

**Minutes of the Meeting of
LONGHOPE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 20th July 2015**

PRESENT: Cllrs. C Tilling (Chair), T Barnes, L. Isko, M Phelps, D Attrill, S Stephens, S Collins, A Toomey and Mr A Maliphant (Clerk) with District Cllr. D East and 5 local residents

1. Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Brian Robinson
2. There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public Forum

Gary Sutton presented his proposals for reviving Longhope youth club (based on his past experience and current activity in Huntley and Sedbury), which were well received. He had already been in touch with the previous managers of the youth cafe, and was advised that the regular night used to be Wednesdays.

There was a long discussion about the changes in layout expected due to the proposed extension to the Latchen Room. It was suggested that users with concerns about the proposals should ask if they could attend a Latchen Room committee meeting.

4. The minutes of the meeting on June 15th were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly

5. Members' Reports

SC asked whether there could be a Wifi "hotspot" for the village, either in the Latchen Room or the pavilion. He was advised that some facility was available in the Latchen Room but not at the pavilion, where there is an issue around security. The next steps would be to contact the two management committees about future possibilities, including access to the buildings at different times, and it was noted that Gary Sutton might also have an interest relating to computer use by a youth club in the pavilion.

SC also asked about the possibility of a parish map, perhaps involving the local junior school. MP noted that several maps had been collected as part of the neighbourhood development plan process, and it was suggested that the one created by Richard Pett could be used as the basis for a new public map.

LI reported she had met with County Highways to talk about the problems of parking in Church Road, and also the blind bend by the village shop. She'd been advised that some new road markings were being planned for Church Road, which could reduce parking but create passing places. Double yellow lines at the end of Church Road by the shop would have to go through a planning process, and – if successful – would not be implemented until April next year.

AT asked to bring forward an agenda item about grass cutting on the allotments, which was agreed. AT had written to all the allotment holders about grass cutting and many had volunteered to do it themselves with the help of a new lawn mower, as the old one was defunct. AT had found a good deal on a suitable mower available from Hales in Drybrook including a 5-year warranty, as there no longer seemed to be a market for second-hand mowers. MP offered to help with the servicing to save running costs, and it was agreed to spend up to £500 on a mower subject to suitably secure storage.

AT had had a letter from an allotment holder saying allotment 5a (rear) was now available, and it was agreed to advertise this accordingly. **ACTION: AM**

AT also raised the issue of the new notice board at Dursley Cross, which some May Hill residents were finding difficult to access for placing posters. It was agreed to ask Malcolm Marshall who built it whether removing the lockable doors was practicable. **ACTION: AM**

AT had received an email about a campfire being left to burn out by the trees on the top of May Hill. There used to be a fire beater rota and suitable equipment on racks by the water tower, but this had finished years ago. It was agreed there should be signs saying no fires, and to look through supplier catalogues for suitable options. **ACTION: AM**

6. Committee Reports

(a) Latchen Room Management Committee

The clerk reported letters from both the Latchen Room and Recreation Ground management committees asking to receive the appropriate half share of monies under the Roger Kerslake legacy so as to carry on with proposed works. After some discussion this was agreed in both cases.

(b) Recreation Ground Management Committee

The clerk noted that planning permission had been approved for the proposed extension to the pavilion, and work now needed to proceed swiftly before the bad weather arrived.

7. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

The clerk gave a summary of the requirements of the new transparency code to place more information on the parish council's website, and it was agreed to put the new website address on the parish notice boards. **ACTION: AM**

A request had come in to place another memorial seat at the top of May Hill. After discussion it was agreed to stick to the parish council's existing policy of only four seats at the top of the hill and to decline the request accordingly.

Amey the highways contractors had sent a letter about salt for roads in the winter, and it was considered that the parish already had sufficient stocks. Residents of Little London had also been in touch about accidents on the A4136, and LI said she would raise this in her forthcoming discussions with County Highways.

8. Finance

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Forest Sensory Services	40.00	Support for extending services
The Forest Bee	40.00	Support for extending coverage
Carryl Phelps	40.00	Refreshments for NDP drop-in
PATA (UK)	19.80	Payroll costs
HMRC	19.40	PAYE
GAPTC	70.00	Councillor training courses
Glebe Contractors	113.47	June grass cutting
Merlin Waste	33.90	Dog waste collection
Andrew Maliphant	556.80	June salary & expenses

The latest financial report was received with thanks. The clerk noted that anticipated expenditure on the neighbourhood plan would exceed the budget already set, and it was agreed to increase the budget by £300 pending the outcome of new grant applications.

The clerk reported a letter from the Charity Commission saying the May Hill Trust should have its own bank account, and it was agreed to open such an account with CT, LI and AT as signatories. **ACTION: AM**

The clerk presented the revised street cleaning contract from the District Council which was agreed. As the new contract meant an increase in funding of 2.5%, it was agreed that this increase should be passed on to the relevant contractor. **ACTION: AM**

9. Planning

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

10. Localism and Neighbourhood Plan

MP reported that the revised draft plan was nearing completion, and it was expected to go to external examination later in the year.

11. Next Meeting - Monday 21st September at 7.15 pm

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