

LAPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 11th December 2023 held at 7:30pm in Lapworth Village Hall

Present: Cllr Henderson (Chairman), Cllr Beaver, Cllr Chatwin, Cllr Cole, Cllr Hall, Cllr Manley and the Clerk (H du Bois).

Others present: Cllr Cooke (WCC), Cllr Aizlewood (WDC), Cllr Armstrong (WDC and Cllr Hales (WDC)

Public: One

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence submitted to the Clerk

The Council had received apologies from Cllr Rees which were accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hall declared an interest for item 9.4

3. Dispensations

No requests received.

4. Minutes: to approve and sign minutes of the Ordinary meeting of 13th November 2023

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 13th November 2023, the minutes were signed without amendment.

5. Matters arising from previous meeting that are not included on this agenda

Item 5: Cllr Cole has provided the Clerk with a written explanation as to why copies of the water mains and sewage maps would be of benefit to the Council.

ACTION: the Clerk to ask WDC if they can provide copies of the relevant maps.

Item 8.2: the Footpath wardens have received their identity badges from WDC.

Item 8.3: the Clerk confirmed that under the Town & Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 2007, Parish Council noticeboards are considered to be Class 1 advertisements, for which deemed consent is granted.

Item 8.5.1: ARB Pro Tree Services has been instructed; they are due to cut back the vegetation at the play areas in early January 2024

Item 8.5.2: Terra Firma Arboriculture has been instructed; the Clerk will meet with their representative at the village hall on 15.12.23 to walk through the area to be included in the tree survey.

Cllr Cole presented the Clerk with the £1.00 annual peppercorn rent from the Lapworth Village Hall Committee.

ACTION: the Clerk to pay the £1.00 into the Current Account.

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS:

- **Cllr Henderson** to contact Barclays Bank to request the removal of all ex-Council members from the Banking Mandate.
- **In progress: The Clerk** to provide more information on the Parish Online website service.

6. Public Participation

A member of the public raised the following issues:

- The standing floodwater often present on the Old Warwick Road near Packwood Lane after heavy rain creates a dangerous situation for drivers, particularly at night. Cllrs Hall, Cole and Henderson confirmed that they had raised the current floodwater issue with Michael Newham (WCC Highways Area Surveyor – Kenilworth and Warwick West).
- In May 2023, WCC Highways visited Lapworth and marked over 60 potholes which have still not yet been repaired. These are dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Questions were asked about the progress of planning application W/23/1175:
 - The Clerk confirmed that the Council has not yet received a copy of the traffic survey.

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- Cllr Armstrong offered to enquire why the Agreed Expiry Date for the planning application has been extended.
- Cllr Aizlewood recommended that residents report noise from barking dogs onsite to WDC whenever it is an issue.

7. Reports for Information

7.1. Warwickshire County Council

Cllr Cooke had provided a report for December 2023, see Appendix A.

Cllr Cooke highlighted that cases of measles have been confirmed in the region and residents are urged to check that they and all family members are up to date with their MMR vaccine.

7.2. Warwick District Council

Cllr Armstrong had provided a report for December 2023, see Appendix A.

Cllr Armstrong highlighted the Glyphosate weedkiller reduction trial, Cllr Cole asked if weedkiller will still be used on those areas known to contain weeds that are harmful to animals such as horses. Cllr Armstrong agreed to enquire.

Cllr Armstrong mentioned that the District Council is looking for land on which to plant trees. Cllr Hall suggested the verge opposite Lapworth Garage where three diseased trees were cut down last year.

ACTION: the Clerk to send details of the suggested location to Cllr Armstrong.

8. Finance:

8.1. To note the 2023/24 Local Government Services Pay Agreement

It was noted that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services had reached an agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024. The new pay rate will be implemented from the Dec 2023 payroll which will include back pay for all hours worked between April – November 2023.

The salary Standing Order and pension Direct Debit will be amended for the January 2024 payroll.

8.2. To approve the invoices for payment

The clerk presented the latest Financial Report, see Appendix B. The report showed a Current Account balance of £5,968.11 on 4th December 2023 and an expected balance of £5,198.26 once invoices have been processed.

It was **resolved** to approve the following payments:

	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	AMOUNT**
1	WALC	AGM & Conference fee	BACS	£10.00
2	HMRC	NIC/Income Tax Dec 2023 (inc backpay)	BACS	£211.29
3	H DU BOIS	Dec 2023 additional salary (inc backpay)	BACS	£358.21
4	Royal London	Pension contributions (backpay)	BACS	£55.79
5	H DU BOIS	HW allowance/expenses Dec 23	BACS	£82.06
6	Village Hall	Room hire (Nov 23)	BACS	£22.50
			Total	£739.85
To be amended from 1.1.24:				
1	H DU BOIS	Wages	SO	£800.00
2	Royal London	Pension contributions	DD	£69.76

*Statutory Power for all payments: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011

ACTION: The Clerk to submit the payments and amend the SO and DD.

8.3. To appoint the Internal Auditor for the 2023/24 AGAR

It was resolved to appoint Eleanor Choudry as the Council's Internal Auditor for the 2023/24 AGAR at an approximate cost of £340.00

ACTION: The Clerk to instruct Eleanor Choudry.

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9. Items and correspondence for consideration and decision

9.1. To note the Council's duty under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (s40) and review a draft Biodiversity statement.

It was noted that under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (S40) there is a duty on the Council to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of its policy and decision making.

The draft statement was approved and signed, see Appendix C.

ACTION: The Clerk to add the Biodiversity statement to the website.

9.2. To consider whether the hedge near the bridge on Old Warwick Road requires cutting back

It was agreed that the hedge did need cutting back. Cllr Hall offered to ask Michael Newham (WCC) when WCC Highways are scheduled to carry out the hedge cut.

Cllr Hall explained that WCC had inspected the fencing on the eastern side of the junction with Station Lane and Old Warwick Road, the feedback was that the fencing is in a poor condition and will likely be removed.

ACTIONS:

Cllr Hall to contact Michael Newham re: hedge cut schedule

9.3. To consider purchasing additional benches for the Parish

It was **agreed** to ringfence budget for up to two new benches in the 24/25 budget plan. Councillors agreed to put forward suggestions of suitable locations.

9.4. To consider purchasing a GPS handheld device for use by the Parish Footpath Wardens

The Clerk had spoken with Richard Barnard (WCC Rights of Way Officer) who explained that footpath 'route codes' were created by WCC and that each Local Authority creates their own route codes using different formats. He is of the opinion that WCC are unlikely to provide route codes to commercial map/GPS providers. The Clerk had also spoken to Garmin's Technical Advice team who were not able to confirm if route codes would be shown on their GPS devices. It was agreed that a GPS handheld device would probably not address the need identified by Bob Cousins in the November meeting and it was **resolved** not to purchase a device.

Richard Barnard had provided the Clerk with a new copy of the Definitive Map which showed the route codes more clearly; it was agreed to print A0 sized copies of the map for both Footpath Wardens, the Chairman and the Clerk at a cost of approximately £20.00.

ACTION: The Clerk to purchase the A0 copies.

9.5. To confirm meeting dates for 2024

The following meeting dates were agreed:

- Monday 8th January 2024
- Monday 12th February 2024
- Monday 11th March 2024
- Monday 8th April 2024
- Monday 13th May 2024
- Monday 10th June 2024
- Monday 8th July 2024
- Monday 12th August 2024 (Planning only)
- Monday 9th September 2024
- Monday 14th October 2024
- Monday 11th November 2024
- Monday 9th December 2024

ACTION: The Clerk to book the meeting room.

10. Policies for approval:

• Financial Reserves policy

The Financial Reserves policy had been amended to include details of the Council's recent decision to keep long-term general reserves in the Unity Instant Access savings account. The amended policy was approved.

ACTION: The Clerk to add the policy to the website.

11. Planning Matters:

11.1. Planning applications for consideration:

11.1.1. W/23/1539

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Application for a Variation of Condition 2 to Replace approved drawing(s) 2948 05 D and 2948 06 D with Proposed drawings 2948 25 and 2948 26, on application W/23/0803

Lapworth Paddocks, Rising Lane, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6HW

LPC comments: **OBJECT** with the following comments:

Lapworth Parish Council consider that the two new drawings are unclear. They do not include the updated % increase in gross floor space so the Council cannot be sure that the proposed addition is proportionate.

11.1.2. W/23/1658

Removal of Condition 6 (holiday let occupancy restriction) of planning permission ref: W/15/1870 (Change of use of stable block to a holiday let).

The Limes, Chessetts Wood Road, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6EL

LPC comments: **OBJECT** with the following comments:

Lapworth Parish Council consider that insufficient justification has been given for the change of use.

11.2. Decision Notices: to note decisions on the following planning applications

11.2.1. Ref: W/23/1185

Proposed dwelling in lieu of extant Class Q Prior Approval (ref W/22/0981) and extant stable block (ref W/10/0079)

Land to the North of, Bakers Lane, Knowle, Solihull

LPC comment: NEUTRAL

WDC Decision: GRANTED

11.2.2. Ref: W/23/1021

Adding a driveway to the front of the property including dropped kerb to enable vehicular access.

Trees, Old Warwick Road, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6LN

LPC comment: NEUTRAL

WDC Decision: GRANTED

11.2.3. Ref: W/23/1356

Proposed garage/garden store extension with link to main dwelling house.

April Cottage, 9 Chapel Lane, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6ET

LPC comment: NEUTRAL

WDC Decision: REFUSED

11.2.4. Ref: W/23/1193

Erection of two storey rear and side infill extension and single storey rear and side infill extensions with associated landscaping works.

Fir Tree Cottage, 147 Chessetts Wood Road, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6EN

LPC comment: NEUTRAL

WDC Decision: REFUSED

12. Progress Reports: To receive reports and status updates for the following:

12.1. Lapworth recreation sites

Broome Hall Lane toilets

The Clerk explained that WDC's Estates team have visited the toilet block several times over the past few months and found them to be locked each time. They have asked the Council to have them cleaned now; in future, if any evidence is found that they are being used when they should be locked then the Estates team will replace the locks again.

It was agreed to ask Cleaning Services Birmingham to go ahead with the clean (approved in meeting on 5th September 2023, item 9.2)

ACTION: The Clerk to inform Cleaning Services Birmingham.

12.2. Lapworth Train Station Adoption Group

No update.

12.3. Lapworth Village Hall

The Clerk explained that WDC's S1206 officer had confirmed that the Council's S106 Indoor Sports funds can be granted towards the costs of both the sound/speaker system and the refurbishment of the toilet facilities.

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Cllr Cole explained that the Village Hall Management Committee are meeting with contractors to draw up the relevant quotes before submitting the grant applications to the Council.

12.4. Parish Online

No update.

13. Communications, Openness and Accountability:

13.1. Nextdoor.com

Cllr Henderson confirmed that the Council has an official Nextdoor.com account. The Clerk will provide a draft Use of Social Media policy for consideration at the next meeting.

ACTION: The Clerk to produce the draft Use of Social Media policy.

13.2. Parish noticeboards: to consider the quotes received for installing the new noticeboard at the village hall.

The Council considered quotes from two contractors; it was resolved to accept the quote of £250 + VAT from Fairways Ltd. Cllr Hall kindly offered to store the new noticeboard until it can be installed.

It was agreed that the noticeboard will be Moss Green and the header will use gold lettering.

ACTION: The Clerk to place an order with Greenbarnes, and instruct Fairways Ltd.

13.3. Parish Council website

No update.

14. Correspondence and Publications received for information/consultation:

The Council had received communications from the following:

- Warwickshire County Council
- Warwickshire Association of Local Councils (WALC)
- CPRE
- The Rural Bulletin
- Warwick District Council
- Warwickshire Police

The Council had received the following additional correspondence:

1. A request from the Lapworth Charity to propose Ms McClusky as the Council's second nominated Trustee. This will be considered at the January 2024 meeting.
2. A written complaint from a member of the public regarding the removal of the fence at the village green. The Clerk confirmed that the complaint will be handled as per the terms of the Council's Complaints Procedure.

15. Reports and Questions:

None.

16. Date of next meeting:

Monday 8th January 2024 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 9:25pm.

Signed:

Cllr Henderson (Chairman)

Date:

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APPENDIX A

Lapworth & West Kenilworth Division County Council News December 2023

Warwickshire Local Resilience Forum and REACT have signed Memorandum of Understanding

This ensures WLRF will be able to call on REACT's experienced and skilled volunteers in emergencies and crises in Warwickshire.

WLRF comprises expert partner organisations, including councils and emergency services. These partners help Warwickshire residents prepare for, respond to and recover from major emergencies or incidents.

A WLRF exercise week in September helped these partners work together even more effectively to keep people safe during emergencies.

REACT is a charity which consists of volunteers undertaking disaster response work in the UK and internationally. Many REACT volunteers have served in the Armed Forces or as emergency service responders.

REACT also recently launched a Flood Response Appeal to train and equip new teams of volunteer Flood Responders.

WLRF will be able to work with REACT to support its response to emergencies, helping WLRF protect as many people as possible.

West Midlands measles cases prompt MMR vaccination call

People in the West Midlands are being urged to check that they, and all family members are up to date with their MMR vaccine.

Measles has been confirmed in the region. Since 1 October 2023, there have been 19 confirmed cases in the West Midlands, with an increasing number of likely cases.

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) West Midlands is working with local authorities and local NHS partners to make sure that anyone in the region who needs an MMR vaccination is aware that there is an increased risk of catching measles, following confirmed cases in Birmingham, Solihull and Coventry.

The individuals currently affected are all recovering, but hospital treatment was necessary for a few. Most of the measles cases we're seeing have had **no** doses of the MMR vaccine. One dose of MMR is at least 95% effective in preventing measles and the second dose gives maximum protection.

Symptoms of measles appear 7-10 days after contact with the virus and include:

- cold-like symptoms such as runny or blocked nose, sneezing and cough
- red, sore, watery eyes
- high temperature (fever), which may reach around 40 deg C.
- a non-itchy, red-brown rash usually appears 3-5 days later (sometimes starts around the ears before spreading to rest of the body), spots may be raised and join to form blotchy patches – which may be harder to see on darker skin tones

£4.6 million Business Growth Warwickshire Programme unveiled

The £4.6 million Business Growth Warwickshire Programme, developed and commissioned jointly by WCC, County's District & Borough Councils is designed to engage with over 2,000 businesses, more than 500 of which will receive intensive, bespoke support.

Business Growth Warwickshire will create over 150 jobs and safeguard over 250 while enabling more than two hundred businesses to improve their productivity. Over 180 businesses will receive a bespoke decarbonisation plan to help them to reduce their carbon footprint and save money on their energy bills.

The programme will help save over 1,200 tonnes of greenhouse gas, helping Warwickshire to become more sustainable and move towards net zero.

For all referrals to these programmes, businesses should contact the Coventry & Warwickshire Growth Hub in the first instance on 0300 060 3747 or <https://www.cwgrowthhub.co.uk>.

Take actions for a greener and more sustainable Warwickshire

As the world gathers for the crucial COP-28 summit in the United Arab Emirates, Warwickshire County Council is launching a new campaign to encourage residents to make small but tangible commitments towards a greener and more sustainable future.

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This new campaign is calling upon everyone to sign up for some climate change pledges from a carefully curated list spanning various aspects of daily life, such as: energy and home; food and waste; garden and nature; transport and travel; shopping and clothing; and social and community.

- Anyone can commit to making their pledges here: [Warwickshire's Green Pledges – Warwickshire Climate Emergency](#)
- Find out more about COP-28 here: <https://unfccc.int/cop28>
- For more information about how Warwickshire County Council is facing the challenges of the climate change emergency, visit: <https://www.warwickshireclimateemergency.org.uk/>

Final marriage ceremony after 50 years of “I do” at Pageant House

Leamington based couple Hannah and Alexander were the final couple to be married at Pageant House, at 11am on Tuesday 21 November, with the ceremony overseen by the longest-serving registrar Sue Lloyd, who joined the service in 1984. Records show that Pageant House has been in use by Warwickshire's Registration Service since 1974, with the ceremony room seeing thousands of weddings over the last five decades. The building takes its name from the Warwick Pageant of 1906, as the then mayor of Warwick loaned the house to the organisers of the pageant.

Earlier this year the Registration Service licenced and launched newly refurbished ceremony rooms at St John's House in Warwick. The Jacobean mansion is home to two beautiful ceremony rooms. Both rooms feature grand fireplaces, elegant chandeliers, large windows to let in plenty of light, and striking dark wood or warm oak panelling on the walls. To find out more about booking St. John's House as your ideal ceremony venue, visit the [Ceremonies in Warwickshire website](#).

Almost 20,000 Illegal Vapes Seized by Trading Standards

In the past 18 months, WCC Trading Standards has seized 19,600 illegal vapes from retailers. The wholesale price of an oversized illegal vape is around £5, resulting in a direct loss to sellers of almost £100,000 to date.

Illegal disposable vapes, which are often sold under the counter, are usually advertised as containing more than 600 puffs, an indication that the vapes contains more nicotine e-liquid than the 2ml limit. The 2ml limit is designed to help prevent nicotine poisoning, the results of which include nausea, vomiting, and headaches.

County Councillor Andy Crump, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety said:

“Oversized illegal vapes may contain much more nicotine than a UK standard legal vape, so it's important that we get them off the streets. Warwickshire Trading Standards will continue to both advise businesses and, where necessary, carry out enforcement exercises, both to remove illegal vapes and prevent the sale of vapes to under 18's.”

Please report the sale of illegal vapes to Warwickshire Trading Standards via the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133.

Warwick District Council Report to Parish Councils, Kenilworth Abbey and Arden Ward December 2023

1. Glyphosate weedkiller reduction trial

The District Council is looking to pilot reducing the number of weedkiller sprays in the district, as part of our plans to improve biodiversity and reduce harmful chemical use. Currently we spray twice per year as part of our street cleaning contract, including around tree bases. We are aiming to trial moving to one spray per year and not spraying around tree bases. Each ward of the district is being asked if they would like to participate in the trial, and in Abbey and Arden we are seeking the views of Parish Councils during December.

2. Podback recycling scheme

We have introduced coffee pod recycling into our normal recycling waste collections through partnership with Podback. See https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20470/recycling/1913/podback_recycling_service for

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instructions on how to use the scheme, which allows used coffee pods to be collected at the same time as other waste.

3. National Tree Week – Local tree planting events

National Tree Week took place 25 November to 3rd December. In the District tree planting events are scheduled for 3rd December in Rowington and 9th December in Hampton Magna where more than 400 trees donated by the Woodland Trust will be planted. Any people or organisations interested in further tree planting in the District are very welcome, please get in touch with one of your councillors.

Your councillors for Abbey and Arden are:

Kyn Aizlewood – Kyn.aizlewood@warwickdc.gov.uk

David Armstrong – David.armstrong@warwickdc.gov.uk

Richard Hales – Richard.hales@warwickdc.gov.uk

Please feel free to contact us with any issues.

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APPENDIX B

This report was presented by the Clerk for approval by the Council on 11th December 2023

Balance of Unity Trust Current account as of 4/12/23: £5,968.11¹
Expected general reserves balance once invoices settled: **£5,198.26**

Balance of Unity Trust Instant Access Savings account as of 4/12/23: £74,504.94²
 Balance of Barclays Business Savings account as of 4/4/23: £0.00
 Balance of Barclays Community account as of 4/4/23: £0.00

Interest received across all accounts between 1/4/23 - 30/11/23: £628.15

Credits received to the Unity Current Account since 13/11/23:

	DATE	TYPE	FROM	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
1	27/11/23	BACS	National Grid	Wayleave	£1.00
				Total	£1.00

Payments made from the Unity Current Account since 13/11/23:

	DATE	TYPE	TO	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
1	15/11/23	SO	H DU BOIS	Wages (Nov 2023)	£765.00
2	22/11/23	DD	Royal London	Pension contributions (Nov 2023)	£62.89
				Total	£827.89

Cheques to clear from the Unity Current Account since 13/11/23:

	DATE	TYPE	TO	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
1	13/11/23	CHEQ	Poppy Appeal	Remembrance donation	£30.00
				Total	£30.00

Invoices to be approved on 11/12/23:

	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	AMOUNT**
1	WALC	AGM & Conference fee	BACS	£10.00
2	HMRC	NIC/Income Tax Dec 2023 (inc backpay)	BACS	£211.29
3	H DU BOIS	Dec 2023 additional salary (inc backpay)	BACS	£358.21
4	Royal London	Pension contributions (backpay)	BACS	£55.79
5	H DU BOIS	HW allowance/expenses Dec 23	BACS	£82.06
6	Village Hall	Room hire (Nov 23)	BACS	£22.50
			Total	£739.85
To be amended from 1.1.24:				
1	H DU BOIS	Wages	SO	£800.00
2	Royal London	Pension contributions	DD	£69.76

**Statutory Power for all payments: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011

¹ £16,119.82 of long-term General Reserves now held in Unity Instant Access account

² Includes £16,119.82 of long-term General Reserves

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2023/24 Budget vs Current

		2023/24	
		Budget	Actual
EXPENDITURE			
101	Wages (Net)	£9,500.00	£6,467.73
102	Pension (employer & employee)	£900.00	£558.91
103	HMRC (employer & employee)	£200.00	£268.81
104	HW allowance & expenses	£500.00	£543.83
105	Office costs	£200.00	£27.00
106	Cllr expenses	£200.00	£0.00
107	Premiums & Subs	£850.00	£822.50
108	Room hire	£346.50	£202.50
109	Section 137 grants	£3,000.00	£230.00
110	Brome Hall Lane toilets	£1,750.00	£0.00
111	Insurance	£700.00	£671.12
112	Audit fees	£625.00	£440.00
113	Grounds Maintenance	£3,500.00	£4,825.00
114	Capital Expenditure	£0.00	£0.00
115	Miscellaneous	£500.00	£10.00
116	Playground	£1,500.00	£73.33
117	Training	£250.00	£125.00
118	CIL/S106 grants	£0.00	£1,530.00
119	Website	£1,750.00	£0.00
120	Elections	£10,000.00	£0.00
121	Defibrillators	£2,370.00	£51.00
122	Banking fees	£72.00	£36.00
123	Chairman's Allowance	£200.00	£0.00
Total exc VAT		£38,913.50	£16,882.73
-	VAT	£0.00	£1,157.40
Total inc VAT		£38,913.50	£18,040.13
200 INCOME		Budget	Current
201	Precept	£24,593.00	£24,593.00
202	Interest	£60.00	£628.15
203	Allotments	£500.00	£0.00
204	Grants	£0.00	£0.00
205	Donations	£0.00	£0.00
206	CIL	£0.00	£16,238.11
207	Vat reclaim	£1,160.00	£1,850.30
208	Miscellaneous	£2.00	£1.00
Total		£26,315.00	£43,310.56

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APPENDIX C

BIODIVERSITY STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty imposed on parish councils by Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006³, Lapworth Parish Council acknowledges that it will, in exercising its functions have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving and increasing biodiversity within the Parish.

Biodiversity is the variety of all life on Earth⁴. It includes all species of animals and plants – everything that is alive on our planet. Biodiversity is important for its own sake, and human survival depends upon it. Biodiversity is essential to sustaining the living networks, or ‘ecosystems’, that provide us all with health, wealth, food, fuel and the vital services our lives depend on. It is a core component of sustainable development, underpinning economic development and prosperity.

The Parish Council will consider sustainability, environmental impact and biodiversity of the natural habitat when making decisions and will develop and implement policies and strategies as required.

The Parish Council will, as far as is possible, conserve the biodiversity of the land it manages. It will strive to adopt beneficial practices with regarding to cutting and removal of vegetation, application of chemicals and timing of maintenance work. Special care will be taken in the specification of grounds maintenance contracts to ensure that the work, whilst reaching acceptable standards, does not harm the natural environment.

The Parish Council will, wherever possible, raise public awareness of biodiversity issues. It will, where feasible, involve the community in biodiversity projects on its land and will communicate information and raise awareness of biodiversity through its website.

Adopted by Lapworth Parish Council at its meeting on 11th December 2023

³ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents>

⁴ As defined in ‘Biodiversity 2020: a strategy of England’s wildlife and ecosystems’ by DEFRA
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