

**Minutes of the Meeting of
LONGHOPE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 20th June 2016**

PRESENT: Cllrs. C Tilling (Chair), T Barnes, M Phelps, S Stephens, S Collins, L Isko and D Attrill

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Maliphant (Clerk), District Cllr. D East, County Cllr. B Robinson and three local residents

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. A Toomey
2. There were no declarations of interest

3. Planning

The circulated progress report on planning applications was received with thanks. No objections were raised to current applications, but after discussion it was felt that the proposal to convert a relatively recent wooden building in Hobbs Lane to a dwelling (P0762/16/PQ3PA) was not in the same league as the conversion of old stone barns, and the clerk was asked to check the emerging neighbourhood development plan and respond accordingly. **ACTION: AM**

After an experience when a parish councillor had arrived on time for a planning committee site visit to find the committee had already moved on, DE offered to send the clerk the relevant mobile phone number for checking on site visit progress. **ACTION: DE**

4. Public Forum

A local resident expressed concern about the lack of mowing on open land at Brookend, and the clerk advised he was already chasing the relevant contractor. The clerk was also asked to contact the District Council about the grass verges on the A40, and to confirm with Glebe Contractors when work on the allotments hedge would be completed. **ACTION: AM**

In light of the range of work that was cropping up at short notice around the village, it was agreed to have an agenda item at the next meeting to consider whether to have a new budget heading for such work.

5. The minutes of the meeting on May 16th were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly.

6. Members' Reports

LI reported that she had attended a recent meeting of the Forest-wide Road Safety Partnership, which was looking at the proposal for a 40 mph limit across the district. County Highways officer Brian Watkins had also attended the meeting, and confirmed that funds had been put aside to look at engineering options for the Velthouse Lane junction on the A4136. Local resident Mrs Bruce had reported another car crashing into her garden wall in Little London the previous weekend, and it was agreed to contact Brian Watkins again to arrange a meeting on site. **ACTION: LI**

LI added that while the school markings on Church Road had been retouched, cars were still parking on the proscribed area, and it was agreed to ask the local PCSO to drop by at a time when children were leaving the primary school. **ACTION: AM**

CT said she had received complaints about horse muck on footpaths along the side of Church Road, and it was agreed to bring this to the attention of local stable owners.

ACTION: AM

There had also been a recent flood on Church Road, and MP added that a drain had been 95% blocked with debris. While MP and DE offered to deal with the immediate problem, it was agreed to send photos to the new County Highways officer Rhodri Grey and ask for a site meeting to discuss the long-standing issue.

ACTION: MP/AM

DE also offered to circulate a recent leaflet on water courses.

ACTION: DE

BR advised that the new "lengthsman" service was available to the parish for a period of six weeks to carry out minor highways works, and that any requirements should be sent to the clerk for forwarding.

ACTION: All

He added that there was also an opportunity to take new highways officer Rhodri Grey round the village following the planned site visits.

7. Committee Reports

(a) Latchen Room Management Committee

SC reported that all was going well with the development plans, and tenders for the new extension were expected soon, though the work would probably not start until November.

(b) Recreation Ground Management Committee

TB reported there had been another site meeting with the firm proposing to place a mobile phone mast on the recreation ground, and it was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

8. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

In discussion about the land on Brookend being maintained by the parish council, DE advised that Westbury Homes had offered the land to the parish council when the new houses were completed, but he didn't think the land had been formally adopted. It was agreed to check the current ownership with the Land Registry.

ACTION: AM

The clerk reported that he had followed up the concern about parked vehicles on the industrial estate with the owner of the garage business, and LI agreed to contact the resident who had complained to tell them of the offered site meeting.

ACTION: LI

Following a meeting with the parish council's insurers, the clerk advised it was good practice to carry out post-installation inspections of new play equipment, and it was agreed to go ahead with this, choosing the cheapest service available.

ACTION: AM

The clerk reported a number of items of correspondence including:

- The recycling banks had been moved from the Yew Tree car park in anticipation of the new recycling bins being introduced by the District Council in August
- Grants of up to £1,000 were available for local people in need, more details on application to the clerk
- Licensing applications would now be available on the District Council website in the same way as planning applications

9. Finance

a) The following invoices were approved for payment:

Longhope PCC	200.00	Churchyard management
Merlin Waste	33.90	Dog waste collection
The Workshop	50.40	Neighbourhood plan flier
Andrew Maliphant	561.53	Salary - May
Andrew Maliphant	37.33	Expenses - May

The clerk presented a letter from Forest Sensory Services, and after discussion it was agreed to send them £100 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 due to the services they provide for local residents with sight and hearing difficulties.

b) The financial report for June was received with thanks.

c) The governance statement in the Annual Return for 2015/16 was reviewed and approved unanimously

d) The accounting statements in the Annual Return for 2015/16 were reviewed and approved unanimously

10. Localism and Neighbourhood Plan

MP reported that the steering group's secretary Bill Reay was busy with minor adjustments in advance of submitting the final draft plan to the District Council. Alistair Chapman at the District Council was completing the required habitat survey to add to the plan.

11. Next Meeting - Monday 18th July at 7 pm

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