

**Minutes of the Meeting of
LONGHOPE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 18th April 2016**

PRESENT: Cllrs. C Tilling (Chair), M Phelps, A Toomey, L Isko and S Collins

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Maliphant (Clerk) and four local residents

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T Barnes, S Stephens and D Attrill, County Cllr. B Robinson and District Cllr. Dave East
2. There were no declarations of interest
3. The minutes of the meeting on March 21st were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly. After discussion, it was proposed to put an item on the agenda for the May meeting about a new path across the recreation ground.

4. Members' Reports

LI reported that residents were still concerned about the lack of a 40 mph speed limit on the Mitcheldean side of Hopes Hill, and suggested there be an agenda item for the May meeting about progress with County Highways' proposals for an "engineering option".

CT asked if anyone knew anything about the temporary bus stops that had appeared outside Harts barn, and it was agreed to ring Stagecoach for information. **ACTION: AT/LI**

LI reported that Brian Watkins was waiting to hear from the County Highways contractors Amey about new road markings outside the primary school and on the corner by the village shop, but there had been no reply to emails about the state of Nupend Lane. Several people had commented about the condition of the Church Road trading estate, and it was agreed to ask the owner to find out what might be done to improve it. **ACTION: MP**

CT noted that the path opposite the allotments needed attention from someone with a spade. **ACTION: CT/DE/TB**

AT reported that no-one had owned up to the mysterious disappearance of the "no fire lighting" signs on May Hill. She would ask for further details about the Longhope charities spend on May Hill.

MP advised that the final neighbourhood development plan steering group meeting was set for the following month.

5. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

The clerk presented details of recent tendering exercises:

- In the absence of any other quotes for removing the allotments hedgeline, as previously discussed, it was agreed to appoint Glebe Contractors to the work
- It was agreed to appoint Centigen as the lowest bidder to the grass mowing of three parish-owned areas
- With two quotes received for transferring the Latchen Room play area to the recreation ground, it was agreed to seek a third quote and then appoint the lowest bidder to the work

The circulated progress report on planning applications was received with thanks.

The clerk presented a draft agenda for the annual council meeting in May, noting that the secret ballot procedure used in 2015 for electing the chairman and vice-chairman was an unusual one and caused by there being only four elected councillors at that time.

6. Finance

The circulated revised budget for 2016/17 was agreed, including increases to budgets for staff costs, dog waste collection, and the annual fee for the recreation ground warden, the last of which would be increased for inflation each year. Other points arose in discussion:

- AT and CT would look at the painting of the bus stop on the A40 opposite the turning into the manor
- A further £500 budget was agreed to cover a required habitat survey for the neighbourhood development plan
- It was agreed to spend the remaining £761 of the Roger Kerslake legacy on moving the Latchen Room play area to the recreation ground
- It was agreed to spend £100 on stop-gap trimming of the hedge behind the Latchen Room

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Cash	50.00	Petty cash
Carol Tilling	250.00	Chairman's allowance
PATA (UK)	22.50	Payroll costs
HMRC	19.60	PAYE
Recreation Ground Mgt. Comm.	1600.00	Warden fee
GAPTC	324.85	Annual subscription
Merlin Waste	33.90	Dog waste collection, April
Severn Trent	20.16	Allotments water supply
Andrew Maliphant	556.18	Salary - March
Andrew Maliphant	37.33	Expenses – March

The latest financial report was received with thanks.

After discussion it was agreed to postpone any agreement on a contribution towards new gates for the May Hill bridleway until the full cost was known, but to ask the local footpath warden Roger Cox about path maintenance work.

ACTION: AM

It was agreed to reappoint Shirley Fowler as internal auditor.

7. Next Meeting - Monday 16th May at 7.15 pm

Signed:.....Chairman. Date:.....