

**Minutes of the Meeting of
LONGHOPE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 17th September 2018**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Maliphant (Clerk), County Cllr. B Robinson and 6 residents

1. Apologies for absence were received from District Cllr. D East
2. There were no declarations of interest.
3. **Council vacancy**

Local residents Tom Walmsley and Richard White each gave a brief summary of the interests and experience they would bring to the parish council. They were then asked to leave the room, and after discussion the parish council agreed to offer the vacant councillor position to Tom, which was accepted. Richard was thanked for his continuing interest in the parish council, and assured there would be another opportunity to put his name forward at the elections in May 2019.

4. Public Forum

A Hopeswood Park resident raised the issue of safe access to the nearby bus stop on the A40, and after discussion it was agreed to raise the matter again with BR who had been dealing with local highway concerns.

In response to another question about speeding on the A4136, LI gave a brief history of the unsuccessful attempts to get the 60 mph speed limit changed, and noted that County Highways had yet to come back with proposals for “engineering solutions” to address the safety issues at the top of Hopes Hill.

5. Planning

The circulated planning report was received with thanks. After discussion, it was agreed that there were no objections to the following applications:

P1088/18/FUL revised plans for replacement dwelling, 1 The Cottage, The Slad
P1092/18/FUL variation of conditions at The Maples Monmouth Road
P1093/18/FUL variation of conditions at Highbank Barn, Monmouth Road
P1305/18/TCA fell two trees at Pound Cottage, The Latchen
P1357/18/TCA fell cherry trees at All Saints Church

It was agreed not to record a view about application P1227/18/FUL for kerb lowering at 4 Church Road as the council had been advised there was a current boundary dispute at the property that needed to be resolved.

It was noted that application P1243/18/AG for a steel frame building at Lane Farm, Little London had been approved by the District Council before the parish council had had a chance to discuss it.

6. Minutes of the meetings on July 16th and August 13th

The minutes of the meetings were agreed as true records and signed accordingly

7. Members' Reports

Following a public meeting organised by Severn Trent, AT reported a number of concerns about the proposed new water reservoir on May Hill, including the difficulty of lorry access to the site. She had emailed Severn Trent's project manager about two concerns in particular, but had not yet had a reply.

LI asked for news content for the parish council's Autumn Leafletter due out next month. She added that the Saturday café in the pavilion was going well, but there was an issue around disabled access, not least for two volunteer youngsters who were in wheelchairs. In addition, there was no lock for the disabled toilet nor fitted emergency cord.

This led to a wider discussion about access to the pavilion, including the issue of people making the floor wet after walking across the grass of the recreation ground in poor weather. It was agreed to look again at the idea of a firm path from Church Road to the pavilion, including checking insurance aspects and the availability of grants. JS offered to prepare a site plan for reviewing the proposal. **ACTION: JS/AM**

LI reported an issue about drug use that had come up via the teen café, with the area behind the pavilion becoming a no-go area for younger teenagers. Drug dealing had been taking place in the play area at the bottom of the Recreation Ground, and drugs had also been offered outside the village shop. It was agreed to speak to the local PCSO about the matter, particularly in relation to Wednesday evening youth club nights, and to take the PCSO's advice about what to say in the Leafletter. **ACTION: LI**

JS said he was happy to repaint the bus shelters, and RN offered to see what paint was in store at the Latchen Room. AT added concern about brambles going inside the bus shelter on the A40, which JS also volunteered to look at. **ACTION: JS/RN**

AT reported a difficulty in getting hold of a timetable for the new bus route on the A40 between Ross and Gloucester, which she would research. **ACTION: AT**

BR confirmed he was working with Highways England on road safety along the A40, and was also still working to get road improvements at Royal Springs on the A4136. The county council were spending their agreed extra investment in the roads, but improvements to Church Road in Longhope village were not expected until after March. Ofsted were happy with the progress being made by the county's child care department, but the shortage of social workers was a handicap, with a 20% turnover in staff leading to lost consistency.

8. Committee Reports

(a) Latchen Room Management Committee

RN reported that the external painting of the Latchen Room had been completed, and the committee were now waiting for planning approval for the new balcony. The boiler had been serviced for the winter.

(b) Recreation Ground Management Committee

LI noted that insurance should be on the agenda for the next committee meeting, and the clerk added there were limitations in the current parish policy to cover for casual hirers. It was agreed to send details of the current policy to both the Recreation Ground and Latchen Room committees for the matter to be reviewed. **ACTION: AM**

9. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

The clerk advised that tenders would be going out for the tree surgery on parish-managed land in the village, with a parallel process of the required planning application.

The clerk presented the draft agreement with County Highways over the installation of the new vehicle-activated speed warning signs. It was agreed that the clerk and chairman would sign the agreement subject to clarification around an apparent anomaly in the text in regard to professional indemnity insurance.

ACTION: AM/MP

There were a number of items of correspondence including:

- A letter from the local branch of the British Legion advising that the parish council would need to prepare a crest to go on its Remembrance Day wreath from 2019
- A request for the siting of an aerial for Dean Radio FM, which RN was dealing with
- The Mitcheldean Neighbourhood Development Plan was out for consultation
- Regular newsletters from the county council and GAPTC

10. Finance

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Mike Phelps	32.64	Scalpings for May Hill (replacement cheque)
Merlin Waste	90.00	Dog waste collection
Glebe Contractors	115.80	Grass cutting
RBL Poppy Appeal	250.00	Soldier silhouette
Cash	50.00	Petty Cash
Andrew Maliphant	643.14	Salary – August
Andrew Maliphant	37.33	Expenses – August

After discussion, it was agreed to speak to a village resident about potentially placing the soldier silhouette on their property, and to consider the placement at the next meeting.

ACTION: MP/AM

The parish council as trustees of the Rose Barton and Margaret Skelton Trust also approved a payment to Dave East of £675.99 against the bills for the annual party for older residents.

The financial report for September was received with thanks.

The clerk presented four quotations for the production of information signs for dog walkers, and after discussion it was agreed to award the work to Whitehill Direct.

11. Community Land Trust

MP reported that the steering group would be meeting CLT expert Ian Crawley for a site visit on September 20th, and it was agreed to host Ian and his colleague for lunch at the Longhope Bakery.

12. Next Meeting - Monday 15th October at 7 pm

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