

**LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL**  
**19:00 THURSDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Cllr Selina Musters (SM) – Chairman  
Cllr Angie Filippa (AF) - Vice Chairman  
Cllr David Burnfield (DB)  
Cllr Hugo Denée (HD)  
Cllr Kirsty Dominick-Gibson (KDG)  
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)  
Cllr Alice Foster (AFo)

In attendance: Clerk Gill Bulpitt (GB), Colin McIntyre (CM) Leckford (from 8.15 pm) and 5 residents

1. **Apologies:** Colin McIntyre (CM), for late arrival due to other commitments; Cllr Ian Jeffrey TVBC Councillor; Tony Ward TVBC Councillor; David Drew (DD) HCC Councillor and David Hall Chair of Governors of Test Valley School
2. **Minutes of PC Meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022**  
Unanimously agreed for adoption and signed by SM.
3. **Matters Arising:**
  - **Highways & Traffic.**
    - **21562764 - Road signs at Bottom Road.** Subject to HCC 22/23 budget resources. **ACTION:** Clerk to chase
    - **21640247** – Street sign missing for Bottom Road. Reported to HCC. **ACTION:** Clerk to monitor
    - **24214172 - Dual Carriageway Mowing** – No further news. **ACTION:** DB to continue to lobby HCC
    - **21640239 - Bottom Road Pothole** – Reported to HCC. **ACTION:** Clerk to monitor
    - **TV School Bus Bay** – SM advised damage with drain and tarmac in road. **ACTION:** Clerk to report to HCC
    - **Drains blocked on Longstock Road** – SM advised that the drains are blocked along Longstock Road causing the rain water to cascade down the road and along the track to the recreation ground, making the track rutted and difficult to pass. A video showing the water cascading has been taken by a resident. **ACTION:** Clerk to report to HCC
    - **21637044 - Roman Road pothole outside No 20** – AF advised the pothole has been patched but this has now come out. The hole needs a more permanent fix. **ACTION:** Clerk to raise with HCC
  - **Pedestrian White Lines** – AFo confirmed we are still awaiting decision from Mandy Ware of HCC Traffic and Safety. AFo has raised a number of issues with DD where white lines would help with safety in the village, these include at the bridge on The Bunny and junction of Church Road/Longstock Rd to show they narrow. **ACTION:** AFo to follow up and continue to lobby
  - **New Model Code of Conduct for Councillors** – Still no news from TVBC Legal Services. As this has been outstanding over a year the decision was taken to close this action. Clerk to update once any information received from Legal services.
  - **Good Councillor's Guide** – Copy distributed to all Councillors by Clerk.
  - **Bottom Road Verges** – DB confirmed the cost of creating the passing places would be between £3-£5k plus the cost of the chalk. In addition permission would be required to add chalk to the verges and would only be a temporary solution. In view of the cost and as there was no scope in the parish budget to cover; no further action should be taken. However, AFo will discuss with Mandy Ware, HCC Traffic and Safety to see if she can suggest anything to help. **ACTION:** AFo to raise with HCC
  - **Cemetery Fees** – No update. Mark Flewitt to circulate a proposal based on the review of 6 local cemeteries. **ACTION:** Clerk to monitor
  - **Church Farm Hardcore Track** – TVBC have advised that planning permission should have been obtained. This has not yet been submitted. **ACTION:** Clerk to monitor
  - **Overgrown Bunny Carrier** – SM met with DD 12/01/2023 at The Bunny. DD has suggested that plastic reflective markers are placed from the bridge all the way around to the bend to show the hazard to motorists. This will be escalated to Mandy Ware of HCC Traffic and Safety. **ACTION:** Clerk to monitor

- **Speed Indicator Devices** – Longstock and Houghton PC have been approached by Stockbridge PC to see if we would like to help purchase new speed indicator devices. There were concerns raised regarding the speed of some cars going through the village especially in the early morning. **ACTION:** SM will identify with Stockbridge PC the type of device(s), how much this will cost and what the timeshare arrangements will be. PC will then consider the proposal.
- **NALC Community event training 25/01** – Previously circulated to Councillors. Unfortunately no-one available to attend.
- **SSE Pole on Church Road** - SM has spoken to SSE who has confirmed that the residents of 1 Church Cottages have asked SSE to remove the pole from their garden. SSE proposes to move the pole to the other side of the wall onto the verge. SSE will reinstate the Parish light onto the relocated pole. There is an alternative to move the cables underground which SSE is no longer pursuing. The PC has no objection to the pole being relocated, but worries about narrowing the road.
- **Councillors Training with Plan-et** – Date agreed upon Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February, ideally 7pm will suit all Councillors. The training is open to any resident who may wish to become a Councillor in the future. Date and details will be advertised in the next edition of the Longstock Newsletter. **ACTION:** SM to confirm to Plan-et and provide full details in due course.

#### 4. Planning Applications.

- **10 Longstock Road** – single story extension – PC SUPPORT. **ACTION:** Clerk to advise TVBC of support
- **Braehead** – rebuild damaged wall - PC SUPPORT. Additional comment to be made that this is strongly supported in view of the safety implications. **ACTION:** Clerk to advise TVBC
- **Old Thatch** – glazed link between cottage and annexe - PC SUPPORT. **ACTION:** Clerk to advise TVBC of support

#### 5. Finance.

- 2023/24 Precept – Clerk advised that TVBC have confirmed receipt of the PC decision to set the precept at £9.0k.
- PC Bank Account Signatory Mandate – advised previously that the new bank mandate to remove the 2 signatories who had resigned from the PC, and to appoint CG and AFo had been delivered to Lloyds Bank. The PC was advised that Lloyds have delayed the implementation of the change to seek confirmation of the changes. No further information was available. **ACTION:** Clerk to contact ex-PC Chairman Sophie Walters to get an update.
- Clerk Contract of employment – GB to take over the Clerk position for the next 3 months on existing terms. Three month contract previously circulated to Councillors. The 2023/24 Clerk contract will be an agenda item in March. PC supported. Contract signed by SM and GB.
- Grass Cutting Contract – It was agreed that ideally 3 quotes should be obtained for the grass cutting contract. KDG advised she is meeting with a contact next week to get a quote. HD advised that John Lewis may be interested and he will approach them. CG will approach Shane Ling to ascertain if he may be interested in quoting. **ACTION:** KDG, HD & CG to obtain quotes for the work.

#### 6. King's Coronation community event

- It was agreed that there should be some sort of event to celebrate the King's Coronation on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023 after the success of the village Platinum Jubilee events for the late Queen.
- Discussion about the type of event and SM suggested placing an advert in the Longstock Newsletter to promote the event and also ask for ideas from the residents. **ACTION:** SM
- HD suggested that we use the event to raise funds for the Playground.
- Most popular suggestion at the meeting was a 'Bring Your Own' Party at the village hall. This is weather dependent and the location could be moved nearer the time if fair weather is forecast. It is believed that residents will want to watch the coronation and so a screen will need to be erected inside a dark tent.
- AF suggested a separate working party may be required dependent upon what response is received from the residents.
- To be discussed at the next meeting once feedback/ideas received.

#### 7. Councillors' Reports.

##### a. Affordable Housing and NHP. (AF)

- Affordable Housing – At meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> January a letter was shared from John Lewis Partnership (JLP) to the residents of Church Road. The letter advised a parcel of land on Church Rd had been sold to English Rural

(ER) by JLP. ER plan is to develop it with 3 houses and 2 flats. Resident concerns over the original development proposal have been taken into account and the site is much smaller with no opportunity to make any further development on the land. Other comments provided by CM – see minutes under Leckford Estate update. ER has already had a pre-planning discussion with TVBC, with a formal planning application likely in the summer.

- NHP – The potential development sites are being reviewed by independent consultants. No further update.
  - AF advised that there still continues to be an issue with the NHP grants amounts. AF to follow up.  
**ACTION:** AF

b. Allotments, Cemetery, and Trees. (KDG)

- Allotments – NTR.
- Cemetery – SM suggested a working party to clear up the cemetery. Date agreed 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023 from 10am to 12pm. SM to put a notice in the Newsletter to invite residents to join in. **ACTION:** SM for Newsletter
- War Memorial – The overgrown hedge at the war memorial requires a clear up. Date for a working group to be agreed at February meeting.
- Trees
  - DB provided an update that all the Jubilee Cherry Trees had either been planted or given to residents to plant. A vote of thanks should be given to all those that made this project happen. **ACTION:** SM to add into the Newsletter.
  - SM has obtained tree guards to protect against rabbits and these have been added to the trees in public areas. SM has a surplus supply for any resident who may require one for their tree.

c. Footpaths and Lengthsman. (CG).

- Lengthsman – NTR. Lengthsman has not returned fully to work after his illness and is looking for someone to help him
- Footpaths – NTR
- Playground Memorial Bench – this was beyond repair and has been removed. Discussion that the PC could consider raising funds to replace with a King's coronation bench. Will form part of the King's coronation debate at February meeting.

d. Test Valley School and Website. (AFo).

- TVS – NTR
- Website – Request from AFo for new councillor and Clerk details for updating to the website. **ACTION:** Clerk, KDG and HD to email AFo
- Minutes of PC Meeting – The usual process is that once the minutes have been seen and commented upon by all councillors via email then draft minutes are added to the website. After the minutes are adopted these are amended to a final version on the website. CG raised that if the minutes are agreed and adopted at the following PC meeting then should we publish draft minutes before they are officially adopted? We are unclear of the protocol and so this will be raised at the Councillor training with Plan-et. **ACTION:** Clerk to raise at training event

e. Environment. (DB)

- DB provided an update on sustainability following his attendance at the Oxford Real Farming Conference.
- DB has been requested by a resident to raise an issue regarding 32 trees that have been felled due to Ash Dieback along Church Road and if the necessary permission had been obtained. **ACTION:** DB to contact Charity Down Farm

f. Village Hall and Streetlights. (SM).

- VH – SM advised the Defibrillator outside the village hall does not belong to the hall, it is the responsibility of the PC. It has defective software and requires removal to be updated. SM has insisted with the suppliers that they provide a replacement whilst it is being repaired. Dane Oliver will organise training for locals. **ACTION:** SM to coordinate
- Streetlights – NTR

g. Playground, Henry Smith Charity. (HD)

- Playground

- The picnic benches are rotten and unrepairable. DB knows a supplier and will obtain a cost to replace. **ACTION:** DB
- A condition of the insurance is the playground should be checked once a week. HD volunteered to take on this responsibility and report any issues to the PC. AFo has a checklist which she will send to HD. **ACTION:** AFo and HD
- The playground equipment requires repairing, cleaning and perhaps augmenting. HD has been approached by Sovereign who undertook the work at Longparish and SM is also awaiting quotes. The Councillor Grant opportunity ends 31/03/2023 and we need quotes before we can apply. PC is obligated to obtain 3 quotes. SM and HD to discuss separately and report to PC next month. **ACTION:** HD to follow up
- **HSC**
  - Good feedback from the HS Lunch which took place on Wed 14<sup>th</sup> December
  - Residents donated £220, and outlay was about £1,000
  - PC Members are reminded to be aware of cases of hardship in the village for HSC grants. **ACTION:** All
  - Clerk has been approach by Michaela Cavuoto, Community Engagement Officer, TVBC regarding a cost of living flyer that can be made available. This signposts help available via the Test Valley support hub. Agreed that a copy be put on all village noticeboards. AFo suggested we put this in the newsletter as a flyer. **ACTION:** Clerk to obtain 200 copies from TVBC liaise with SM regarding newsletter and place onto notice boards.
- h. Leckford Estate. (CM).
  - Mushroom Farm - A commercial decision has been taken to close the Leckford mushroom farm on 18/02/2023. This has been in production since 1985.
  - Longstock House – there was a fire before Christmas in one of the bedrooms which was contained. The House is being opened up soon for hire. In the first instance it will be offered to partnership employees and then corporate bookings.
  - Church Road Development – JLP has sold a portion of land on Church Road to English Rural Housing (ERH). Planning will be sought by ERH for 3 houses and 2 flats. The footpath will still be accessible. Any comments about the development can be made during the planning approval process through ERHA or TVBC.
- i. HCC
  - NTR
- j. TVBC
  - The latest Mid Test Matters had been circulated to the PC in advance. CG quoted from the newsletter that TVBC had increased its cost of living grant scheme to £100,000, There is £65,000 left in the pot. Broughton PC got some money to provide a warm space. CG linked this to the monthly Soup and Sandwich lunches provided and could we request a grant? **ACTION:** SM to take forward

## 7. Correspondence

- NTR

## 8. Any Other Business/public comment.

- Church Road, footpath 6, the long gates have been taken off their hinges and the entry blocked by bales.
- Speed – AFo has been asked by a resident to raise the issue of speeding vehicles on The Bunny. Discussion about how we could extend the 30 mph area, use white lines and adopt '20 is plenty' throughout the village. CM will raise awareness of the issue with Leckford Estate employees. **ACTION:** AFo to place into the Newsletter to remind residents about speeding through the village and take forward with HCC as part of the Pedestrian White Lines action.
- Grit – CG raised with the cold weather the grit bins need to be checked. DB volunteered to check all the village bins. **ACTION:** DB

## 9. Date of Next Meeting..

- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.00 pm – in the Village Hall

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.

Cheques and Payments:

01230	Ivan Gibson (mowing contract)	£625.00
01231	Waitrose (Jubilee Cherry Trees)	£2,505.60
01232	HALC (Good Councillor Guides)	£44.00
DD	Southern Electric	£46.13