

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
LONGHOPE PARISH COUNCIL  
held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

PRESENT: Cllrs. M Phelps (Chair), S Collins, R Noblett, A Toomey, G Nicholas, L Isko and C Griffiths

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Maliphant (Clerk), County Cllr. B Robinson, District Cllr. B Jones and four local residents

1. There were no apologies for absence
2. There were no declarations of interest

### 3. Public Forum

A resident pointed out that the dog waste bin behind the Latchen Room had still not been cleared, and the clerk agreed to chase the contractors again. **ACTION: AM**

### 4. Planning

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

P0142/20/FUL two extensions at West View, Church Road  
P0108/20/TCA fell two trees at West View, Church Road  
P0015/20/FUL replacement bungalow at Ashfield, Velthouse Lane

Concerns remained about the renewed application P1856/19/FUL for a new driveway at Old Farm, Barrel Lane, considering potential problems with heavy rain on a gravel driveway, with the steepness also creating a potential problem in the case of sudden braking, and the fact that the driveway is very close to a bend in the main road. It was agreed to respond to the District Council making these points and suggesting that County Highways should be asked for their opinion. **ACTION: AM**

Concerns were also raised about the current condition of the Dick Whittington Farm Park, as seen at a recent site visit, and the clerk was asked to draft some correspondence on the matter for approval. There were also concerns about recent sale adverts for the cabins at Swallow Lakes that did not make it clear that they were for holiday use only, and it was agreed to double-check planning approvals for the site. **ACTION: AM**

It was agreed that AT and RN would join MP and SC on the Planning Committee.

5. The minutes of the meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup> were agreed as a true record.

### 6. Members' Reports

AT suggested that Roger Head could be invited to a special meeting in future to talk more about plans for the Richard Read site, and MP agreed to approach him. Meanwhile the drains along Yartleton Lane had still not been cleared, water was now cascading down to the A40, and it was agreed to chase County Highways again for a site visit. **ACTION: AM**

GN reported that the vacant allotments had been taken up due to publicity on Facebook, and there was now a waiting list of local residents.

RN reported that he was working with Longhope Bakery on a draft "Welcome to Longhope" leaflet.

CG had been carrying out some research on what other parish councils are doing in response to climate change, looking at what is achievable, realistic, and part of village life. She suggested a hosted discussion with the Latchen Room and Recreation Ground Committees as well as the Bakery to consider the issues and what could be done about them. AT suggested having a table for this approach at the Annual Parish Meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>, which was agreed, including information on electric vehicles. **ACTION: CG**

There was a discussion about the different types of speed bump and the potential for installing them on the village's roads. It was agreed to ask the local County Highways officer for a view and a recommendation. **ACTION: AM**

BR reported that the County Council budget had now been approved, and there would be solar panels on County Hall, all street lights would be LED, and pool cars would be electric vehicles. His own role had changed from being chair of children's services to chairing the health scrutiny committee. He had just returned from a public meeting about the eco-village for Westbury proposed in a Local Plan suggestion, which had proved unpopular with residents. The District Council still needed to have 8,000 new homes built by 2042, and they might still consider the eco-village option, though other sites may come forward.

## 7. Committee Reports

### (a) Latchen Room Management Committee

RN reported there had been some issues with the boiler, and a new pump was coming. Heating the hall before opening times was being reduced by half an hour each day. The electrician was arriving the next day to complete the electrical certification process.

The Latchen Room could benefit from more parking spaces, and GN confirmed that parking in the Latchen and Nupend Gardens was a major issue when there were events on. AT added she would like to see some fruit trees planted behind the Latchen Room, and it was agreed to have a site visit to consider the possibilities. **ACTION: MP/RN/GN**

### (b) Recreation Ground Management Committee

RN reported that the committee had completed new risk assessments. A mother and toddler group was starting, and the committee was working to restart a youth group following a successful meeting earlier that evening. SC added that the basket swing project was restarting. In discussion about the current youth fund, LI noted that the Teen Committee had raised the funds and have the final say about what they are spent on. Meanwhile it was confirmed that the parish council would continue to hold the funds raised for the path project for the time being.

## 8. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

The clerk presented a draft brief for a new tree survey including the copse at the top of May Hill, which was approved. He reported that Mitcheldean GP surgery had come back with a proposal for a modern heart monitor to be bought for £999 in memory of past chairman Stan Stephens, which was agreed. Glebe Contractors had come back with a cost of £42 plus VAT for three annual cuts of the grass verge by the allotments, which was also agreed.

In discussion about the parish emergency plan, it was considered too soon to make any changes in respect of the as yet unknown effects of a possible coronavirus epidemic. RN offered to review the emergency plan to ensure it was up to date.

Correspondence included:

- Suppliers offering memorial items for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day
- The annual Keep Britain Tidy campaign for three weeks from March 22<sup>nd</sup>
- District Council climate action day on March 30<sup>th</sup>

## 9. Finance

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Cash	50.00	Petty Cash
Mike Phelps	250.00	Chairman's expenses
4 Seasons Worx	840.00	Recreation Ground mowing
4 Seasons Worx	223.50	Allotments clearance
4 Seasons Worx	113.50	Station Lane clearance
Merlin Waste	105.00	Dog waste collection, Feb
Financial Conduct Authority	40.00	CLT incorporation
GAPTC	150.00	Training
Andrew Maliphant	43.29	Unpaid salary - November
Andrew Maliphant	571.83	Salary - January
Andrew Maliphant	37.33	Expenses - January

The monthly financial report was received with thanks. The clerk reported that the agreed tree surgery behind the Latchen Room was due to be carried out on February 26<sup>th</sup>. He also presented responses to the brief sent out for emergency tree work on May Hill following Storm Ciara, and after discussion it was agreed to appoint Glebe Contractors to the work. In light of continued bad weather, it was also unanimously agreed to add further necessary safety work on leaning trees to the same contract.

The clerk reported that the parish council had passed the first hurdle for gaining match funding from the County Council for the proposed improvement work on Hobbs Lane, but on condition that there was an agreed technical specification that then went out to tender. After discussion it was agreed to arrange a site meeting with the local County Highways officer and the owners of adjacent land to agree the specification. **ACTION: AM**

## 10. Community Land Trust

MP reported that it had been agreed to get quotes from local architects for the housing design work, and he assured CG that environmental issues would be addressed in the design process. The question had been raised about use of the clerk's time on the project once the CLT had been incorporated at a separate body, and it was agreed that councillors would discuss the matter at 6.30 pm on the day of the next parish council meeting.

## 11. Next Meeting - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7 pm

**Standing Orders were suspended at the end of the meeting in order that the Council could continue in "closed session" under the provisions of The Public (Admissions to Meetings Act 1960) as the business to be discussed was considered to be of a confidential nature.**

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