**Project Transition to Dorset Council March 27, 2019**

Lytchett Matravers Parish Council (LMPC) has been working with Dorset County Council (DCC) on several joint projects. Given the local authority reorganisation that will take place on April 1, 2019 the following acts as a transition report to the new Dorset Council (DC) to ensure the continuity of work-in-progress.

These projects evolved from the Neighbourhood Plan which was adopted by Purbeck District Council in 2017. This report is intended a as summary and does not contain the full detail of each project.

| **Project** | **Objective** | **Status** |
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| Transfer of LyMat Youth Hall (High Street) | Transfer of freehold ownership of the land where the LyMat Hall (also known as the Youth Hall) stands from DCC/DC to LMPC. The land is currently leased by LMPC to provide community facilities. The Youth Hall itself belongs to LMPC.The transfer would then allow LMPC to work with the Lytchett Matravers Scout Group to redevelop the site with a new purpose-built facility.The Scouts have applied for and received outline planning permission and are looking to secure funding. | This transfer was approved as a gift by DCC Cabinet on December 6, 2017 to LMPC.Transfer documents were received from DCC Property Solicitors Office. LMPC has reviewed the transfer with its appointed solicitor. The LMPC solicitor has highlighted an anomaly with the MoD lease which was due for renewal in January 2019. This concerns RoW over the car park area. The renewal of that MoD Lease and the transfer provide an opportunity to clarify that point.Currently both lease renewal and transfer are on hold pending the local authority reorganisation. |
| Transfer of Lytchett Matravers Library (High Street) | Transfer of freehold ownership of Lytchett Matravers Library (land and building) from DCC to LMPC. LMPC would assume responsibility of building maintenance and running costs. LMPC would contract in library services from DCC/DC.The transfer would give LMPC the opportunity to extend the current building to act as a village ‘hub’ and to provide expanded facilities for a range of smaller community groups. | The transfer was included in the DCC Cabinet paper of December 6, 2017.LMPC has asked DCC to transfer the freehold building and in return it would grant a long lease to the County Library Services. This would enable DCC to divest itself of some of the building and grounds maintenance costs, whilst enabling the current library service to be maintained. Final terms have yet to be agreed and will be reported back to Cabinet in due course.LMPC has re-confirmed its objective is to proceed, but the transfer process is on hold pending the local authority reorganisation. |
| Transfer of Lytchett Matravers Astro/MUGA (Wareham Road) | Transfer of freehold ownership of the land where the Lytchett Astro/MUGA is located from DCC/DC to LMPC.The land is currently leased by LMPC to provide an all-weather football court for the community. The Astro itself belongs to LMPC due to a grant by the Football Foundation. | The transfer was included in the DCC Cabinet paper of December 6, 2017.The transfer would enable LMPC to improve parking facilities for use by both the school, with a new school entrance, and the Astro/MUGA.Owning the land would simplify the process to apply to Sport England for funding to construct further sports facilities such as tennis courts and changing facilities. |
| Transfer of the field behind the school with access from Eldons Drove | Transfer of freehold ownership of the land behind the school that borders the current school sports field.This land is currently held by DCC/DC as potential school expansion space. | The transfer was included in the DCC Cabinet paper of December 6, 2017.The transfer would allow LMPC to explore grant funding options to develop the land for creation of sports pitches to FA Youth and Local Club standard. These could be used by both school and community as an expanded sporting hub.This field also links up to the Lytchett Astro/MUGA area and then both parking and changing facilities would then be available to both areas.The access from Eldons Drove also provides a walking route access to the school with a new school entrance (see below). |
| Install purpose built off-road cycle route from Lytchett Matravers to Lytchett Minster (Huntick Road) | This has long been a wish of LMPC residents and was re-confirmed in the Neighbourhood Plan.The principal objective is to provide a safe route to Lytchett Minster School. The current route through a wooded area is not considered safe. | Much discussion has taken place over this project with DCC/DC Highways and costs have been estimated at around £500k. This has currently stalled any progress.LMPC want to start the construction by working with landowners in turn along the route to provide impetus and opportunity to apply for external funding. The first section will be from the new Huntick Road development to the Rose & Crown corner. |
| Improvement of Village Centre and safe walking route to Lytchett Matravers Primary School  | LMPC has published plans to create a through village walking route from Purbeck Road to the primary school past the library, across the Recreation Ground to Eldons Drove and to the school. This route would combine with improvements around the library, footpaths across the Recreation Ground, the addition of a new ballcourt, new pathways down to Eldons Drove and a new pathway to the school playing field.  | LMPC has engaged DCC/DC Highways on key aspects of this improvement scheme.1. To install a pedestrian priority crossing point linking the library area to the Recreation Ground.
2. To revamp the car parking area/steps outside the shopping parade to improve safety with respect to delivery vehicles and disabled access.
3. To create a safe route in Eldons Drove from the Recreation Ground access point to the entrance lane linking to the school playing field.

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| Village Paths and Rights of Way | DCC/DC Countryside and Greenspace Services to advise on village path issues, rights of way and maintenance responsibilities | LMPC has engaged with the DCC/DC Countryside and Greenspace Ranger Services to advise on maintenance responsibilities around the village.1. Jubilee Walk – tree blocking path with disputed ownership; currently with solicitors.
2. Church Walk – ownership and ongoing maintenance responsibilities. Note that LMPC has cleared the path, but does not own the path. Need to clarify and add signage if this is a RoW.
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| School Crossing and Parking Improvements through Sustrans | A Lytchett Matravers Primary School parent petition has triggered a DCC/DC response through Sustrans to review options and recommend safety improvements.  | Following information gathering sessions and a review of possible options by Sustrans, the proposed solution will be installed and tested from March 28, 2019 at the primary school. This will involve both crossing safety and addressing drop-off and parking problems. |