

LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL
1900 MONDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2020 – VIRTUAL MEETING BY ZOOM

Present: Cllr Sophie Walters (SW) - Chairman
Cllr Angie Filippa (AF) – Vice Chairman
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)
Cllr Selina Musters (SM)
Cllr David Burnfield (DB)
Cllr John Eastwood (JE)
Cllr Ivan Gibson (IG)
In attendance: Clerk Mark Flewitt (MF), Andrew Gibson (AG) HCC Councillor (for 55 minutes at the beginning of the meeting), Tony Ward (TW) TVBC Councillor, and Mrs Louise Banfield (LB) Test Valley School parent.

1. **Apologies:** Andrew Gibson for partial absence due to other PC commitments, Colin McIntyre (Leckford Estate) for medical reasons

2. **Minutes of Meeting of 12th October.**
The minutes were unanimously agreed for adoption and signed.

n.b. At this point SW invited LB to explain her concerns about current drop-off and pick-up arrangements at Test Valley School. The notes of this discussion are included under Item 7d. Councillors’ Reports – Test Valley School below.

3. **Matters Arising:**

Highways & Traffic.

- **LOYO Holes** - At the bottom of the drive to the old dairy now LOYO – still outstanding with CM. MF will remind CM. **ACTION:** MF/CM
- **Empty grit bin** – MF has checked and the filling of grit bins at Longstock Park/Garage Cottages is still pending. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
- **Dog Walkers** – post-Covid-19 the TVBC dog warden will re-engage on this – still pending. **ACTION:** SW
- **HCC Mowing Damage** – AG to advise HCC contractor not to mow wild flower area – to be reviewed in the spring. **ACTION:** MF to diarise follow up
- **21524602 - Salisbury Hill Trees** – Also related to discussions re Test Valley School Item 7d. **ACTION:** AG
- **BT Pole Objection** – MF has confirmed to BT that we are not content with their response, but that we will not take any further action. **ACTION:** Closed
- **Bottle Bank Location** – MF received message from CM that a follow-up meeting between Leckford Estate and TVBC has taken place, and that progress is being made **ACTION:** CM to keep us advised
- **Traffic Speed on Bunny** – MF/SW advised of very useful discussion with David Budd who led the campaign for reduced speed limits in Chilbolton. He has provided valuable background info on the process. **ACTION:** MF/SW

- **Barn Cottage Issues** – TW has been reviewing the planning documents in relation to the reinstatement of the hedge on the road, and other possible breaches with the listed windows, with a view to asking the relevant TVBC planning dept to investigate. **ACTION:** TW
 - **Police Communications** – MF confirmed that the local Policeman has been asked to contribute an article for the Newsletter. Response awaited. MF will draft a letter to the local MP and PCC to express our concern about low staffing levels. **ACTION:** MF
4. **Planning Applications.**
- Bumblebee Cottage – Pool House and Gym. Councillors expressed concern about the scale of the proposed building, which is considered very large, but will not be visible from the main road. Unanimous agreement to respond NO OBJECTION, but to express concerns about the size. **ACTION:** MF
 - SW mentioned that a new planning application will shortly be forthcoming for the Old Church House
5. **Finance.**
- MF advised that Patrick Coates has confirmed he is willing to undertake the half-year audit, and the papers will be delivered to him next week. **ACTION:** MF
 - GDPR/ICO – MF advised that the annual data protection renewal fee of £35.00 (including £5 DD discount) will be charged on 28th November.
6. **New Covid-19 Lockdown**
- SW advised that a general communication to all village homes to advise of the contact details of all local “section leaders” will be distributed shortly. **ACTION:**SW
 - The NHP team will also take advantage of this general mailing to include the “housing needs survey” documents which are being printed by TVBC. **ACTION:** AF
 - SW advised that in line with Government guidelines, the playground will remain open. The related signs will be re-printed for the playground. **ACTION:** SW
7. **Councillors’ Reports.**
- a. Affordable Housing. (DB). – NTR
- b. Allotments, Cemetery, and Trees. (IG).
- The allotments are fully occupied with a waiting list
 - MF had distributed the details provided by Spire Memorials for two cremation memorials (Ian Reid and Walter (Jo) Goddard) and one burial memorial (Arthur and Edith Goddard). Unanimously agreed. **ACTION:** MF
 - MF/SW advised that Mary Saunders will be cremated in Berkshire, but that her ashes will be buried with her husband’s ashes. **ACTION:** MF
 - Councillors felt that the soil levels of some of the graves are slipping. It was suggested that a working party be convened in the Spring. To be added to the next PC Agenda. **ACTION:** MF
 - IG mentioned that many local ash trees are suffering from the die-back disease, including behind the playground, on Bottom Road, and along the Wallop road.

- JE reminded Councillors that the new owners of the Willows will be dealing with the many dead and dying ash trees on their land.
- c. Footpaths and Lengthsman. (CG).
- CG advised that the Lengthsman has worked on the grips between Bottom Road and Southside Cottages, and cleared around the Bunny bench
 - This month the Lengthsman will clean the Notice Boards, tidy around the phone box, remove ivy around the lampposts at Roman Road, and do a litter pick.
 - In December CG will review with Stockbridge PC the time allocation between the 2 PCs for the cleaning of the bridge in summer and winter.
ACTION: CG
 - DB highlighted the poor condition of the footpath from Field House behind the LOYO unit, where the cattle and farm machinery has churned up the ground. CG will ask Leckford Estate to fence off an area so that the footpath can be used.
ACTION: CG/CM
- d. Test Valley School and Neighbourhood Plan. (AF).
- LB was invited to explain her concerns about drop-off and pick-up arrangements at TVS.
 - LB's daughter is in year 8 and comes in to school from Over Wallop.
 - With Covid-19 the school has changed arrival/departure arrangements, and asked parents to drop-off and collect children in Stockbridge High Street.
 - This means large numbers of children are walking up/down the narrow and overgrown pavements with no safety measures, and difficulties in maintaining social distancing.
 - Heavy traffic volumes, including large commercial vehicles are passing very close to children on the hill at speed.
 - Streetlights are obscured by trees, although SM explained that the new brighter white lights should be installed in the next couple of weeks.
 - The matter should be addressed primarily with the children's safety in mind
 - SW mentioned that children going to and from Stockbridge Primary School are also using the pavements at the same time, which restricts space even further
 - AF mentioned that the pavement had been swept recently, but that space was limited.
 - AF will investigate whether the orange flashing 'school' lights at the end of Stockbridge High Street are working and whether it would be possible to get a police speed camera or a Community Speedwatch group involved to assist with traffic calming during school pick up and drop off times.
ACTION: AF
 - AG said he will visit the site personally, and will arrange for the verges and bushes to be cut-back by HCC to increase the useable width.
ACTION: AG
 - Re NHP - AF confirmed that a £7.2k grant has been approved to cover the period to March 2021, and the first £360 invoice paid to Plan-ET for the current period.
 - The housing needs assessment is being prepared by AECOM, which should be available within 6 weeks.
 - The housing needs survey is being printed by TVBC, and should be ready to be collected shortly. **ACTION:** AF

- It is proposed to include Longstock Park staff in the survey as they work in the parish.
 - The survey can be completed by hand or on-line. Analysis should take a couple of weeks, so results are expected in mid-Jan
 - JE asked if the NHP response to the recent Planning White Paper could be uploaded on the website, as NHPs will form a key element of future planning policies. This was agreed. AF and MF to provide copies of NHP and PC responses to JE for the website. **ACTION:** AF/MF/JE
 - JE highlighted that local residents should be encouraged to participate in NHP sub-groups on the basis of their knowledge and expertise. SW confirmed this was happening, but a new reminder in the Newsletter would be appropriate; **ACTION:** SW/AF
- e. Environment, Website and Phone Box. (JE).
- JE confirmed website accessibility requirements have been fulfilled, and that any related requests will be forwarded to MF
 - JE will provide feedback to PC on website traffic via Hugo Fox analytics. **ACTION:** JE
 - Re Phone Box – JE has cleared out some books, and will arrange for the refurbishment in the Spring: **ACTION:** JE
 - DB/JE will check the electricity and fix the lighting. **ACTION:** JE/DB
- f. Village Hall and Street Lights. (SM).
- SM advised that some activities are still allowed in the village hall
 - On street lighting, SM confirmed that the new light in Houghton Road has been installed, and the rest are expected to be installed in the next few days.
- g. Playground and Henry Smith Charity. (SW)
- AF and DB are coordinating the replacement of the basketball equipment. **ACTION:** AF/DB
 - Re Henry Smith – Councillors are once again asked to look out for any residents where financial help might be needed. **ACTION:** ALL
 - CG wondered whether Xmas 2019 donations might be repeated
 - JE asked whether we can find out which residents only have their pension income to rely on.
 - SW will include another message in the Newsletter to ensure that residents are aware that the HS funds are available. **ACTION:** SW
- h. Leckford Estate. (CM). - NTR
- i. HCC. (AG)
- AG had distributed his report update to Councillors in advance
- j. TVBC. (TW)
- TW had distributed his Mid-Test Matters report in advance
 - TW proposes to distribute the Mid-Test Matters newsletter via Covid-19 “Section Leaders” to maximise awareness. SW to provide list. **ACTION:** SW
 - TW advised that more COVID-19 business grants are available, including discretionary grants.
 - SW thanked TW for his commitment and excellent help to the PC across a range of recent issues.

8. **Remembrance Sunday**

- CG confirmed that the 101st ceremony was held on Sunday 8th November, following Government guidelines, and thanked SW for her determination in ensuring that the event went ahead.
- MF advised that the Track and Trace information showed 90+ attendees
- CG said that a wreath from the local Police has been placed at the memorial.
- SM will arrange for the War Memorial notice to be re-printed. **ACTION:** SM
- CG raised the condition of the War Memorial. Councillors were asked to have a look at it so that the issue could be discussed at the next meeting. MF to diarise. **ACTION:** All

9. **Correspondence**

- MF advised that the Joyrides may request a new donation in the next financial year. **ACTION:** MF
- MF to circulate to IG/DB details of the next TVAPTC meeting on 26th Nov at 7.30 pm. **ACTION:** MF
- MF asked Councillors for any local residents with children starting primary school in Sept 2021 so that he can drop in an HCC information card. **ACTION:** ALL
- MF advised of a Community Payback scheme for rehabilitation/work placements, including for Public Area Restoration. Councillors advised that previous experience with this scheme has not been positive, so no action required.

10. **Any Other Business/public comment.** - NTR

- SW advised that local residents Geoff and Elaine Merritt were seeking a donation towards the £200 approx. costs of the publication of a booklet memoir “Growing Up in Longstock”.
 - Councillors unanimously agreed a donation of £50. **ACTION:** MF

13. **Date of Next Meeting.** Monday 14th December at 7.00 pm – by Zoom

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 pm.

Cheques Signed:

1151	Came & Co – Annual Insurance Premium	£1,140.04
1152	Plan-ET – NHP Consultancy	£360.00
1153	SSE	£33.59
1154	<i>Pending</i>	
1155	Royal British Legion – Memorial Wreath Donation	£100.00