

Meeting with Dorset Council Assets and Property - Transfer of Dorset Council Assets and Property (DCAP) to Lytchett Matravers Parish Council (LMPC)

July 7, 2020

- Rupert Williams, Senior Estate Surveyor, Assets & Property
- Rob Carswell, Lytchett Matravers PC Councillor, Village Centre WG Chairman
- Alf Bush, Lytchett Matravers PC Councillor, Chairman

Background

LMPC met with Dorset Council (DCC as was) in 2016 to discuss the plan to transfer Dorset Council assets and property to LMPC for community use. The summary plan was presented to the DCC cabinet in December 2016 with a specific request for the transfer of the Youth Hall. That transfer was approved.

Following pressure from residents and school parents of Lytchett Matravers, DC Highways had commissioned a Sustrans report of the school access and traffic issues. This report was published in summer 2019 and LMPC had worked with DC Highways to present a staged implementation plan in October 2019.

Village Centre Overview

Reviewed PC plans for the village centre in general, including the High Street crossing that will join the Library Green and the Recreation Ground. Discussed the opening-up of the area between the library and the pharmacy as an additional open space for community use.

Library

LMPC explained that their plan is to acquire the freehold and building with a view to expanding it for greater community use; Library Services to continue unchanged. A meeting with DC Library Services agreed the general approach was that Library Services would pay the percentage of running costs based on their actual usage. Lytchett Matravers Library supplied the split of library time and non-library time to allow Library Services to assess their likely costs. DC have provided running and maintenance costs up to March 2019.

Action Steps:

- DCAP to provide 2019/20 running and maintenance costs of the library when available
- DC Library Services to provide their estimated costs based on the provided percentages of usage.

Youth Hall

LMPC's solicitor is awaiting confirmation of the final transfer documentation. DCAP were looking to make a minor amendment to the adjacent Wessex Reserve Forces & Cadet Association lease to permit joint access and parking. DCAP are working with their solicitor to include this amendment in their renewal.

Action Steps:

- DCAP to instruct DC solicitor to proceed with finalising transfer documentation, based on the required amendment being included in the Wessex Reserve Forces & Cadet Association lease renewal.

Eldons Drove Lane

LMPC explained about the use of the lane to link the Recreation Ground to the school. This was part of the Sustrans staged implementation presented to DC Highways. A licence is required to be able to get this path prepared as a link to the school field as part of the full safe 'walk to school' route from the village centre across the Recreation Ground.

Action Steps:

- DCAP to issue LMPC a licence to prepare the remainder of the lane to the school gate for pedestrian use by parents and children.

Lytchett Astro/Rear Field

LMPC presented the plan to convert the area adjacent to road and school to a car park for both school and sports usage. Again, this is part of the Sustrans staged implementation and the school has already installed the necessary entrance gate. Plans are to expand the use of the upper end of the area with additional sports facilities/tennis courts.

This sports area would link to the rear field which would be developed as a sports field with changing rooms. It would also link to the Eldons Drove Lane.

Action Steps:

- DCAP to review terms of the transfer to LMPC of the Lytchett Astro area, the rear field and Eldons Drove Lane to LMPC for development as a village sports complex that would be jointly available for both village and school.