will be discussed at a later meeting when all responses have been received.	Cllr Sully
172/24	<b>To approve and sign the Minutes or previous meetings</b> Unanimously agreed, and signed by the Chair.	Chair
173/24	<b>Matters arising from previous minutes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cllr Sully letter – this had already been dealt with earlier.</li> <li>● NWA memorial walk - will be dealt with at the March 2025 meeting.</li> </ul> <b>The following items will be addressed further in the Agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Playground (179/24/2)</li> <li>● NWA Memorial Walk (176/24/2)</li> <li>● Highways (177/24)</li> <li>● VE Day update (180/24/3)</li> <li>● Bleed Kits (181/24/4)</li> <li>● Plane trees (175/24/1)</li> <li>● Budget for next year (183/24)</li> <li>● Gov.uk domain (182/24/5)</li> </ul>	Cllr Seehra Cllr Fielding Cllr Steel  Cllr Seehra Chair Chair Chair Chair

- Anti-virus software (183/24)

Clerk

## The Built Environment

174/24	<p><b>Planning (See appendix 2)</b>  <b>New Planning applications this month (1)</b>  <b>2024/2067/HSE</b> (Case Officer: Jane Thomas)  Proposed Two-Storey side extension and external alterations to existing detached building. Grove Cottage Church Lane East Lydford  The chair briefly outlined the application, and the applicants present then went on to give more detail. Other members of the public offered their points of view. The chair asked the council to give their comments and after full discussion it was narrowly voted to recommend approval (3 For, 2 Against, 1 Abstention). The principal concerns, which were shared by the majority of those members of the public who attended the meeting were the visual impact of the high, flat roof and non-traditional materials used in the design which it was felt did not reflect the agricultural architecture of the local area, and the potential impact on access for users of the adjacent public right of way, particularly large agricultural machinery.</p> <p><b>Somerset Local Plan.</b> Under planning, the chair then continued to talk about the development of the Somerset Local Plan 2028, and the council's initial response to the survey. The Housing Secretary recently announced the Government's intention to overhaul local planning laws and to make it easier to bypass local authorities where proposals comply with the Local Plan. SC has also started its call for large housing and business sites.</p> <p><b>Applications decided since previous agenda (1)</b>  <b>Approved: 2024/1777/HSE</b> (Case Officer: Connor Chapman)  Erection of new detached garage. Kingham, High Street, West Lydford</p> <p><b>Applications awaiting decision (4)</b>  <b>Enforcements (1) and Appeals (1)</b></p>	All
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## Natural Environment

175/24/1	<p><b>Plane trees</b>  The plane trees have been pollarded, with mostly positive feedback, with a great improvement in the amount of light now received by adjacent properties. It has been advised that it will be around 7 years before further work may be required.</p>	Chair
176/24/2	<p><b>Nigel Woolcombe-Adams Memorial Walk</b>  It was agreed to defer this until the March 2025 meeting.</p>	Cllr Fielding

## Highways & Transportation

177/24	<p><b>Highways</b>  Cllr Steel had contacted another company regarding the jetting of drains and a pricing guide has been received. Keir has also come forward with their basic costings. Cllr Steel hopes to come back at the next meeting with fuller details. Cllr Steel has also contacted the Environmental Agency again regarding the tree and debris that has accumulated in the river by the church bridge. The Speedwatch representatives presented the speeding data for the last quarter. It was also reported that the acquired SID hadn't come with a security key. This minor spend was agreed by the council. In the next month or so, after meeting with Cllr Steel, it is hoped to come to the council with recommendations regarding speed enforcement measures. It was also reported that a recent traffic speeding exercise in South Gloucestershire had shown that the biggest deterrent to speeding traffic was the visible presence of a speedwatch team.</p>	Cllr Steel
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## Community Engagement & Support

178/24/1	<p><b>Neighbourhood Watch</b>  The representative wanted people to be aware of reports about unregistered people</p>	NHW Rep
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179/24/2	going around and knocking on doors, trying to sell items using aggressive techniques. They are sometimes known as the 'Nottingham Knockers'. Details about this are on the website. <b>Playground</b> The Chair has spoken to the Sports Club chairman, who confirmed that they will be purchasing safety bark and providing chain link fencing to improve the playground.	Chair
180/24/3	Longer term improvements will require more planning and the build-up of funds. <b>Ve Day Commemorations</b> Cllr Seehra reported that everything was going to plan and that a more detailed report would be available at the next meeting.	Cllr Seehra
181/24/4	<b>Bleed kits</b> The Chair still needs to engage with possible site hosts, and is hoping to report back at the next meeting.	Chair
182/24/5	<b>Parish Council GOV.UK Domain</b> Cllr Seehra reported attending a meeting regarding the opportunity to change the PC to the .GOV.UK. domain, and recommended that other councillors sit in on a session too. The advantages of a Gov.uk domain are more credibility, more easily recognisable email & website addresses, and a commitment to greater security. It is proposed to come back at the next meeting with detailed information and costings.	Cllr Seehra
<b>Governance &amp; Finance</b>		
183/24	<b>Financial Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Payments due</b> (See appendix 1) These were duly checked and signed.</li> <li>• <b>To agree accounts</b> for November '24. These were duly checked and signed.</li> <li>• <b>Anti-virus software</b> - The clerk advised that the renewal of the antivirus software had not been actioned at the beginning of the year. After discussion, it was agreed to purchase the first year with Norton antivirus software.</li> <li>• <b>Budget for next year</b> – The chair presented the latest reconciliation figures. A few requests for donations had been made, and after discussion, it was unanimously agreed to donate £60 to Citizens Advice. The budget figures presented last month were discussed fully. Due to continuing uncertainty over service devolution costs, after discussion the Chair proposed keeping the Precept for the coming year at £14,000 and this was unanimously decided.</li> </ul>	Clerk Chair Clerk  Chair
184/24	<b>Correspondence Received</b> The News Snippets from SC are on the website and these include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School admissions consultation</li> <li>• Growth Board is looking to consult with businesses on Somerset's economy</li> <li>• Recycling Christmas trees and wrapping paper</li> <li>• Ordering replacement recycling containers</li> </ul> <b>Correspondence has been received from:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Berry regarding the war memorial and dog fouling will be discussed at the next meeting.</li> <li>• NALC regarding the consultation on allowing hybrid meetings and proxy voting at Town and Parish Council meetings. The Chair offered to draft a response and to circulate this to councillors for amendment ahead of submission.</li> <li>• The requirements of 'Martyn's Law', which will stipulate anti-terrorist obligations at public events, will be monitored to see if &amp; how they could affect the Lydfords.</li> </ul>	All
185/24	<b>Agenda items for next meeting</b> Highways; War memorial; Dog Fouling; Bleed kits; Local Plan; Gov.uk domain; VE Day update;	All
186/24	<b>The date for the next meeting was confirmed as 8<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm</b>	All

Meeting finished at 21.10 hrs  
Minutes prepared by Ann Parkhouse, Parish Clerk.

## Appendix...

### 1) Payments Due

Name of Payee	Description of Payment	Amount
The following payments are due:		
A Parkhouse	Clerk's Salary for October '24	£279.40
A F Harris	Pollarding of Plane trees	£1200.00

### 2) Planning

#### **New Planning Applications: (1)**

#### **Applications Decided: (1)**

#### **Ongoing Planning Applications: (4)**

##### **2024/0414/FUL** (Case Officer: Kelly Pritchard)

Extension to Agricultural Buildings for the Housing and Quarantine of Cattle.  
Location: Land At 356549 133068 Westwood Drove West Lydford Somerton

##### **2020/1602/OTS** (Case Officer Kelly Pritchard)

Outline Planning Permission for the erection of one dwelling with details of access.  
Location: Land adjacent to Millway House, Fosse Way, Lydford On Fosse.

##### **2023/0264/FUL** (Case Officer Kelly Pritchard)

Proposed concrete block for lodge.  
New Oaks Farm, Castle Cary Road, West Lydford Church Lane.

##### **2020/0851/OTS**

Application for Outline Planning Permission with some matters reserved for the construction of five dwellings and associated vehicular access with details of access & layout  
Location: Church Lane, East Lydford, TA11 7HD.

#### **Enforcements (1)**

ENF/2024/0223

Ash View Farm Fosse Way Lydford On Fosse

#### **Appeal Proposal (1)**

2024/0830/PAA – following Somerset Council's rejection of planning application ENF/2024/0066 - Ash View Farm Fosse Way West Lydford: change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling House (Class C3) and for associated operational development.