

**LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL**  
**1900 MONDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 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 15 minutes at the beginning of the meeting), Toni Wilden (TWi) Head of Test Valley School, Caroline and Andrew Ashenden (CA and AA) local residents, and Rosie Flewitt (RF), resident and co-editor of the Longstock Newsletter.

1. **Apologies:** Andrew Gibson for partial absence due to other PC/HCC commitments, Tony Ward (TW) TVBC Councillor, and Colin McIntyre (CM) of Leckford Estate

2. **Minutes of Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> November.**

SW noted a small correction in the name of Old *School* House in the Planning section. After this change the minutes were unanimously agreed for adoption and signed.

n.b. At this point SW invited AG to provide his HCC update as he had to leave urgently for another virtual meeting. SW then invited TWi to report on the recent developments at Test Valley School. The notes of these discussions are included below under Item 6i. Councillors' Reports – HCC, and 6d. Councillors' Reports – Test Valley School respectively.

3. **Matters Arising:**

- **Highways & Traffic.**
  - **LOYO Holes** - At the bottom of the drive to the old dairy now LOYO – still outstanding with Leckford Estate. MF to remind CM. **ACTION:** MF/CM
  - **Empty grit bin** – MF confirmed the grit bin at Longstock Park/Garage Cottages has been filled. **ACTION:** Closed
  - **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** – HCC have completed the work. **ACTION:** Closed
  - **21529469** – Potholes and blocked run-off at bottom of Bottom Road, Reported and pending. **ACTION:** MF
- **Bottle Bank Location** – MF received message from CM that the Recycling Centre is scheduled to be delivered to the Farm Shop area on 17<sup>th</sup> Jan. SW advised that TVBC have received a complaint about the new location. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
- **Traffic Speed on Bunny** – MF is reviewing the process for initiating the review with HCC. **ACTION:** MF
- **Barn Cottage Issues** – TW has forwarded the matter to the relevant TVBC planning dept to investigate. **ACTION:** TW to update

- **Police Communications** – MF confirmed that letters have been sent to the local MP and the Police and Crime Commissioner. Replies awaited. **ACTION:** MF update

#### 4. **Planning Applications.**

- Old School House – Tree works - PC SUPPORT. **ACTION:** MF
- Vale House – Replace conservatory with extension – PC SUPPORT. **ACTION:** MF
- Church Farm – Tree works – site visit set up for 16<sup>th</sup> Dec. **ACTION:** MF
- Tamlyn – use of chalkpit – Councillors agreed that the owners could use the space for temporary parking and storage during the forthcoming works. The PC will also require that the agreement be documented to ensure: a) that the site be restored to its previous condition, b) that the verge opposite also be prepared with scalplings for turning vehicles, and c) that a fixed final date for completion be set. SW pointed out that the chalkpit (owned 50/50 with Leckford Estate) could be an appropriate site for affordable housing. To be included in the Jan 2021 Agenda. **ACTION:** MF
- Little Manor Barn – Proposed extension works – PC agreed NO COMMENT on this notice which is not a formal planning application.
- 1 Church Cottages – CA and AA updated the PC on their planning application.
  - Following changes made by the previous owners, CA and AA wish to restore the house via a Heritage Statement supported by old photos, including matching the original windows with slimline double-glazing.
  - The PC have already expressed full support for this initiative, and TW is also helping within TVBC. The Planners are expected to visit the site, but are currently resisting the proposed changes, despite the heritage evidence and the environmental thermal efficiency benefits.
  - CG offered to introduce CA and AA to the owners of The Hobbles, who have had similar problems in their dealings with TVBC Planning. **ACTION:** CG

#### 5. **Finance.**

- Audit - MF advised that Patrick Coates has completed and signed the half-year audit, which has been circulated to the PC.
- Budget - MF had circulated in advance the draft budget for 2021/22 with associated explanatory notes. The ongoing grant income and various costs associated with the NHP will have a net zero effect on the budget, as all unused grant money must be returned before the year-end. Following the purchase and installation of the new streetlights it is proposed to rebuild the PC cash reserves back towards the historical level of £5k. The budget was proposed by SW and seconded by DB, to include an increase in the Annual Precept from £8k to £8.5k. The PC unanimously approved the budget as presented. **ACTION:** MF
- Newsletter - MF advised that production costs have increased in the past 18 months with additional content and some colour pages.
  - Advertising income has now increased by 60% from 2018/19 base levels, via new advertisers and existing advertisers switching to colour.
  - There will be a projected £200 income shortfall for the Newsletter in the current FY, before taking into account the £500 TVBC grant received to help with Covid-related costs including local communications.
  - RF advised that the editors propose an increase in the 2021 advertising rates of 10-13% from the current rates set in 2017, and an increase in the “non-resident” charge from £8 to £10. PC unanimously agreed. **ACTION:** MF
  - SW thanked SM/RF and co-editor Heli Helanummi-Cole for their work in producing an excellent publication.
  - CG suggested an approach to Test Valley School to place an advert, and SW mentioned that a new kitchen business will soon be opening in the Body Barn unit. **ACTION:** MF

- MF will prepare the quarterly bank reconciliation, and CG has volunteered to review and sign it. **ACTION:** MF/CG
6. **Councillors' Reports.**
- a. Affordable Housing. (DB). – NTR
- b. Allotments, Cemetery, and Trees. (IG).
- The allotments are in good condition pre-winter, are fully occupied and have a waiting list
  - MF advised that Mary Saunders's ashes were buried on 4<sup>th</sup> Dec.
    - SW advised that a PC working party will be set up in the Spring to work on the graves that need to be re-levelled with additional soil. **ACTION:** ALL in March
  - IG said that the work on cutting down the ash trees at The Willows had been carried out correctly, and that re-planting will be undertaken.
- c. Footpaths and Lengthsman. (CG).
- CG advised that the Lengthsman has worked on the telephone box and has ringed the ivy on the streetlights
    - This month the Lengthsman will follow up on the HCC work on Salisbury Hill, and will continue to cut back the vegetation on the verges.
    - In January road signs will be cleaned and the litter picked, and also the bridge will be cleaned in a shared operation with Stockbridge PC. **ACTION:** CG
  - CG advised that a detailed report on the village footpaths and rights of way has been received from Romsey Ramblers on behalf of HCC.
    - FP4 (behind LOYO and Field House) deviates from the official map and should pass by the cottages. Background to be checked. **ACTION:** CG
    - FP7 to the border with Wherwell to be cleared – work has now been done.
    - FP11 across the Danebury Road towards Spitfire Lane – too narrow for carriages and cyclists. CG to investigate ownership of this FP (Burnfield/Lamberts?). **ACTION:** CG
    - FP12 – Roman Road has failed the inspection as too narrow. CG to follow up again with the landowner, Daniel Busk. **ACTION:** CG
- d. Test Valley School and Neighbourhood Plan. (AF).
- TWi was invited to provide an update on recent developments at TVS.
    - TWi was very pleased to link up with the PC
    - TWi's permanent appointment as Head of TVS will be formalised in Jan 2021, having been part of the team called in from Westgate School in early 2020 to get the school back on its feet.
    - The initial focus was on behaviour management and to raise expectations, and the students have responded very positively. New uniforms have reinforced the message of a fresh start.
    - The Year 7 intake this year was lower than hoped, but numbers are already seeing increases in other year groups, as the new developments at the school are being noticed.
    - The involvement of the young people is being further encouraged by the establishment of a Pupil Leadership Group, and overall TVS now has the feel of a happy and thriving school
    - SW advised TWi of the availability of financial support from the Henry Smith Charity pot for children resident in Longstock who might need additional help.
    - SW and AF also expressed thanks to AG for mobilising the resources of HCC

- to improve the condition of the pavements on Salisbury Hill. This has made a major improvement to the safety issue for the children.
  - TWi advised that in normal times 75% of pupils travel by bus, but with Covid many parents prefer to use their own vehicles.
  - TWi confirmed she would welcome the opportunity to provide regular updates to the PC, and would like to receive invites for future meetings. **ACTION:** MF
  - SW thanked TWi for her willingness to engage with the PC, and looked forward to a close relationship in the future.
- Re NHP - AF confirmed that the first draft of the Housing Needs Assessment has been received from AECOM. It will be proof-read and any feedback will be provided to AECOM. **ACTION:** AF
  - The Housing Needs Survey, which was distributed to every house (plus Leckford Estate and TVS for their staff) has generated a good level of responses both in writing and on-line.
  - The NHP Steering Group will meet up again to re-focus the vision and objectives of the NHP.
  - JE asked AF to circulate the NHP SG minutes in advance for PC meetings and the website. **ACTION:** AF/JE
  
- e. Environment, Website and Phone Box. (JE).
  - JE confirmed that the Government Planning White Paper and the PC and NHP responses have been uploaded onto the website
  - JE confirmed that the Phone Box has been cleaned up and a new light installed.
  
- f. Village Hall and Street Lights. (SM).
  - SM advised that some groups are still able to meet in the village hall, provided the doors are open. This is causing some concern with large heating bills. Energy use will be monitored. **ACTION:** SM
  - SM confirmed that the new streetlights have now all been installed and paid for, which completes this project.
  
- g. Playground and Henry Smith Charity. (SW)
  - SW confirmed that everything is in order with the Recreation Ground under the current guidelines
  - Re Henry Smith – SW advised that 3 cheques have been issued to local residents, with 6 further cases pending. **ACTION:** SW
  
- h. Leckford Estate. (CM). - NTR
  
- i. HCC. (AG)
  - AG had distributed his report update to Councillors in advance of the meeting.
  - AG confirmed his recent visit to Test Valley School showed a dramatic positive change.
  - AG apologized for having to leave the meeting early as he had to attend a meeting related to the proposed new asylum seeker camp at Barton Stacey/Longparish.
    - This project is causing considerable concern in relation to the strains it will place on local facilities, services and residents
    - It is feared that the camp occupants will need to walk along the A303 to Andover for basic needs such as money transfers and mobile phones, which will be extremely dangerous.
    - General concerns were expressed about many issues, including medical facilities, human rights, planning considerations.
    - AG will circulate the HCC response to this situation. **ACTION:** AG

- On behalf of all the PC SM expressed their warm thanks to AG for his actions in getting HCC to clear the trees and undergrowth on Salisbury Hill for the safety of the TVS pupils, and for his general support for the PC's efforts throughout the year.

j. TVBC. (TW)

- TW had distributed his Mid-Test Matters report in advance

#### 7. **War Memorial Cleaning**

- CG advised that the War Memorial was last cleaned 2 years ago, but that it has not lasted well and is once again very stained and unsightly.
  - SM advised that the memorial is made of a soft stone (Chilworth?) and that care should be taken with strong chemicals. MF will check the files to confirm the type of stone. **ACTION:** MF
- CG said that the War Memorial benches have in the past been painted with wood preservative but they now need some remedial action; either to have them re-painted or to have them stripped and then teak oiled like the remainder of our benches around the village. He asked councillors for their views once they had viewed the benches at the War Memorial. **ACTION:** All
- The War Memorial notice has been re-printed and put up.

#### 8. **2021 Meeting Dates**

- 11<sup>th</sup> January, 8<sup>th</sup> February, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 12<sup>th</sup> April, 10<sup>th</sup> May, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 19<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup> September, 11<sup>th</sup> October, 8<sup>th</sup> November, 13<sup>th</sup> December.

#### 9. **Correspondence**

- MF advised that the 2021 Census will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021.
  - TVBC have appointed a local co-ordinator to work with PCs to raise awareness of the Census with residents, and to provide relevant messages and communications over the next few months. **ACTION:** MF
  - The 2021 Census will be the first one with an on-line element. The target is for 75% of the returns to be submitted on-line
- MF advised that the PC's GDPR certificate has been received from the ICO
- MF advised that Stockbridge PC has asked Longstock PC to review comments attributed to AG about Stockbridge parking issues in the October meeting minutes. In AG's absence this can be raised at the next meeting. **ACTION:** MF
- AF advised that she recently attended a virtual meeting of Stockbridge PC.
- AF also expressed her congratulations for those involved in setting up the Stockbridge Christmas decorations.

#### 10. **Any Other Business/public comment.**

- SM observed that the drain at the Bunny Bench is now blocked, and preventing the flow of water. DB will arrange for the drain to be cleared. **ACTION:** DB

#### 11. **Date of Next Meeting.** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.00 pm – by Zoom

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 pm.

#### Cheques Signed:

1156	SSE	£35.50
1157	Test Valley School – Prize Donation	£25.00
1158	Sarsen Press – Newsletter Printing	£307.64
1159	SSE	£33.12
1160	Utili-Light Ltd – Street Lights	£2,928.00
1161	I. Gibson – mowing	£500.00