

Longworth Parish Council

MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

Held at Longworth Village Hall at 7pm on 24th June 2015

PRESENT: Mrs Kinch, Mr Longstaff, Mr Pearce (Chairman), Ms Sabathy, Mr Shaw, Mrs Woodford and Mrs Carlisle (Clerk) and 8 members of the public.

59/15 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr Hodgkins, Councillor Tilley,

60/15 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the 20th May meeting were put before the Councillors and accepted as being correct and duly signed.

61/15 DECLARATIONS of INTEREST

There were no changes reported.

62/15 OPEN SESSION

Mr Richard Frost reported overgrown T- junctions in village, specifically Pinewoods Road/Lodge Lane onto Hinton Road towards the village and Rectory lane onto Hinton Road towards Hinton. Clerk to report to highways to try and get the hedges cut back. Mr Jarvis reported that the 30MPH sign coming in from Appleton on Right hand side is obscured by overgrown hedging just before Duck Cottage.

63/15 MATTERS ARISING

Mr Pearce updated on his discussion with Gigaclear to resolve the problems mentioned at the last meeting. Robert Mr Longstaff and Mrs Pointon reported new Gigaclear problems, with quality of re-surfacing the ports fitted are not flush to the ground in some areas. Mr Longstaff has written and is in communication with Gigaclear about this, to be updated at the next meeting

64/15 GRASS CUTTING AT THE CHURCH – MR LONGSTAFF

Mr Longstaff has complained repeatedly about the quality of grass cutting at the church. The current grass cutters BGG have been cutting the grass every 2 weeks throughout the summer at a cost of £110 per cut plus VAT, this is done as a result of a verbal contract some years ago. An alternative quote has been received from Sorbus Garden Care in Southmoor and Mr Longstaff agreed to contact BGG directly to ask for new specified quote and to get a total of 3 quotes, before making a decision on the way forward with grass cutting. Mr Gary Smith requested to bring in mini digger and trailer to clear some of compost heap, permission was granted.

65/15 GRAVEYARD – GRAVESTONES

The graveyard rules were consulted with regard to a new gravestone for Gary Smith. It was agreed to give permission to erect the gravestone. Clerk to inform the Church about this and email the cost to Gary Smith.

66/15 BUCKLAND COMMUNITY BUS – FUNDING

Trish Adams has asked Longworth village to provide drivers for the Buckland Community bus. It was decided to invite Trish along to a subsequent meeting, to discuss funding requests and requirements for volunteer drivers. It was agreed that more information would be needed before making a decision on this and suggested that we request see the books before agreeing to funding.

67/15 COMPLAINT – GREEN LANE

The Parish council received a complaint from a parishioner re Antisocial behaviour on Green Lane. This matter was discussed and found to be outside the remit of the Parish Council. The Parish Council suggested that this is a matter for the police, should he wish to pursue this further. Clerk to draft a reply to the parishioner, explaining that the matter had been discussed and the outcome.

68/15 NAG UPDATE

Michael Hodgkins attended the latest NAG meeting (as Parish Council representative on the NAG committee), and sent a report re the traffic calming project. The suggestion that smaller villages club together with other villages (with police backing), Longworths contribution would be £300. Carol Hodgkins and Jenny Pointon have volunteered to man the machine wearing hi vis jackets. For our £300 contribution we would get the hand held unit for ½ a day per week.

It was agreed that Speeding was mainly along the Appleton and Hinton Roads, and quite often at night time. Mr Eastwood asked if we could get temporary speeding signs?

The Chairman questioned whether it would be feasible to get illuminated signs.

Mr Shaw was not keen to participate in the scheme as he considers that criminal matters of this type are a job for the Police and how this could be difficult to deal with, he also made some very sensible and cogent points relating to difficulties that could well occur in a small village where villagers were well known to each other. Although village residents would carry out the process the enforcement of the law would still rest with the police who have the authority to issue convictions. Mrs Woodford expressed concerns of people being put in danger whilst holding the camera at the side of the road.

Councillors were broadly in favour of supporting this project.

The following questions to be fed back to the NAG group:

What protection is there for operators, against getting hit by cars and road rage

Is Signage possible – as part of the process

Is the ½ day flexible

Is there any experience from other villages who have already implemented this.

Does anyone have stats from using this device and any proof that it is a good investment.

69/15 PLAYGROUND

Wendy Woodford carried out the June inspection, and found the small wooden gate had been partially removed and the Small Metal gate was not closing properly. Bench overgrown clerk to contact parks re grass cutting. The Rubber cover on chain of zip wire is damaged and this need to be closely watched, The Tunnel is starting to crack to be investigated, by Justine Cardy in conjunction with product guarantees. There have been reports of Drug dealing in the park. To be brought up with Neighbourhood police. The July inspection to be carried out by Mr Hodgkins and August by Mr Longstaff.

70/15 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE SANDRA SABATHY

The planning committee hope to be ready to submit a final pre-submission draft to the Parish Council, (aiming to deliver draft plan prior to August meeting), with a view to holding a vote to proceed with next step of going to consultation. At the same time a draft will be sent to VOWH for review, feedback and advice. Ms Sabathy explained that Green spaces are areas in the village which need protection, must be spaces that are routinely used by residents of the village and not just, for example, contain a right of way, and requested PC agreement that the Allotments and playground should be classified as green spaces. The Parish council voted to allow the LNP to include the allotments as a protected green space and also gave its support to the LNP Committee to approach the Vale to gain their approval for the Playground to be designated as a “protected Green Space”. LNP committee will now approach Vale for agreement on this in order to include this in the plan. Mrs Kinch also suggested that the school field should be protected, Ms Sabathy to find out whether this is already protected by

a covenant.

71/15 LONGWORTH CHARITIES NEW NOMINATIONS

Following the resignation of one and death of another, two new trustees are needed for the Longworth charities committee, The Parish council have been asked to nominate suitable candidates. Christine Shepherd and Carol or Michael Hodgkins were suggested as good people to ask as they are longstanding villagers. Michael Pearce to report the discussion back to Meg Greenwood Chair of Longworth Charities.

72/15 ALLOTMENTS UPDATE AND ISSUES WENDY WOODFORD

The annual Rents £249 deposits of £170 have now been collected. Kristian Mateus has strimmed the Footpath very well and Wendy Woodford agreed to weed killer the rest. Jenny Pointon complained that part of her land has been strimmed without agreement (possibly by Kristian when he did the footpath). Clerk to clarify with Kristian the area to be strimmed.

73/15 BELL RINGING IN SQUARE

Valia Battat reported the intention to construct a Temporary belfry (Mini ring) either in the square or by the church to demonstrate full circle ringing. The Parish Councillors thought the suggestion to site outside the church was a better idea on the same day as café church, this way the church facilities could be used. The Parish Council gave their support. Clerk to advise Fabian French of the discussion.

74/15 RISK ASSESSMENT

The risk assessment from 2014 was supplied, for review, councillors to feed back any changes needed, to be reviewed and finalised at the next meeting.

75/15 STANDING ORDERS

The standing orders were issued to councillors to be reviewed and signed off at the next meeting.

76/15	RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS	
	Receipts for June 2015 were as follows:	
	Interest on NSI	7.43
	Payments June 2015 :	
	Clerks Salary June	199.49
	Office expenses (printer ink, stamps and stationery)	131.70
	BGG invoice for cutting the churchyard grass	264.00
	Kristian – Footpath Clearing	300.00
	Internal Audit fee	60.00
	Ordnance Survey copy licence	65.70
		1029.89

77/15 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

All correspondence received already forwarded by email to councillors. Clerk updated that Mrs Kinch had volunteered to attend the Summer Town and Parish forum on 2nd July.

78/15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The PC are in the process of subscribing to CPALC, who recommend all items are on the agenda in future, as a result the Councillors concerns section of the meeting has been removed.

The meeting ended at 8.29

Date of next meeting 19th August in the Village Hall.

Signed.....

Date.....