August 2025

LYTCHETT MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

2025 Summer Festival

We have had some terrific weather recently, not least on June 28th for the Summer Festival. The warm weather was perfect for taking part in and enjoying all the activities. The main afternoon attraction was the dog show and the acts on the stage, but there were many traders all around the Rec. The evening stage show ran on until 10 p.m.
The event generated in excess of £880 for this year's charities plus approximately another £600 for the various charity stalls. Many local businesses supported the Summer Festival with sponsorship and donating prizes for the raffle. It was estimated that around 800 people attended during the whole day.

Neighbourhood Plan Consultation

The Summer Festival was the ideal opportunity to gather input to the Neighbour Plan consultation which was held in the village hall. The consultation was also held in the Library the following day. Altogether around 100 residents attended over the weekend and provided their views and opinions.

We also delivered a survey to complete to each resident's house to gather similar feedback as well as making it available online. Ast the time of writing we have received about 400 responses. While we are still compiling the full set of results, the issue of parking within the village came up repeatedly. This focused on Wareham Road and the High Street, both generally but particularly at school drop off/pick up times and at the weekends when football is on the Recreation Ground.

Dorset Council Local Plan Consultation

Dorset Council have advised all Town and Parish Councils that they will consulting on their Dorset Local Plan from August 18th. This will include a drop-in event at the Village Hall on September 17th. We will remind again next month, but this consultation is where you can make sure Dorset Council know your views and opinions.

Dorset Council Highways/Crossings

The Parish Council has been working with Dorset Council Highways on many related issues and we now know there will a zebra crossing by the school from August, ready for the new school year. That will have some knock-on impact on school parking because of the zebra crossing visibility zones. Once that settles, we can then work on the next improvement.

Our main application is for a pedestrian crossing in the High Street from the Library to the Recreation Ground. We are still in discussion as to what type of crossing this will be, but it will strengthen the link between the two side of the High Street.

Annual Parish Meeting

We also took the opportunity of setting up a separate Parish Council gazebo on the Recreation for any resident to raise any issue they had in mind. There were a steady stream of passing enquiries and discussions throughout the afternoon on issues such as upgrading the equipment in and around Rocket Park and canvassing views on a potential site for a phone mast. This resulted from a contact to the Parish Council with an analysis if good and poor mobile phone reception areas within the village.

New Norice Board

A new 3-sided notice board has been installed on Library Green on the High Street. While one side is reserved for Parish Council and other notices, the other 2 sides are for public use. The keys are available from Tescos on request, but please return them after use.

Recreation Ground Dog Area

We have now installed a new bench in the dog exercise area in response to resident's wishes. The planting around the area continues to flourish and with the bench, we hope it makes it more attractive for dog owners.

Councillor Vacancy

We still have 2 vacancies for Parish Councillor, so please call the Parish Clerk to find out more. Being a parish councillor is a direct way to participate and help in your community. It does take a few hours per week, but it is very rewarding so give it some thought. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Clerk or any Councillor to have a chat.

Parish Council Meetings:
Our next meeting is a combined one due to the summer holidays. This will be on August 13th, 2025 at 7 p.m., in the Village Hall as usual.

Agendas for all meetings are published online and the associated reports can be requested from the Parish Clerk. Meetings always start with a public participation session, so please come along if you have suggestions or questions that you would like to discuss with the Parish Council or stay and listen to our discussions, because it's all about your village.

Alf Bush,

Chair, Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

For further information please visit our website at: https://lytchettmatraverspc.org/ or contact the Parish Clerk via lytchettmatravers@dorset-aptc.gov.uk You can find us and comment on the Lytchett Matravers PC Facebook page. The Parish Clerk can also be contacted directly on 07596-885667.