

**Minutes for the Extraordinary Meeting of
LONGHOPE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 10th of January 2022 at 7 pm
At Longhope Recreation Ground Pavilion, Longhope**

1. Attendance Cllr Gary Nicholas Cllr Jacky Barker, Cllr Geoff Bick, Cllr Dean White, Cllr Richard Gough, Cllr Dave East, Cllr Leigh Stephens, Cllr Vicky Brobyn
12 members of the public. County Councillor Philip Robinson, District Councillors Robinson and Jones did not attend

2. Apologies for absence -none

3. No Declarations of interest

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2021

- Council approved the accuracy of the minutes

5. Public Forum – comments invited – none at this time

6. Reports from Committees and Councillors with lead responsibilities-

Tree at Hopes Hill reported and very prompt response from County Council
Cllr White could not attend a meeting at May Hill Village Hall but is waiting minutes

Cllr Brobyn – Latchen Rooms – Hearing loop now working. Cllr Evans has been to try out the new system and gave a positive feedback, 2 microphones are within the system. More microphones may be obtained. Desk top microphones may be an idea for future parish council meetings. Council agreed to have a trial meeting on **Monday morning (17th) 10am.**

7. Planning

- To review planning applications

P1914/21/FUL - Temporary dwelling for an agricultural worker and the retention of associated agricultural portacabins and a building, at Cot Wood Farm Hobbs Lane

Discussion points focused on need, temporary and retrospective nature.

It was agreed to Support in principal if the essential need is established and for use by the applicant and immediate family only. The need for materials used to be sympathetic to the environment was also noted.

P2034/21/FUL - Variation of condition 02 (approved plans) relating to P0559/20/FUL

to allow for revised driveway details, at Stoneleigh, Mayhill.

Council did not have any concerns, and agreed to support

P2023/21/FUL - Change of use of additional land to extend the existing site to enable an additional 18 lodge-style static caravans and associated work, at Swallow Lakes Caravan Park, Blakemore Road, Little London.

Discussion on historical concerns that the Parish Council have had concerns on the materials used and the all year round use and that some are being rented out on long term leases.

It is being argued by the applicants that the highways can cope with any additional traffic but as other sites have already been approved in the area which would generate additional traffic

The environmental impact of additional caravans was discussed including the lakes capturing excess surface water.

There is an ambiguity of the advertising of the units, and the amount of time individuals can use the caravans.

Concerns over the lack of improvements to the footpaths that was part of previous plans.

Discussion on need for more capacity took place

Council agreed to object and previous comments will be emailed by Chairman to Clerk to submit.

8. Council considered Proposals from the Infrastructure Working Group for Longhope Village play park

- Proposed choice of equipment and layout as shown on distributed plan. Cost was quoted as £17864.20 plus vat (0000075749)
- Proposed quote for above works £38560.45 including equipment, delivery, matting, fencing.
- Proposed financing for the above refurbishment works. Included a proposal to seek approval, from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government, to apply for a loan from the Public Works Loan Board to cover a proportion of the project costs. In the sum of £25k plus interest = total cost £27841.17 over 10 years (20 payments) = £2651.54 per annum (No precept increase is envisaged as a result of such a loan).
- Council discussed the impact on the budget for next year, youth provisions (for over 12yrs old), putting the Council into debt, possible s106 commitments from new developments in the area, fund raising and by using the lottery grant (NLCF) to source individual items as able. It was explained that the NLCF conditional on a full refurbishment project and that it was dependant on this scheme being approved. The in-experience of some members of the present Council was discussed. The Council was informed that NLCF was time limited to 3 months.

Members of the public spoke at this point, asking questions and making statements regarding fund raising etc, public consultation, The current Chairman was praised for his efforts and it was greatly appreciated.

It was stated that it was a Parish Council matter and it has been discussed over a long period of time. The recreation committee (separate entity) has been aware of the matter. Discussions on whether fund raising by the public would be feasible.

It was alleged that previous Councils has not saved for a long-term project, repairs and safety reports have not been taken into account.

Proposal was made for a 12 month deferral for the project, seconder

Chair stressed that this action would increase the costs of the project and that the NLCF would be returned if it was not used in this financial year.

A Councillor felt that there may be other things that needed to be funded. It was then explained that this would be covered by recreational committee if it was for the recreation ground.

Questions on the proposed budget, projected reserves, savings in the year, Youth activities were discussed.

Vote

resolution for project to be delayed for 12 months 5 for, 3 against, no abstentions.

Resolution agreed.

Next agenda, council to agree a public statement explaining the decision to be agreed and way forward including public consultation and fundraising.

Public and Council discussion on what had already been installed, funding etc

- 9. Council considered a request to undertake accessibility works at Longhope Recreation Ground (as per plan distributed). A grant from Barnwood Trust has been secured for the full cost.** Member of the public spoke of previous works causing drainage problems. It was stated that it gets really wet in this area. Concerns over surface water was stated. Question on impact of football pitch was answered. Quotes and materials were discussed. RFO advised on 3 independent quotes are required. VAT would be able to be claimed back if the work is done by the Parish Council. It must meet DDA requirements. Different uses and benefits were discussed. The route has not been finally agreed as it needs to be discussed with the recreation ground committee. The surface would be semi-permeable. A resident offered to donate timber for edging. No planning permission is required (in writing), retrospective certificate of lawfulness to be applied for **Proposed that these works to be proceeded, seconded – all agreed. Final quotations to be brought to February meeting for accepting by Council.**

- 10. Council considered the need for a village street cleaner/handyman and the terms of employment/ job description for such an employee of the Council.** A draft specification from previous employment hiring was distributed. Minimum Living Wage to be amended. **Council agreed to pause hiring for a sub-contractor. Chair to provide list to contractors. Quote to be sent to Clerk by end of January for February agenda**

- 11. Update, if available, on grass cutting quotes for PC owned land within the village. quotes still awaited from 2 further contractors. February 2022 meeting**

12. Correspondence

- Council received update on recent communications with HMRC, in relation to non-filing of a P11D(b). Appeal chased by Chairman successful and submission of P11D(b) noted
- Grant for internal works at pavilion submitted and approved in the sum of £5k. Council to commission works pending 3 quotes.

Meeting temporarily suspended. Council agreed to suspend standing orders as meeting extending over 2 hrs.

13. Any other business (For information purposes only)

Closed session for employee confidential information

- payment agreed for reimbursement.
Standing orders reinstated.
- Discussion on the Latchen Room.
- Management and conduct of meetings

Next Meeting – Monday 7th February 2022 at 7 pm

14 . Close of meeting at 21.17