

Longworth Parish Council

MINUTES of PARISH MEETING.

Held at Longworth School at 7:00 pm 14th March 2014

PRESENT: ,Chairman Mrs Boyce, Mr Auckland, Mrs Broad, Mr Hodgkins, Mr Pearce, Ms Sabathy, Mr Hayward (D.C.),Mrs Carlisle (Clerk) and 6 members of the public.

13/14 OPEN SESSION

Matters raised –

Alan Boyce tabled the Vale's Local Plan 2031 Part 1 Consultation Draft on Housing Delivery Update. This appeared to exclude small villages (including therefore Longworth) from housing development BUT he noted that its housing allocation numbers were dependent on agreement with the other three District Councils under a Duty to Cooperate Policy which might mean higher numbers in the Vale; the three remaining councils having not yet produced their Consultation Drafts.

We are invited to reply to this Consultation. Alan will draft a letter on behalf of council. Chairman accepted Alan's kind offer.

Hedge cutting Douglas Rayner has trimmed the churchyard hedges, Clerk to expect an invoice.

Tony Broad - Potholes around the village, have become a problem. Alan Boyce advised Reporting via <http://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk> , which has been found to be a more efficient way of getting things fixed.

Richard Frost – mentioned the flood by Duck Cottage. Vale or OCC came and put drain across the road to deal with this flooding, sadly the grating is too high and it is not clearing the water. There used to be a ditch there but this has been filled in and since infilling there has been a problem. Trenches need digging off the road. Clerk awaiting a callback from Peter Dela at VOWH re Pinewoods road, and will discuss this issue at the same time.

14/14 DECLARATIONS of INTEREST

There were no changes in relevant personal circumstances reported.

15/14 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Mr Longstaff – convalescing after operation and Mrs Tilley(OCC) recovering from pneumonia,

16/14 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the previous Meeting were accepted as correct.

17/14 MATTERS ARISING

Last weekend when the working party were at the park fitting safety matting. Eric Auckland appointed Mark Herbert as bin warden, if Biffa do not empty it as part of their round.

18/14 PLAYGROUND INSPECTION

February inspection received from Ms Sabathy, no issues (apart from overflowing rubbish bin). March has not yet been carried out as the park is currently closed off whilst new equipment is fitted and inspected. A new checklist has been requested from ROSPA, when they do their post installation audit on Monday 17th March, Parish clerk to attend the inspection to get instructions from ROSPA on what needs checking on a monthly basis. Mr Pearce is down for the April inspection, check sheets will be issued as soon as received.

19/14	RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS	
	Receipts	
	Interest February	7.43
	Interest March	6.71
	2 Burials	600.00
	2 Grave reservations	400.00
	Payments	
	Clerk's salary February	180.00
	Allotment water rates	14.84
	Clerk's salary March	180.00
	Replacement Swing seat & chain	184.80
	OALC subscription	133.07
	SLCC subscription	76.00
	Came and Company – additional insurance for new equipment	56.18

20/14 PAYMENT FOR USE OF SCHOOL MEETING ROOM

The council was asked for approval to pay contribution for use of school meeting room at £10 per meeting. Parish clerk to go through minutes to see how many meetings have been held at school in 2013/14 and add one for village meeting in the school hall

21/14 PLAYGROUND UPDATE – JUSTINE CARDY

Equipment now installed, a big thank you to villagers for helping with matting last weekend.

There had been a few issues, but all appear to be ironed out now, and the final grass matting to go down this weekend prior to the ROSPA inspection

ROSPA inspection booked for Monday 17th @ 9am – councillors welcome to come along at 10am if they want to be taken through equipment inspection, if not Parish Clerk will take notes and advise.

Transfer of equipment, document to be drafted Justine to provide conditions for transfer and responsibilities agreed to, then equipment can be handed over to Parish Council for maintenance and insurance going forward,

The question of Signage – to show that the park is in the village, was discussed and dismissed as not a good idea,

Justine wanted to know what happened with respect to grass cutting and when this will happen, Alan Boyce confirmed that this is normally done by the Vale when they cut the grass verges elsewhere in the village.

The park is looking fantastic and the children are itching to get into the playground.

22/14 ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE FORMALISE STRUCTURE

Allotment committee is formalised as a sub committee of the Parish Council

Formal committee members:

Kris Felton scribe.

Wendy Woodford Treasurer and general admin.

23/14 ALLOTMENT UPDATE

Since the last Parish Council meeting 4 new people have taken on allotments, and 2 handed back, leaving only 6 plots available, notices were placed in Southmoor shops resulting in 2 new allotment holders last week.

Kingston Bagpuize are losing their allotments, also Planning permission has been granted on part of Hinton's allotments. The people affected by this may apply to have Longworth allotments

There have been problems with abusive people walking through the allotments with dogs and unruly teenagers. . Several lots of dog mess, Wendy has cleared up, new dog fouling sign to be issued for notice board.

Some of allotment holders have voiced their disappointment that plots are not going to be cleared.

Equipment requested: Backpack sprayer £32 and Glyphosate approx £60. Advance approx £100 to allotment committee to buy equip. to be repaid out of allotment rents agreed.

Sign to be put up "Caution spraying" when weed spraying is in progress.

Mrs Boyce to organise signs:

Footpath notice and a large notice at the entrance "No Dogs and No Horses" and "Allotment holders only"

24/14 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Thank you letter from Mr. Boyce for his retirement gift,

Local plan 2031 – forwarded by email

Housing delivery update leaflets – to be circulated around village

Request from Adam Ogilvie smith re land for sale

Mandy King – Dog fouling

National playing fields association conference

Robert Squires expressed thanks for his gift

25/14 COUNCILLORS' CONCERNS

Eric Auckland: Neighbourhood plan –lacking the resource to do the work in house, planning team are looking to see if it can be outsourced, but finding it difficult to find anyone to do it. Plan unlikely to reach a conclusion in 2014.

Michael Pearce: Requested that Mark Herbert be chivvied about beacon refurbishment by Parish Clerk.

District Councillor Anthony Hayward noted that the shortfall of projected house-building in the county as compared with the target set by central government has resulted in a need for an extra 20,000 over the next 15 years. Building of these must be at an appropriate pace, and particularly so within the next five years. To meet its quota of these the Vale is encouraging smaller sites of 200 houses to be built quickly

in the interim before the Plan is adopted to forestall large-scale builders.
Part 2 of the new Plan may call for more houses, of which Longworth might need to find sites. The existence of a Neighbourhood Plan could influence the selection of these sites.

There are many sources of funds available to support local plans.

The meeting ended at 8:20

Next meeting 7 pm. Friday 25th April 2014 at Longworth school. Followed by AGM Wednesday 21st May 2014.

Signed.....

Date.....