

# Longworth Parish Council

## **MINUTES of PARISH MEETING.**

Held at Longworth Parish Church (Houlton Room) at 8:00pm 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015

**PRESENT:** Mr. Hayward District Councillor, Mr Hodgkins, Mr Pearce, Ms Sabathy, Councillor Tilley, Mrs Carlisle (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

### **15/15 OPEN SESSION**

Meeting Chaired by Mr. Pearce (Vice Chair) as the Chairman was indisposed. Mrs. Hall announced the next Big Lunch will be on 14<sup>th</sup> June on the school playing field.

### **16/15 COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY**

Ms Tilley reported that she is on the A420 working group, together with officers for Swindon and Oxford. The Working Group need to know if the village want any action taking re: the Pinewoods Road junction. Mrs Hall asked if Hanson are likely to come back. Ms Tilley confirmed that a Minerals person will be attending the next meeting. There followed some discussion amongst councillors and it was suggested that Pinewoods Road could be closed off, although some thought it unlikely and the Hinton junction splay could be improved etc... It was however agreed to bring this to the next meeting for a wider debate as there were only 3 councillors present.

### **17/15 ANTHONY HAYWARD DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Mr Hayward reported that VOWH have frozen Council Tax for another year. The Plan is progressing, nothing much to report on that, and Parish Elections are coming up in May. A Lease has been taken on in Milton Park for a couple of years whilst fire damage is being dealt with at Crowmarsh.

### **18/15 CAROL HALL LITTER PICK 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH**

A Village Litter pick has gone on twice a year under the umbrella of LEN for many years. LEN has now been disbanded, and Carol is proposing a litter pick on 22<sup>nd</sup> March because the level of litter is becoming an issue in the village. It will be organised using OCC pickers, bags etc... but because LEN no longer exists there is no Insurance, Clerk to investigate if insurers will cover the event, if it is undertaken under the umbrella of the Parish Council.

### **19/15 DECLARATIONS of INTEREST**

There were no changes reported.

### **20/15 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from the Chairman Mrs Boyce, Mr. Auckland and Mr. Longstaff

### **21/15 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> January meeting were put before the Councillors and accepted as being correct and duly signed.

### **22/15 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising apart from items included on the main agenda

### **23/15 PLAYGROUND: INSPECTION**

Clerk performed January inspection, Mr. Longstaff completed the February inspection, with no major issues. Clerk advised that Wiltshire Woodworking are attending the park to fit new steps on the zip wire platform this week. Mr Longstaff had expressed concerns about being untrained to inspect the playground. Clerk to investigate if any training is available and discuss with Mr Longstaff. Justine Cardy is now in possession of replacement junior swings which she hopes to install at the weekend. The Playdale tunnel issue has finally been

resolved, Andrew Bedding at Came and Company our Insurers has now confirmed in writing that we are covered for accidents on this equipment. Mr Hodgkins has removed the barrier around the Tunnel and it is available for play again. Sovereign Design play systems Ltd attended the playground this week to provide a free quote for replacement of activity trail, which is showing a considerable amount of wear and tear, they have also provided a list of companies who provide grants for this type of work.

**24/15 ALLOTMENTS UPDATE AND ISSUES WENDY WOODFORD**

Mrs Woodford is currently collecting annual allotment rents, not much other news all has been pretty quiet. There has been some Flytipping on the allotment bits of metal chair frames etc.... – Clerk to contact Biffa after 22<sup>nd</sup> March to get this rubbish removed if this is not resolved. There are currently 9 plots available. Parish Councillors all agreed that it would be ok to divide up into smaller more manageable plots.

**25/15 ELECTIONS**

Clerk advised that the Parish elections are imminent. The Elections department are sending out nomination papers and guidance notes for candidates to Parish Clerks next week, they will also be available from the elections office or on the Vale website. These nomination papers need to be back with VOWH by 4pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April. Clerk agreed to check how many councillors Longworth Parish Council should have in total. Clerk to advertise the election on Parish notice board, village email and Seven Voices, advising where to get nomination papers and the timescales involved. It was confirmed that current councillors wishing to remain on the council are also required to fill in nomination papers. There will only be an election in the Parish if there are more nominations than places.

**26/15 PLANNING ISSUES**

There was discussion about Blue bag vs email and the relevant merits, it was however decided this item was to remain on the agenda for the next meeting. A Planning inspector has been to the Hinton Road site and building has been passed as compliant, however there is still the issue of overhead electrical cables which are in the way of the 2<sup>nd</sup> roof. Ms Sabathy has been advised by Hannah Kruger that the feedback from electrical survey will be with VOWH by 23<sup>rd</sup> March, and no revised planning application has been received as yet. Hannah Kruger is also checking out the AJ Bennett situation. It was agreed to invite Nick Frost to come to the next parish council meeting to discuss what is happening in the Frilford Farms area.

<b>27/15</b>	<b>RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS</b>	
	<b>Receipts for the months of February and March to date were as follows:</b>	
	Interest on NSI	14.86
	Graveyard Fee	200.00
	Neighbourhood plan Grant (balance)	600.00
	<b>Payments made during February and March to date :</b>	
	Clerks Salary	199.49
	Hire of Houlton Room	15.00
	Allotment Water	28.91
	Retirement gift (DB)	101.99
	Neighbourhood plan printing costs	27.53

**28/15 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

Clerk contacted Biffa, advised roadside litter on Hinton/Appleton Road, it was confirmed that

some of the litter has now been cleared. The final word on the emptying of the bin in the play park from Biffa and County is that it is a village job to empty the bin. Biffa's advice was to use the Village Hall bin to dispose of the rubbish. Clerk agree to find someone to empty the bin for a small fee, suggestion £10 per month. The drainage issue on Appleton Road (job ref648474), is progressing, all paperwork is now in place, cones have appeared and work seems to be underway. Clerk spoke to O.C.C. about the Community Emergency Plan discussed at January's meeting. The Emergency Planning unit confirmed that it is not mandatory to have an Emergency Plan. Literature received from Neighbourhood Action Group regarding speed device, Mr Hodgkins agreed to attend meetings (4 per year) – in principle the council said yes to speed calming, but were concerned that there would be a lack of volunteers to run it. It was agreed to discuss this at the next PC meeting for wider debate.

**29/15 COUNCILLORS' CONCERNS**

Mr Hodgkins mentioned Kingston Hill hedges had been cut and signs on A415 cleared. Mr Hodgkins also wanted to know the Policy on Ashes in the churchyard, the schedule of fees for burials, memorials, cremation plots etc was discussed, and councillors thought that the pricing might need revisiting – Clerk to investigate and bring information to a subsequent PC meeting.

Ms Sabathy suggested that Clerks Salary needs to be reviewed. Clerk to research what other Parish Clerks get paid hours and rates and bring to a subsequent meeting.

Mr Pearce suggested Clerk to speak Andrew Dawson Paul re Financial advice on investments.

The meeting ended at 9:07pm

Annual Parish Meeting 7pm 22<sup>nd</sup> April in the Village Hall followed by Parish Council meeting at approx 8pm, Clerk to book Village Hall for 7:00 for APM and PC mtg.

Signed.....

Date.....