

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
LONGHOPE PARISH COUNCIL  
held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

PRESENT: Cllrs. M Phelps (Chair), L Isko, T Barnes, R Noblett, S Collins and D Attrill

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

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. A Toomey and J Stephens, District Councillor D East and County Councillor B Robinson

2. There were no declarations of interest

### 3. Planning

The circulated progress report on planning applications was received with thanks. There were no planning applications to discuss.

### 4. Public Forum

Two members of the tennis club raised a number of matters about the recreation ground following recent discussion at the club's annual general meeting.

5. The minutes of the meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup> were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly.

### 6. Members' Reports

MP noted there would be a special meeting about the A4136 to be held in the Latchen Room from 2 pm the following Thursday and attended by police and County Highways officers, all were invited to attend.

RN raised the issue of speaking to residents about their hedges overhanging the paths around the Willows and the Wend. After discussion and in line with recent email advice from BR, it was agreed the clerk would ask the county "lengthman" team to:

- Control weeds growing in the pavements around the Willows and the Wend
- Similar work on the pavements between Rectory Meadow and the A40
- Clear the highway drains along Church Road between Rectory Meadow and the A40
- Clear the drain on the A4136 outside the Yew Tree, where tarmac has covered over the grating

LI gave a recommendation from AT about the need for two new dog waste bins on May Hill, one at the junction of Yartleton Lane and Sterrys Lane, and the other by the water tower. The clerk advised that in addition to the capital cost, this would mean an extra £20 per month for clearing the waste bins, and this was approved by the council. **ACTION: AM**

The clerk read a written report sent by BR, covering several points including:

- BR had been following up the Hopeswood Park access to bus stop issues with the site owner
- He had also been working to address the flooding issue at Hobbs Lane with Cllr Dave East and the county highways team.

- Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue had inspected Gloucestershire high rise properties follow the London fire and confirmed that properties within Gloucestershire are safe and free from the cladding that is causing concern.
- The road safety initiative seeking to reduce vehicle speeds in the Forest had now been funded and further details would follow soon.

LI reported on her attendance at the recent chartered parishes meeting, which meets every three months. There had been three talks covering items for the whole county:

- On the Local Transport Plan, reviewing long-term solutions around the M5 corridor, and also the potential impact of removing the toll from the Severn Bridge
- On a sustainability plan for health care, though two NHS workers in the audience felt the plans for keeping people with long-term medical conditions in their own homes wouldn't work
- On highways management, not discussing particular sites but noting there was an additional budget of £150M which would lead to more road surfacing improvements

The Road Safety Group would be meeting in the first week of July, when there might be more information about the recent traffic accident at Little London. MP had heard that the road was wet, and that the accident was down to the speed of the car, which ended up being folded in half.

RN said he was checking on the current store of salt bags for the parish as well as individual grit bins, and the clerk said he would email the bin locations list. **ACTION: AM**

## 7. Committee Reports

### (a) Latchen Room Management Committee

SC reported that the committee was having difficulties getting hold of a "cherry picker" in order to carry out necessary maintenance of the roof guttering. Some more users were still needed for the downstairs space, and RN added that they were looking at the option of a community hub with satellite and WiFi links.

### (b) Recreation Ground Management Committee

After discussion of the points raised in public forum, there was great praise for the work of committee members in managing the ground, together with some suggestions for making the work of the committee clearer to local residents and groups. These suggestions were:

- A proposed revision to the committee rules to make meeting details clearer to the general public
- A clear set of rules and regulations for users of the recreation ground
- A number of issues raised by the tennis club, which would help them in managing their own events and also help to underwrite any funding bids they may make. These issues and suggestions included PAT testing and marking of pavilion equipment, displaying the recreation ground's certificate of insurance, sharing copies of any risk assessments made by the committee to underscore risk assessments made by groups for their own activities, and user groups to share news of funding bids with each other to prevent funders unexpectedly receiving more than one bid from the same venue

There was a separate question about the annual motor show, which as well as the hirer covering insurance for the event, the parish council thought should be costed against any

damage caused to the ground by vehicles, and should also have a parking plan for attendees that allows other customers to still visit the local shop.

## 8. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

After discussion about the councillor portfolios, it was agreed that portfolio holders would always keep the chairman in the loop about any developments. RN offered to lead a review of the parish emergency plan, which was gratefully accepted.

The clerk gave a summary of the advantages and processes of setting up a community land trust for Longhope in order to secure more affordable housing. It was agreed to attend the presentation at the District Council offices on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July to find out more.

The clerk presented a range of laminated posters created by Year 6 pupils at Hope Brook School to encourage people to clean up after their dogs. It was agreed to put these up around the village, and to write a letter to the head teacher thanking Year 6 for their work which was very much appreciated. **ACTION: SC/AM**

The clerk also presented some additional wording for the audio recording policy, which made it clear under what circumstances the recordings might be used other than to help in writing the minutes. It was agreed to send the proposed wording to GAPTC for their advice. **ACTION: AM**

The clerk reported a number of items of correspondence including:

- Circulated information about the prevention of terrorism incidents
- A letter about skateboarding in the Latchen – the clerk noted that the recreation ground committee had confirmed they would consider replacing skateboarding facilities on the ground when funds allow
- News from Forest Sensory Services about their new independent living shop, and a request for funding, which the parish council agreed to honour with a cheque for £50 as residents of Longhope would continue to benefit from the charity's services
- News from the Longhope charities committee that a new tenant had been found for the land on May Hill

## 9. Finance

a) The following invoices were approved for payment:

Centigen Facilities Management	66.00	Grass cutting
Merlin Waste	33.90	Dog waste collection
Chapel Tree Services	264.00	Tree surgery
Nick Thomas Landscapes	630.00	Grass mowing
Shirley Fowler	85.00	Internal audit
Andrew Maliphant	596.26	Salary - May
Andrew Maliphant	37.33	Expenses – May
Mike Phelps	9.18	Mower repair

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

c) After discussion about expenditure on the allotments, it was agreed to bring a summary to the next meeting of how much income was needed to cover regular revenue expenditure, and how much to cover recent capital costs. **ACTION: AM**

- d) The governance statement in the Annual Return for 2016/17 was reviewed and approved unanimously
- e) The accounting statements in the Annual Return for 2016/17 were reviewed and approved unanimously

**10. Localism and Neighbourhood Plan**

MP reported there would be a meeting with the external examiner to review the final draft of the plan, to which there had been 12 consultation responses.

**11. Next Meeting - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 7 pm**

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