

**LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL**  
**19:00 THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 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 Alice Foster (AFo)  
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)

In attendance: Clerk Gill Bulpitt (GB), Cllr Ian Jeffrey (IJ) TVBC Councillor, David Drew (DD) HCC Councillor, David Hall (DH) Chair of Governors of Test Valley School, Marie Stubbington (MS), Community Engagement Officer TVBC and 1 resident

1. **Apologies:** Colin McIntyre (CM) Leckford Estate

2. **Minutes of PC Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

Unanimously agreed for adoption and signed by SM.

3. **Matters Arising:**

- **Highways & Traffic.**

- **21562764 - Road signs at Bottom Road.** AFo confirmed this has been included in the Longstock Road Safety Plan (see Pedestrian White lines below)
- **21640247 - Street sign missing for Bottom Road.** HCC have passed to TVBC to action. **ACTION:** Clerk to monitor
- **21640239 - Bottom Road Pothole** – Completed 3/02/2023
- **21648508 - Test Valley School Bus Bay** – Reported to HCC **ACTION:** Clerk to monitor
- **24231815 - Drains blocked on Longstock Road** –Reported to HCC who have marked the drains to clear but have missed marking obscured drain below LOYO track. **ACTION:** Clerk to report to HCC
- **21637044 - Roman Road pothole outside No 20** – Temp fix completed but AF reports this pothole has been patched a number of times and then it all comes out again. DD advised the priority is to make potholes from unsafe to safe with a temporary patch in the first instance and then permanent later. Clerk questioned how to get a pothole onto the permanent list as this particular one is showing as completed on HCC website. DD advised to report it again and copy in DD. **ACTION:** Clerk to report again and email DD
- **Pedestrian White Lines** – AFo confirmed we are still awaiting decision from Mandy Ware of HCC Traffic and Safety. The various road safety actions across Longstock are to be caught under this same project and referred to as Longstock Road Safety Plan. **ACTION:** AFo to follow up and continue to lobby
- **Bottom Road Verges** – AFo confirmed this has been included in the Longstock Road Safety Plan
- **Overgrown Bunny Carrier** – AFo confirmed this has been included in the Longstock Road Safety Plan
- **Cemetery Fees** – No update. Mark Flewitt to circulate a proposal based on the review of 6 local cemeteries before the March PC meeting. **ACTION:** Clerk to monitor
- **Speed Indicator Devices** – SM confirmed that the cost of the devices are £3,500 each. After debate it was decided by the PC that Longstock do not wish to take part, mainly due to the costs involved. **ACTION:** SM to contact Stockbridge PC
- **SSE Pole on Church Road** – SSE is to close Church Road on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> March to move the pole. SM has advised the residents of Church Road.
- **Councillors Training with Plan-et** – Arranged for Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm. The training is open to any resident who may wish to become a Councillor in the future.
- **Councillor Elections** – Clerk circulated a ‘Get Involved’ booklet that will be given to anyone who expresses an interest and also to those who were unsuccessful in the recent co-opting of Councillors.

#### 4. Planning Applications.

- **Ivy Cottage – Tree works** – already circulated by email to the PC as the response date was before the PC meeting. Confirmed – PC SUPPORT already advised to TVBC.

#### 5. Finance.

- **Quarterly Bank Reconciliation** – delayed due to Bank statements only just received. Will be carried forward to next meeting. Clerk advised that Online Banking access has been requested for the PC accounts to enable timely reconciliation. Online Banking to be requested for all signatories. **ACTION:** Clerk to support
- **Monthly Finance Report** – Clerk circulated PC Bank account status also showing approved January payments and income receipts. PC approved of the format. **ACTION:** Clerk to provide at each PC meeting
- **Zoom contract** – Clerk advised of increase in subscription. This facility is not used by any PC member. Subscription to be cancelled and can be reinstated if required in the future. **ACTION:** Clerk to cancel
- **PC Bank Account Signatory Mandate** – no further forward and Lloyds Bank will only speak with a signatory. **ACTION:** SM and Clerk to go into Lloyds to help resolve
- **Grass Cutting Contract** – Daniel Robins (DR) has quoted to undertake the work for the same price of £2,500 as the previous contract undertaken by Ivan Gibson. Whilst it was recognised that ideally 3 quotes should be obtained, it has been difficult getting alternative quotes. PC voted to accept DR quote with the addition that the contract should include a 6 month break clause. **ACTION:** SM to confirm with Daniel Robins and arrange for a signed contract

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

- Facebook and email sent to residents requesting help and ideas to AFo.
- Agreed that the best date for a village event would be Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May to tie in with the national events.
- Initial plan is to hold this event at the Playground with a bad weather alternative of the Village Hall.
- IJ advised that TVBC have grants of up to £500 available to assist parishes with their celebrations. Deadline for grant submission is 21<sup>st</sup> April. There is also a Councillors community programme that will match funds.
- Agreed a steering group with AFo and HD to help co-ordinate events and report back to PC. Residents will be asked to be involved. Discussed also Coronation mugs for younger residents. This should form part of the steering group. **ACTION:** AFo, HD and SM to help form steering group

#### 7. Councillors' Reports.

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

- Affordable Housing – NTR
- NHP – The potential development sites are being analysed. The NHP will go to regulation 14 in April and the NHP will then carry more weight. AF advised that NHP grant of £7,995 has been approved and will be received shortly into the PC account when the outstanding invoices to Plan-et can be paid. **ACTION:** Clerk

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

- Allotments – Allotments are full with a waitlist of 2. Allotment BBQ arranged for 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
- Cemetery – Cemetery clear up 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023 from 10am to 12pm. DB agreed to bring topsoil and grass seed for the sunken graves and to take away green waste. SM to provide hot drinks.
- Trees – NTR

##### c. Footpaths and Lengthsman. (CG)

- Lengthsman – Lengthsman is back to work and February tasks are clear out the grips between Bottom Road and Southside, clean road signs and jet wash the bridge over the River Test (cost for bridge shared with Stockbridge PC). CG confirmed Lengthsman to continue for another year.
- Footpaths – Sign on western end of F3 will be fixed. DB asked about the duty of HCC to cut footpaths. DD will check the schedules and update the PC. **ACTION:** DD

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

- Website – up to date
- TVS – DH gave a comprehensive overview of the current situation at Test Valley School. The Academisation of the school to form part of the HISP multi academy trust will happen by 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023. The leadership team has been strengthened with Jo McKeown appointed as Executive Head Teacher. There is a new Head of School, Nicky Goodridge (from HISP) and 2 Deputy Heads. One deputy for the curriculum and one for pastoral care. They are making good progress to improve the school following the recent Ofsted report.

e. Environment. (DB)

- Ash Trees felled on Church Road - DB confirmed the response from Charity Down farm. The Ash trees had been assessed by a professional arboriculturalist and confirmed the decision to fell was due to Ash Dieback disease. The trees will be replaced.
- Jubilee Cherry Trees – Following the planting of the Jubilee Trees as part of the Queen’s Green Canopy, an email received from Charlotte Holloway (CH), HCC, advising that some of the trees had been planted on HCC Highways land and had to be removed within 14 days. A compromise position is being sought between the PC and HCC Highways to identify which trees are on HCC land and identify areas in Longstock where the trees can be planted. DD will provide a Longstock map to Sophie Walters who will annotate where the trees have been placed. This will then be cross checked by CH against HCC land. **ACTION:** SM to monitor. In addition, DD has requested a map of HCC Highways land in Longstock to prevent any future issues but this will take time to obtain. **ACTION:** DD to provide to SM.
- Dual Carriageway tree planting – DD advised the good news that 24 mixed variety native trees have been planted near the dual carriageway. These will be maintained by HCC contractors. DB requested to DD that the mowing be left to encourage wildflowers. **ACTION:** DD to note

f. Village Hall and Streetlights. (SM)

- VH – NTR
- Streetlights – NTR
- WiFi – AF has been asked by a resident to raise the question about installing WiFi in the Village Hall. Some debate about the merits but it was agreed that the costs will be investigated. Broughton and Longparish have WiFi. **ACTION:** SM explained that the hall is run by volunteers, who could not cope with extra bookings, and current costs are covered. AF will investigate cost and offers available to Village Halls.
- Newsletter – Rosie Flewitt is to step down as editor. Nigel Rugman and SM will carry on until a new editor is in place, with Heli Helanummi-Cole continuing to typeset it. Mark Flewitt is reconciling the advertising income. This will be passed to the Clerk to action any outstanding invoices and collect funds going forward. **ACTION:** Clerk to monitor

g. Playground, Henry Smith Charity. (HD)

- Playground
  - A condition of the insurance is the playground should be checked once a week. HD has volunteered to take on this responsibility and report any issues to the PC. AFo has a checklist which she will send to HD. The check should be done by different people each week. HD to coordinate volunteers. **ACTION:** AFo and HD
  - Funds will be required to make good and maintain the playground. HD advised the initial thoughts of a schedule of events similar to previously successful ‘First Friday’. Aimed at families not only to raise money but get villages together socially. SM advised that there are funds in a Longstock Village bank account to use as ‘seed corn’. There are also grants available. **ACTION:** HD to contact volunteers as will require an event sponsor for each one. **ACTION:** AFo will add into the newsletter encouraging people to help.
  - Sarah Johns (resident) has requested the PC to consider a dog poo bin. The cost to install is £380 with an annual maintenance charge of £212 to collect the waste. The suggestion was discussed but was not supported by the PC due to insufficient funds.
- HSC
  - Discussed that the PC rep should be KDG going forward.
  - Distribution of the remaining funds was discussed in private by PC Councillors, Sophie Walters (SW) and the Clerk was in attendance. Funds allocated and SW will issue the cheques.

h. Leckford Estate.

- In CM absence, the only update is the Mushroom Farm will close on 18/02/2023.

i. HCC. (DD)

- DD has provided a HCC update that will be circulated to all PC. **ACTION:** Clerk to circulate.

j. TVBC. (IJ)

- The latest Mid Test Matters had been circulated to the PC in advance. IJ highlighted the main areas including voter ID, fly tipping, winter walks, electrical items in bins and congratulated Longstock for their £950 cost of living grant to support the monthly Soup and Sandwich lunches. He reconfirmed that requests for any grant to support the King's Coronation events must be made by 21<sup>st</sup> April.

**7. Correspondence**

- NTR

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

- Bus stop sign – DB highlighted the new sign which the PC were not aware of and understand there is no intention of starting a bus service

**9. Date of Next Meeting..**

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

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.

Cheques and Payments:

01233	Sarson Press (Newsletter printing)	£292.50
01234	John Musters (reimbursement for Jubilee Cherry Trees)	£2,505.60
DD	Southern Electric	£48.98