

**Minutes of the Meeting of
LONGHOPE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 19th March 2018**

PRESENT: Cllrs. M Phelps (Chair), L Isko, T Barnes, R Noblett, A Toomey, J Stephens and S Collins

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Maliphant (Clerk), County Councillor Brian Robinson and 3 local residents

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. D Attrill and District Councillor Dave East
2. There were no declarations of interest
3. There was no Public Forum discussion

4. Planning

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

After discussion of current planning applications, it was agreed there were no objections to the following:

P0104/18/FUL Revised plans for an extension at Wyvern, Church Road
P0306/18/FUL Extension at Ridgeville, Sterrys Lane, May Hill
P0311/18/TCA Tree surgery at 2 Old Vicarage, Church Road

5. The minutes of the meeting on February 19th were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly.

6. Members' Reports

BR reported that from May there would be a further roll-out of higher speed broadband, to reach 96% of houses from the current 92%. The county council would be spending a further £150M on the roads over the next three years, starting with a £20M contract to Tarmac to repair priority A and B roads as revealed by a recent survey. Other local roads seen as a priority should be brought to BR's attention.

The county council had also put an extra £16M into children's services, where a new senior officer was in charge. BR had a budget of £30k to spend on community matters over 3 years and 10 parishes, also £20k on local highways. It would be April or May before the current works at Highnam lights would be resolved, and works were also due at the Over roundabout, where RN suggested traffic lights would be useful. BR said he would pass this suggestion back as well as asking about plans for Royal Springs. After discussion the parish council agreed they could not resolve issues around Velthouse Lane because of the costs involved but would focus on Royal Springs where accidents are occurring.

AT suggested bringing Severn Trent and county bridleways officers together to review the path up to the water tower from Yartleton Lane, not least as the new reservoir pipes would go across the path. The local footpath warden was still complaining about the state of Hobbs Lane, and it was agreed to ask County Highways for an order of costs to repair the damaged section.

ACTION: AM

AT was also concerned about the state of the new plaque on top of the trig point at May Hill, and reported that all the grit bins (including the new one) were now empty.

LI reported she was speaking to County Highways about using traffic cones as an experiment to try different ways of keeping passing places open on Church Road during school run times – parents would be informed. The Road Safety Partnership with the police is ending in April, but the Forest of Dean Road Safety Liaison Group will continue to meet at the West Dean Centre once a quarter.

RN reported he had extra salt bags available in case of need, and AT advised the important bin to fill was the one by Yartleton Lane crossroads. RN had had a call from the school also, though they use their own salt supplies in the school grounds. He had circulated a summary from a data protection course he had attended. It had been mainly for village halls, noting care had to be taken of CCTV films, but a general point was that any personal data needed to be locked away.

LI presented the final version of a new parish council newsletter, which was approved. After discussion it was agreed to budget an extra £300 for the production of four newsletters each year.

ACTION: AM

7. Committee Reports

(a) Latchen Room Management Committee

RN advised there was nothing to report other than bookings were going well – extra varnishing on the floor was having to wait for five busy weekends.

(b) Recreation Ground Management Committee

JS reported that following the October meeting with local young people there had been a trip to see the new skate park at Yorkley, which had been very expensive. Longhope Welding felt they could produce one for £18k, but the total cost could come to £30k, and grants would be needed. Paul East had cleared the land behind the pavilion back to the rail track, and the parking area was solid, but the recreation ground committee would get a cost for putting in a more solid path down towards the school.

8. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

The clerk described the process of applying to the National Community Land Trust (CLT) Network for support for the process of setting up a CLT for Longhope. After discussion it was agreed to go forward with this, and the chairman would include the project in his report to the Annual Parish Meeting. The clerk was also asked to check whether the Wend exception site was included in the latest version of the district council's Allocations Plan.

ACTION: AM

The clerk presented the draft grant awarding policy which had been circulated previously. After discussion it was agreed to adopt the policy and include it as an item in the June newsletter.

The clerk reported the concerns of Lloyds Bank that there were no funds in the May Hill Trust bank account, and it was agreed to pay in £50.

There was considerable discussion around various options proposed for using the Rose Barton & Margaret Skelton Trust funds for extra activities for the Trust's local beneficiaries. It was agreed to keep focused on the annual party, and JS would join the party's working group to provide the important and necessary link to the parish council who are the trustees for the funds and have a duty of care to the beneficiaries.

There were a number of items of correspondence, including:

- District council proposals to enact Public Place Protection to keep dogs out of children's play areas in the Forest
- Advice on new data protection regulations, including carrying out a data audit
- The annual play safety inspection would take place in May
- Revisions had been made to the National Planning Policy Framework, and a course was available for councillors to find out more
- The district council had asked for any suggestions for new housing land
- Residents of Old Hill had complained about dog fouling – new signs would be put up

9. Finance

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Merlin Waste	81.36	Dog waste collection
Andrew Maliphant	534.36	Salary - February
Andrew Maliphant	37.33	Expenses – February

The financial report for March was received with thanks.

10. Next Meeting - Monday 16th April at 7 pm for the Annual Parish Meeting

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