

LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL
1900 MONDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2022 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr Selina Musters (SM) – Chairman
Cllr Angie Filippa – Vice Chairman (AF)
Cllr David Burnfield (DB)
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)
Cllr Alice Foster (AFo)

In attendance: Clerk Mark Flewitt (MF), Ian Jeffrey (IJ) TVBC Councillor (from 8.45 pm), David Hall (DH) Governor of Test Valley School, and 9 residents

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Ian Jeffrey (IJ) , for late arrival due to other PC commitments; and David Drew (DD), HCC Councillor, due to other PC meetings

2. **Minutes of PC Meeting of 10th October**
Unanimously agreed for adoption and to be signed by AF, who chaired the meeting.

3. **Matters Arising:**

- **Highways & Traffic.**
 - **21560535 – Road Drainage problems at The Grange.** Problems with heavy rains **ACTION:** AFo to deal with
 - **21562764 – Road signs at Bottom Road.** Subject to HCC 22/23 budget resources. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
 - **24214172 - Dual Carriageway Mowing** – No further news, but DB will chase and propose to plant some of the Jubilee Cherry Trees. **ACTION:** DD/DB to lobby
 - **21590244 - Damaged bridge on Bunny** – MF has chased and work set for 23/24 Nov. **ACTION:** Closed.
 - **Bottom Road Sign** - MF advised TVBC and sign was removed. **ACTION:** MF to chase
- **Pedestrian White Lines** – With DD’s help AFo has arranged for Mandy Ware of HCC Traffic and Safety to visit to identify priority locations for the lines and signage, and provide costings for the project. Grants may be available, but local support and fundraising will also be necessary. Future budget contingencies will be needed for maintenance. **ACTION:** AFo to follow up
- **New Model Code of Conduct for Councillors** – No news from TVBC Legal Services. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
- **Bottom Road Verges** – DB estimates a £3k cost for this but will confirm. Possible HCC grants available? **ACTION:** DB
- **PC Refresher Training** – To be undertaken in the New Year with the new PC members. **ACTION:** MF to diarise.
- **Cemetery Fees** – MF has received info for 6 local cemeteries. MF to compile the comparative rates and submit recommendation. **ACTION:** MF
- **Church Farm Hardcore Track** – MF will chase TVBC again. **ACTION:** MF
- **Jubilee Trees Update** – 52 trees paid for and £2,153 received. Ex-PC Chairman Mrs Walters advised that the 2-year old trees will be delivered shortly with the help of the Young Farmers, and the 10-

year old trees are pending. Some residents to be chased, and tree numbers should rise to 70.

- **PC Vacancy Co-Option update** – SM advised of 6 candidates for the 2 positions, with interviews to be held on 23rd Nov.
- **New Clerk update** – SM advised that a local resident has stepped up, and expects to be available in the New Year

4. Planning Applications.

- Lindum – replace existing extension and new 1st floor extension. 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 SUPPORT. **ACTION: MF**
- The Hobbles – planning query. CG advised that the homeowner was unhappy about the prospective negative recommendation by the TVBC Officer. The PC reiterated unanimous support, and asked CG to offer the homeowner support at the planning meeting if appropriate. **ACTION: CG**
- 2 Church Cottages – new Velux window at rear and raise chimney height. MF explained that this application had only just been received before the meeting, but that the cut-off date for the PC response was before the next PC meeting. MF had circulated the link for members to check on-line. Unanimous PC SUPPORT. **ACTION: MF**

5. Finance.

- Half year audit and bank reconciliation – MF confirmed these are ready and will be presented to the Auditor next week. **ACTION: MF**
- Draft 2023/24 PC Budget - MF had circulated in advance the current half-year figures, a projection of the current 2022/23 financial year outcome, together with an initial draft of the 2023/24 PC budget.
 - The 2022/23 projected outcome reflects a number of variances from budget, including £1.5k in cemetery receipts received in error and returned, playground donations received of £0.7k and projected playground maintenance costs of £1.5k. The Jubilee Trees project payments from residents and purchase expenses in the year of over £2k will have no net effect on the final figures. The year-end cash position is projected to be £8k, almost equal to the opening balance for the year.
 - The draft 2023/24 budget figures reflect a number of new elements including the Pedestrian White Lines, increased playground maintenance costs, the May 23 PC elections, increased electricity costs from Aug 23, and a possible review of the Clerk's salary. Although some grant income and other fundraising may be available, the net cash outflow is projected to increase significantly. In order to maintain a positive year-end cash position in excess of £5k, the draft budget includes an increase in the precept from £8.5k to £9k.
 - The budget figures will be further reviewed to allow a final budget to be presented for approval at the December PC meeting. **ACTION: MF**
- PC Bank Account Signatories – MF advised that following the resignation of 2 PC members who were account signatories, 2 new signatories should be appointed. Unanimous PC agreement for CG and AFo to be bank signatories. **ACTION: MF**
- ICO Data Protection – MF advised that the annual renewal of the PC ICO Data Protection fee of £35 will be paid by Direct Debit in mid-November

6. Councillors' Reports.

- a. Affordable Housing and NHP. (AF)
- Affordable Housing – NTR

- NHP – the responses to the call to landowners for development sites have been consolidated and submitted to independent consultants for assessment in line with the NHP visions and objectives. The outcome will be reviewed in early 2023, and presented for public consultation. **ACTION:** AF
 - Further NHP work is continuing on issues of biodiversity, ancient hedgerows, unique views etc, to present a range of “protected” elements in the NHP.
 - It is hoped that the Regulation 14 stage of the NHP will be reached by Q2 2023

- b. Allotments, Cemetery, and Trees. (Vacant).
 - Allotments – MF advised that all plots are full and a waiting list has been set up.
 - Cemetery – SM will propose a date for a PC working party to tidy up the cemetery. **ACTION:** SM
 - Trees – There is serious concern about the state of the ash trees on Salisbury Hill. On behalf of TVS, DH will liaise with DD for HCC to deal with them. **ACTION:** DH
 - SM advised that the hedge/trees behind the War Memorial are dead and overgrown with ivy. The residents of Barn Cottage have offered to burn the rubbish, and SM will propose a date in Jan 23 for the site to be cleared. **ACTION:** SM

- c. Footpaths and Lengthsman. (CG).
 - Lengthsman – He has worked hard to catch up on the work he was unable to do when he was off sick. He has tidied up around the Bunny bench, dug out the grips between Bottom Lane and Southside Cottages and cut back undergrowth around 11 footpath signs. In December he will re-concrete the footpath sign at 2E, replace the sign at 3W, carry out a litter pick and clean the Notice Boards.
 - Footpaths - FP 2E requires re-concreting. 3W and 9E require new signs.
 - Footpath Locations - CG is producing a simple list of footpaths showing their numbers and start and finish points. CG asked AF whether it would be possible to obtain A3 size maps from TVBC to aid this task and to put on Noticeboards. CG was asked to send AF the information on how to find our footpaths online. **ACTION:** CG and AF

- d. Test Valley School and Website. (AFo).
 - TVS – DH advised that the GCSE results had been very good, and that the general behaviour issues had seen a marked improvement.
 - The OFSTED visit in October is expected to see a downgrading from the previous GOOD rating in 2019, in line with general outcomes across the country.
 - The pool project team has now made the relevant contact with the DfE. It appears that academic issues are currently taking priority over community matters, but contacts will continue with TVBC and HCC.
 - AFo advised that the PC Trophy will be engraved and presented at the TVS Awards evening on 24th Nov.
 - Website – All OK

- e. Environment. (DB)
 - DB advised that part of the River Anton is now being managed by the Piscatorial Society, with a view to returning the habitat to a more natural state by slowing the flow. Already fish numbers are rising, which should reduce the need for stocking.

- f. Village Hall and Streetlights. (SM).
 - VH – SM reported that the parking issues have been resolved.

- Streetlights – Some residents had commented that the lights stay on brightly all night. SM confirmed that the suppliers should have included a dimming mechanism after midnight. SM will review with the suppliers in due course. **ACTION:** SM

- g. Playground, Henry Smith Charity. (Vacant)
- Playground – SM advised that an initial repair estimate for the work identified in the ROSPA report was for £16k, but it was probably better to get some local builders to do some of the work, which will include replacing some of the legs/bases, and also replacing some of the equipment such as the zip wire. SM is making contacts. **ACTION:** SM
 - The repair and maintenance work will be prioritised on the basis of urgency, and the costs will need to be covered by a mix of grants and local fundraising. A new Portfolio holder for the Playground will be able to coordinate these issues.
 - PC members discussed the possibility of a regular fundraising initiative such as the past First Friday events.
 - SM also mentioned the possibility of borrowing funds from a local resident on an anonymous basis, with repayments spread over time within the PC budget capacity.
- HSC –the HS Lunch will be held on Wed 14th December. Residents will be offered the option of making a donation if they are able in a collection box, via a card machine or directly to the HS bank account.

- h. Leckford Estate. (CM). - NTR

- i. HCC (DD).
- The latest HCC report had been circulated to the PC in advance

- j. TVBC (IJ)
- The latest TVBC report had been circulated to the PC in advance
 - IJ highlighted various issues in the latest Mid-Test Matters issue including; the new Community Engagement Officers, Marie Stubbington and Michaela Cavuoto; and the new TVBC Energy Improvement Grants of £5-25k
 - IJ also explained that Tony Ward is retiring from TVBC for health reasons

7. Correspondence

- MF advised of a TVBC consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement in Planning until 16th December. MF will circulate to PC members, who will have the opportunity to express concerns to TVBC about inconsistencies in planning decisions. **ACTION:** MF
- TVBC are also consulting on a Supplementary Infrastructure and Developer Contributions document till 16th December. MF to circulate. **ACTION:** MF
- Winchester City is consulting on its draft Local Plan till 14th December. MF will circulate details. **ACTION:** MF
- TVAPTC Meeting via Teams on 24th November at 7.30pm will include an update on the May 2023 elections. MF will attend and will circulate details. **ACTION:** MF

8. Any Other Business/public comment.

- A local resident asked about the overgrown river carrier between The Willows and the Bunny Bridge. This stretch of water is the responsibility of Leckford Estate. MF will ask CM to comment. **ACTION:** MF
- DB asked about a small presentation to retired PC members Ivan Gibson and Sophie Walters. It was unanimously agreed that PC members would all contribute to a private collection for a presentation to mark their combined PC service of more than

60 years. **ACTION:** DB

- CG advised that he would soon meet with CM who has had some health problems in recent times. The PC asked CG to pass on their best wishes. **ACTION:** CG

9. Date of Next Meeting..

- Monday 12th December 2022 at 7.00 pm – in the Village Hall

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 pm.

Cheques and Payments:

01224	Village Hall – NHP Meetings	£15.00
01225	Gallagher – Insurance Renewal Premium	£1,170.26
01226	AF – Jubilee Event Costs reimbursement	£300.00
01227	Bourne Valley Trophies – TVS Award engraving	£5.00
DD	SSE – Electricity	£48.05