

**LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
1930 MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Cllr Sophie Walters (SW) – chair  
Cllr David Burnfield (DB)  
Cllr Ivan Gibson (IG)  
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)  
Cllr Rebecca Griffiths (RG)  
Cllr John Milne (JM)  
Cllr Selina Musters (SM)

Clerk Mark Flewitt, ex-Clerk John Musters, and three members of the public .

1. **Apologies.** Colin McIntyre (Leckford Estate) County Councillor Andrew Gibson, District Councillor Daniel Busk, District Councillor Peter Boulton.

2. **Minutes of Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> March.** Adopted and signed.

3. **Matters Arising:**

a. **Highways** – four outstanding reported items

- 21407471 Damaged and toppled salt bin by Terstan – reported 17 Jan, passed to contractor 20 Feb. Nothing happened; hastened 15 April
- 21412799 Potholes by grass triangle at foot of Bottom Road – reported 11 Feb, “enquiry complete” 10 April, according to Hantsweb. DB will put scalplings in the large potholes and source materials (possibly sleepers) to create a border and prevent recurrence – **ACTION:** Cllr Burnfield
- 21414966 Drain by Mary Saunders cottage – reported 22 Feb, ‘enquiry updated’ 25 Feb, but no action evident
- 21421513 Potholes in Church Road – reported 28 March, work started 11 April – now done

**ACTION:** Clerk

b. **Test Valley School swimming pool.** The Chair advised that the decision to close the pool had provoked a substantial reaction locally, with 13,000 signatures on a petition objecting to the closure. The closure decision has now been reversed, and a crowdfunding exercise has been started, including a search for local donations and sponsorship. A Success Story.

4. **Planning Applications.** MF advised that Councillors visited Halfway Cottage on 3<sup>rd</sup> April to review substantial redevelopment plans, accompanied by the architect. It was agreed that the new plans were acceptable and could be supported, with the condition that the beech hedge at the front of the property be retained. The Parish Council’s support to the application on this basis was advised to TVBC Planning.

**ACTION:** Clerk

5. **Neighbourhood Plan.** The Chair advised that no work has been undertaken to date on behalf of Longstock, but that there exists a possibility to join in with Stockbridge and/or Houghton in preparing a joint document, to include the key issue of future development. It is understood that Houghton is already well advanced on its Neighbourhood Plan. This would be a ‘Statutory Planning Document’, and may well also have the result of alerting potential developers to the development potential in the area. To be successful it would require real involvement from Longstock people. It was suggested that an article be included in the next village newsletter. Further comments from members of the public: “a Plan does not necessarily enable resistance to development, but rather allows influence on possible locations”; “important to include historical viewpoint to inform future development”.

**ACTION:** Chair

6. **Finance.**

- **Annual Governance Statement:** The ex-Clerk presented the Annual Governance Statement
- **End of Year Accounting Statement:** The ex-Clerk presented the end-of-year financial accounting statement
- **Audit Timescale:** The accounts and all supporting documents will be handed to the auditor on 19<sup>th</sup> April for review and sign-off

It was unanimously agreed that the Chair should sign the relevant pages of the annual AGAR statement – proposed by CG and seconded by RG

**ACTION:** Clerk

7. **Councillors’ Reports.**

a. Affordable Housing. (DB). NTR.

b. Allotments, Cemetery, Trees. (IG). There are 2 ½ allotment plots available, which can be advised in the next newsletter. The Poplar trees on the Leckford Estate land adjoining the village hall are now causing considerable concern with regard to potential damage to the village hall itself and/or vehicles parked nearby.

**ACTION:** Mr McIntyre

c. Footpaths. (CG).

- Shane Ling is the new Lengthsman, but funding is not yet in place.
- The Countryside Service will provide 25% of the funds for the Lengthsman
- The new “finger” and new signage will demonstrate work done to the Countryside Service
- Stockbridge will be the “lead parish” for footpaths
- Chair to sign new contract with Stockbridge PC

**ACTION:** Cllr Grieve, Chair

d. Test Valley School. (RG). A Governors' meeting was held about the swimming pool – by invitation only. The PTA's position was very well presented in a coherent and convincing way. The school's income is approximately £4k pa per pupil, so the loss of only 3 pupils would negate the £12k pa "savings" of closing the pool. The Governors agreed to continue with the pool if the PTA would take it on. A free professional survey of the pool has been offered. Overall a very positive outcome.

e. Environment. (JM). A Test Valley Resilience Workshop may provide funding for future projects, which can be consulted with the new Borough Councillor.

f. Village Hall and Street Lights. (SM).

- The Village Hall AGM will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> May.
- Re-wiring has cost £1k.
- Ongoing contacts with new streetlight suppliers, including measurements of the poles and further input from the design team – reply pending.
- The Village Hall has received donations to pay for 2 streetlights.

**ACTION:** Cllr Musters

g. Playground and Website. (SW).

- A new file has been created for the regular inspection process of the playground.
- A new signage post has been installed.
- A new basketball net and base is required.
- It is intended to move the car park by 2020, which will require the involvement of the HCC Archaeologist
- Leckford Estate to be asked to arrange car park move for September

**ACTION:** SW, Mr McIntyre

h. Leckford Estate. (CM). No report

8. **Correspondence.**

- HALC Membership Document received, read and understood
- Re proposed waste to energy project site - Barton Stacey PC have asked if Longstock wish to be included included in their email updates to local councils. This was agreed - **Action:** Chair
- HALC have provided a 2019 revised version of Governance and Accountability Practitioners' Guide

11. **Any Other Business/public comment.** A presentation of a small tree to Councillor Milne was made by the other councillors in recognition of his long and valuable service on Longstock Parish Council.

12. **Date of Next Meeting.** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm

Cheques Signed:

090	SSE Contracting	Lighting maintenance	£	130.22
092	Sarsen Press	Newsletter	£	147.60
093	SSE	Electricity	£	127.13
094	HALC	Clerk's course	£	54.00
095	HALC	Afiliation and Levy	£	237.00

The Chairman closed the meeting at 2115.