

Longworth Parish Council

MINUTES of PARISH MEETING.

Held at Longworth Parish Church (Houlton Room) at 7:30 pm 5th November 2014

PRESENT: Chairman Mrs Boyce, Mr. Auckland, Mr Hayward (District Councillor), Mr Hodgkins, Mr Pearce, Mrs Carlisle (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

96/14 OPEN SESSION

Mr Boyce reported that Stones needed on the footpath between Longworth Manor and Hinton as this has become a hazard.

97/14 DECLARATIONS of INTEREST

There were no changes reported.

98/14 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Mrs Broad, Mr Longstaff and Councillor Tilley

99/14 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the 20th August 2014 and 1st October were put before the meeting and accepted as being correct.

100/14 MATTERS ARISING

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

101/14 ANTHONY HAYWARD DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

The Vale local plan (Part 1) has been sent to the Secretary of State following its review at a meeting of council 3-4 weeks ago. Planning for an additional 20,000 houses to be built in the Vale over next 15 years, plus potential extra houses from Oxford city council (for developments of more than 200 houses, includes 2,000 houses for smaller villages). This plan will become effective in summer 2015, and will stop speculative building where we don't want it. It will have some extra weight since it has been sent to the Secretary of State. Members of the public wishing to comment can bypass VOWH council and go straight to Sec. of State with comments. Part 2, documents and consultations to come through in next couple of years. Mr Pearce asked "How do neighbourhood plans impact on the Vale plan?" Parish Councils with a Neighbourhood plan will receive 25% of the infrastructure levy money taken from developer. Developers all have to make a contribution towards transport infrastructure to improve road networks, to cope with the additional traffic requirements of 20,000 new houses.

102/14 REQUEST FOR FUNDING – OXFORD ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

The Council received a request from Oxford Association for the Blind. Parish Councillors voted unanimously to support with a donation of £50.

103/14 PLAYGROUND INSPECTION

Mr Pearce carried out October inspection, and raised the issue of no barrier at the top of the tunnel. Following a discussion about the barrier on the tunnel, and Rospas recommendation that barriers should be fitted to stop small children falling off it was decided to put up a notice "DO NOT USE THIS EQUIPMENT - UNSAFE" Clerk to contact suppliers, to get a quote for barriers,

and Mr Hodgkins to erect a fence around the tunnel to stop it being used. The Nov inspection is to be carried out by Mr Auckland and Dec Mr Hodgkins. Clerk met with on Justine Cardy from the Playground Improvement committee on 5th November for advice for sourcing replacement parts as required. A costing of items recommended for replacement will be put together for 2015/16 budget.

104/14 ALLOTMENTS – UPDATE AND ISSUES

There are 2 new plot holders. An advert went into the seven voices magazine this month to generate some interest for the empty plots. There are currently 2 lettable plots, all other empty plots are unlettable until brambles are cleared. To this end there will be a working party on Saturday/Sunday to tackle the bramble patches. It was agreed that the Parish council would possibly contribute funding to help with this work. Clerk to forward details to Wendy Woodford for Krisztian Matus who clears the village footpaths. There are still issues with dogs being walked through the allotment and their dog mess.

105/14 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE – ALAN BOYCE

466 copies of the questionnaire were sent out and 195 received back giving an overwhelming 42% return rate, typical return is 20%. All credit to the village for taking the trouble for filling out long and tedious questionnaire. The data has been loaded onto a database and produced 10,000+ pieces of data to be analysed. With such a lot of data It is possible to interpret the data in different ways. The Neighbourhood planning Team are working to get a picture together picking out the major issues raised and describe what implications they could have over next 20 years. Once complete this will be presented at a public event, which will be held in 2015. . In summary approximately 15% of The respondees want no change, 20% want progressive change and 65% accept a conservative degree of change is necessary. Broadly speaking overwhelmingly, respondees liked the rural nature, quietness, and separation of the village and things the way they are.

106/14 HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES AT NEWBRIDGE

The email reply from Oxfordshire county council (circulated to Parish councillors) reported 116 breaches of the weight restriction in the last year. The council issue warning letters to drivers committing a first offence in vehicles with a maximum gross weight between 18t and 26t, and consider for prosecution all vehicles over 26t. In the last 12 months there have been no presecutions. It was agreed that the future of Newbridge was at risk, as OCC do not seem to be taking appropriate action, even though letters are issued to heavy vehicles crossing the bridge they have failed to make any prosecutions, and it was felt that this could not be right. It was agreed that Alan Boyce would contact journalist Suzanne Kelsey and take this matter further.

107/14	RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS	
	Receipts for the month of October were as follows:	
	Interest on NSI	7.19
	Gravestone Fee (Mrs Meheux)	300.00
	Land rental - Mr Pointon	148.50

	Payments made during October were as follows	
	Clerks Salary October	225.00

Meeting room hire for November and December	30.00
Footpath clearing	450.00
Grass cutting	132.00
Neighbourhood Plan expenditure during September:	
Royal Mail invoice	73.72
Photocopying	15.00

Mr Pearce is going to lay the wreath on behalf of Parish Council on Remembrance Sunday. The Parish Council agreed to pay £117 to British Legion with this being the centenary year a donation of £100 on top of wreath cost £17 to be sent.

Clerk to speak to Andrew Dawson Paul for advice on investments,

108/14 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Correspondence from Age UK, Doorstep crime team and South and Vale Citizens advice bureau request for funding, all to be circulated in blue bag.

109/14 COUNCILLORS' CONCERNS

Ms. Sabathy is concerned about the building going up on the Frilford Farm plot, on Hinton road and asked Anthony Hayward DC What recourse do we have on a build which is not going to plan, building is much nearer to the road than passed plans and will cause problems with parking. AH suggested that the enforcement team should have caught these problems when the foundations went down. AH to follow up with Building Control who are in charge of this and report back to SS. *AH has contacted the enforcement team, who have been dealing with the encroachment on the new Longworth site.*

Mrs Broad raised the issues of potholes on Bowbank and the white line on the road which disappeared when the road was resurfaced 15 years ago, the absence of a white line at the end of school close causes a hazard with parents speeding down what appears to be a right of way, Clerk to contact highways about this to try and get the white line re-instated before we have a serious accident here. Potholes reported to Highways dept.

Mr Auckland, updated the meeting on County's proposal to ditch the 63 bus service to Oxford, which serves Longworth and the surrounding villages. EA attended meeting in Appleton, summary attached to minutes.

Correspondence received from ministry of Justice re pressure group taking it upon themselves to maintain David Kellys grave. The Chairman called Mr Thurlow directly to confirm that the group are acting without recourse to Mr Kellys family and that they should not touch the grave.

The meeting ended at 8:46pm

NEXT MEETING. 7:30PM 17th December Houlton Room (Longworth Church).

Signed.....

Date.....