

**Minutes of the Meeting of
LONGHOPE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 18th May 2015**

PRESENT: Cllrs. C Tilling, T Barnes, L. Isko and Mr A Maliphant (Clerk) with District Cllr. D East and eight local residents

1. Election of the Chair and Vice Chair for 2015/6

Following the nominations procedure agreed at the April meeting, the clerk opened the envelopes filled by the four elected parish councillors and declared that Carol Tilling with three nominations had majority support to be chair of the council for 2015/6 and Terry Barnes with two had the most support to be vice chair. These appointments were approved by the council.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Mike Phelps and County Cllr. Brian Robinson.

3. There were no declarations of interest

4. Public Forum

Notices had been placed on the parish notice boards asking for anyone interested in being co-opted onto the parish council to come forward, and Stephen Collins and Stan Stephens put their names forward to add to the positive response already received from Debbie Attrill and Audrey Toomey, all residents of the parish.

5. There were no members' reports

6. Committee Reports

(a) Latchen Room Management Committee

The clerk reported that no detailed proposals had come forward yet for the planned extension to the Latchen Room.

(b) Recreation Ground Management Committee

The clerk reported that the Recreation Ground Committee were revisiting their original plans, and Les Meadows confirmed they would be meeting the following Monday.

7. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

After discussion it was agreed to co-opt the following parishioners as councillors:

Stephen Collins
Stan Stephens
Debbie Attrill
Audrey Toomey

The clerk reported that LI had booked a space at the GAPTC new councillor training course on June 22nd, and other new councillors were welcome to do the same.

The clerk added that a new parish council website was needed as the software to operate the current website would not work on his computer. He proposed to use the package

solution provided by “Mr Site”, which cost £30 for the introductory year and £60 full price, and could be run by anyone with access to the Internet – this proposal was approved.

The parish council had been copied into further correspondence from a Little London resident concerned that the proposed traffic calming measures on the A4136 would not be sufficient to control vehicle speeds.

8. Finance

- (a) The accounting statements in the Annual Return for 2014/15 were reviewed and approved unanimously
- (b) The governance statement in the Annual Return for 2014/15 was reviewed and approved unanimously
- (c) The current street cleaning contract with DC East was approved for a further year.
- (d) The following invoices were approved for payment:

Andrew Maliphant	553.90	April salary & expenses
Merlin Waste	33.90	Dog waste collection
Severn Trent Water Ltd	13.95	Allotment water rates
Recreation Ground Mgt. Comm.	1000.00	Warden fee
Glebe Contractors	113.47	Grass cutting
Shirley Fowler	85.00	Internal audit

- (e) As only one previous cheque signatory remained on the parish council, it was agreed to add CT, TB and LI as new signatories to the bank accounts
- (f) The clerk advised that, due to new legislation, the parish council was obliged to prepare a pension scheme for staff, as even though the current staff (the clerk) might not wish to join a pension scheme, there had to be one on offer. It was agreed to take advantage of the NEST pension scheme set up for this purpose by the Government, which should no staff wish to join, would not cost the council a penny. The clerk was also authorised to make the required declarations to Government on the parish council's behalf. **ACTION: AM**
- (g) After discussion, it was agreed that £500 in cash would be made available from the Rose Barton & Mary Skelton charity accounts to fund the annual older people's party in August. **ACTION: AM/CT**

9. Planning

The circulated progress report on planning applications was received with thanks. It was agreed that pending further discussion at the next meeting SS and TB would continue to comment on planning applications on behalf of the parish council as long-serving members of the planning committee. The clerk agreed to review the current draft of the neighbourhood development plan and share it with the planning committee as a possible basis for further comment on the planning appeal around the proposed new house on Yartleton Lane.

10. Localism and Neighbourhood Plan

The council were reminded that the next drop-in session for parishioners to view and comment on the emerging plan policies would take place in the Latchen Room on the afternoon of Saturday 6th June.

11. Annual Meeting agenda items from standing orders

- The minutes of the meeting on April 20th were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly.
- It was agreed that the full parish council would meet on the third Monday of every month at 7.15 pm in the Latchen Room during 2015/16, except in August and December.

All other items under the Annual Meeting agenda were postponed for discussion by the full parish council at their next meeting.

12. Next Meeting - Monday 15th June at 7.15 pm

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