

LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL
1900 MONDAY 6th JUNE 2022 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr Sophie Walters – Chairman (SW)
Cllr Angie Filippa – Deputy Chairman (AF)
Cllr David Burnfield (DB)
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)
Cllr Selina Musters (SM)
Cllr Ivan Gibson (IG)
Cllr Alice Foster (AFo)

In attendance: Clerk Mark Flewitt (MF), David Hall (DH) Test Valley School Governor, David Drew (DD) HCC Councillor from 8.15 pm, and 4 local residents

1. **Apologies:** David Drew (DD) HCC Councillor, for late arrival due to other PC commitments; Ian Jeffrey (IJ) TVBC Councillor, who is away, Colin McIntyre (CM) of Leckford Estate, and Tony Ward (TW) TVBC Councillor.
2. **Minutes of PC Meeting of 9th May**
Unanimously agreed for adoption and signed by AF who chaired the meeting.
3. **Matters Arising:**
 - **Highways & Traffic.**
 - **21560535** – Road Drainage problems at The Grange. With HCC. No further news. **ACTION:** AFo to monitor
 - **21562764** – Road signs and markings at Bottom Road. Road markings done. HCC low priority subject to resources in 2022/23. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
 - **24214172 - Dual Carriageway Mowing** – DB asked for DD’s help with HCC. Can PC “adopt” the space for care and planting, including Jubilee Cherry trees? **ACTION:** DD/DB
 - **21590244 - Damaged bridge on Bunny** – Work with HCC contractor. **ACTION:** MF to monitor, and also to respond to HCC re HGV sign at the A3057 junction, and request removal of old “road closed” signs.
 - **21604497 - Road speed signs at Heron Cottage** – following storm damage road signs demolished by fallen tree. Pending with HCC. **ACTION:** MF to monitor, but sign replaced post-meeting. Closed
 - AF asked MF to contact HCC with photos re low trees in Roman Road parking loop and on Salisbury Hill. DD to follow up. **ACTION:** MF/DD
 - **Traffic Speed** – Re white lines for pedestrians - AFo awaiting information from Chilbolton PC. **ACTION:** AFo to follow up
 - **New Model Code of Conduct for Councillors** – Still awaiting guidance from TVBC Legal Services. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
 - **Bottom Road Verges** – chalk passing places to be created this month. **ACTION:** DB
 - **Recording of Births, Deaths, Arrivals and Departures** – in hand with CG. **ACTION:** CG
 - **PC Refresher Training** – MF to seek dates and times from Plan-et. **ACTION:** MF

- **Cemetery Fees** – comparisons with local cemeteries still pending with MF. **ACTION:** MF

4. **Planning Applications.**

DB and AFo were asked to leave the meeting for the first item due to pecuniary and family interests.

- Stockbridge View Campsite – change of use. AF expressed concern on behalf of Roman Road residents about potential disturbance, but majority PC SUPPORT confirmed. **ACTION:** MF

DB and AFo returned to the meeting.

- Langtry House – extensions/swimming pool/landscaping. MF advised that this application had been circulated and agreed by email, due to the reply cut-off date being before this PC meeting. PC unanimously ratified the decision of PC NO OBJECTION. **ACTION:** MF
- Braehead House – rebuild wall. Unanimous PC SUPPORT. PC also felt that the planning application process was unnecessary for a repair to a wall on the public highway which could be dangerous to vehicles and pedestrians. **ACTION:** MF.
- 31 Longstock – side and rear extensions. Unanimous PC SUPPORT. **ACTION:** MF.
- 2 Moat Cottages – fell conifer. Unanimous PC SUPPORT. **ACTION:** MF.

5. **Finance.**

- Annual Audit Update – MF confirmed that the accounts have been approved by the internal auditor for signature.
- Publication of Accounts – MF advised that the Notice for the Exercise of Public Rights will be published on 8th June, and the inspection period will run until 20th July. The Accounts and supporting documents will be available on the PC website from 9th June. The AGAR Certificate of Exemption to be sent to the external auditors on 8th June. **ACTION:** MF
- TVBC Jubilee Grant – MF advised that the £300 grant has been approved, and the remittance notice received. £75 has been agreed to be allocated to the Roman Road events. **ACTION:** MF
- Unused NHP Grant Funds – the final amount of the unused 2021/22 NHP Grant is pending confirmation with AF prior to repayment. **ACTION:** MF/AF

6. **Councillors' Reports.**

a. Affordable Housing and NHP. (AF)

- Affordable Housing – NTR
 - Re NHP – AF confirmed that a call for sites is being made to local landowners about possible locations for future development including Affordable Housing, **ACTION:** AF
 - The NHP Steering Group has welcomed 4 new members to work on specific areas of the plan

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

- Allotments – IG confirmed that all plots are fully let
- Cemetery – PC unanimously agreed to increase the annual mowing contract for the cemetery and playground to £2.5k pa in view of increased fuel costs and the decision of Leckford Estate not to continue to provide mowing services on the playground. The new contract will cover the entire playground field and edges. **ACTION:** MF to arrange signature of contract
 - IG advised that 3 tawny owls are nesting in an ash tree adjacent to the cemetery. CG said the Mr Armitage, the landowner should be advised. **ACTION:** CG

- Trees – IG expressed thanks to SW for the Jubilee cherry tree initiative.
- c. Footpaths and Lengthsman. (CG).
 - Lengthsman – Ongoing work includes tidying on the Bunny
 - The Footpath sign on FP5 at the entrance to Longstock Farm Shop is to be replaced.
 - CG asked PC Members to advise him of any additional work that can be done by the Lengthsman. **ACTION:** All
 - The 30mph sign near Windover Farm is completely hidden in the hedge. DB will talk to the owner Mr Reynell about cutting it back. **ACTION:** DB
 - Footpaths – Access to Footpath 6 is pending. **ACTION:** DB.
- d. Test Valley School and Website. (AFo).
 - TVS – SW invited DH to update the PC on developments at the school following the recent message from the Chair of Governors.
 - DH confirmed that application numbers for the 2022/23 intake are once again increasing, but that the projected total number of pupils at 450 is still only half of TVS’s capacity.
 - Major improvements at the Andover schools, and the decision to charge Andover parents for transportation to TVS has affected recruitment growth.
 - The Governors have studied various options, including partnerships with other local schools, but the multi-academy trust model is felt to be the most attractive.
 - Negotiations are advanced with HISP MAT (Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Southampton and Portsmouth Multi-Academy Trust) based in Chandlers Ford with a portfolio of Primary and Secondary Schools,
 - HISP is very keen to develop TVS’s potential and to focus on its position as a centre of excellence in Maths, Science and Rural Studies
 - HISP is also keen on TVS to offer facilities to the local community, and is enthusiastic about the new swimming pool initiative. The current pool is to be filled in during the summer.
 - The due diligence and local consultation processes have started, including with parents and the wider community, with final approval expected by end-July.
 - A new Head for the school has been identified, and the sports hall is to be re-named in honour of Marcus Rashford in a ceremony to be led by a local sports personality. PC members are asked to suggest names. **ACTION:** All
 - SW thanked DH for his exposition, and asked him to ensure that TVS’s official address include Longstock in future. **ACTION:** DH
 - Website – All up to date
- e. Environment. (DB)
 - DB advised that recent reports indicate that carbon emissions in the local area are lower.
 - CPRE have also advised that light pollution is reducing
 - Farmers are re-introducing hedgerows, in many cases to replace hedgerows removed in past decades
- f. Village Hall and Streetlights. (SM).
 - VH - SM advised that the AGM provided very positive feedback, and that the accounts are available to be reviewed on the VH notice board.
 - Streetlights – All OK

- g. Playground and Henry Smith Charity. (SW)
 - Playground - SW confirmed that the ROSPA inspection has been carried out, and will be studied to identify necessary repairs and remedial work. **ACTION:** SW
 - Parking problems are continuing, with some vehicles left while the owners set off on long walks. It is suggested that the HCC sign be replaced by one “Playground Users Only”. MF to send details to DD. **ACTION:** MF/DD
 - IG advised that some damage to fencing and equipment is caused by non-resident users. CG suggested that photos could provide evidence or act as a deterrent.
 - The new rota of volunteers is working well, but should be combined with a “repair team” to undertake remedial work, possibly on a quarterly basis. SW to contact local resident Mr Melville on this. **ACTION:** SW
 - IG agreed that the Playground work will be included in the new mowing contract (see 6.b above).
 - HSC – SW confirmed that the grant application renewal request has been submitted, and that more than £4k was distributed to local recipients last year. It is unlikely that HSC will repeat the larger (Covid-related) £4k donation this year, but additional funds have been available in the past for exceptional cases of hardship.

h. Leckford Estate. (CM). - NTR

i. HCC (DD).

- The HCC report had been circulated to the PC in advance
 - DD advised that more than 2,000 visas had been issued to Ukrainian refugees in the Hampshire area

j. TVBC

- The TVBC report had been circulated to the PC in advance
 - DD highlighted that statues to mark the Jubilee will be erected in Romsey and Andover

7. **Platinum Jubilee Events**

- It was unanimously agreed that the series of events held in the village during the Jubilee holiday were a great success.
 - CG proposed a vote of thanks to SW for setting up the organising group, and particularly for the specific initiatives of illuminating the church and the planting of cherry trees. Unanimously agreed.
 - SW advised that orders for 60 cherry trees have already been received, with an objective of reaching and hopefully passing 70.
 - SW expressed thanks to local resident Kellie Warren for leading on the Roman Road events.
 - Local resident Mr Milne expressed thanks to everyone involved in making the Jubilee events in Longstock such a wonderful success.

8. **Correspondence**

- MF will circulate details of the HCC Public Transport consultation and will print off posters for the notice boards. **ACTION:** MF

9. **Any Other Business/public comment.**

- Local resident Mrs Warner advised that the GP Surgery can now offer the services of a “social practitioner” to support local people who are struggling with mental or physical problems.
- Local resident Mr Milne asked whether the forthcoming vacancy for the PC Clerk will be advertised locally. It was confirmed that this will be included in future

Newsletters and on notice boards etc. **ACTION:** MF

- SW mentioned that the PC should encourage new, especially young, potential PC members to come forward as we approach the 2023 elections.

10. **Date of Next Meeting..**

- Monday 18th July 2022 at 7.00 pm – in the Village Hall (then Monday 12th September)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Cheques and Payments:

DD	SSE re Electricity (x2 months)	£93.40
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