

Longworth Parish Council

MINUTES of PARISH MEETING.

Held at Longworth Parish Church (Houlton Room) at 7:30 pm 1st October 2014

PRESENT: Chairman Mrs Boyce, Mr. Auckland, Mr Hodgkins, Mr Longstaff, Mr Pearce, Mrs Tilley, Mrs Carlisle (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

83/14 OPEN SESSION

Mr. Eastwood requested A420 footpath signage (for the 3 crossing points across the A420) again. Melinda Tilley promised to chase Ed Vaizay, re the A420 and Clerk will contact highways re the 3 crossing points. Mr. Frost mentioned the fly tipping on Harrowdown hill, and Mopeds driving round the footpaths, clerk to get contact details for the Community Police Officer and pass on to Mr Frost (*actioned*), Clerk confirmed that Biffa had dealt with the fly tipping.

84/14 DECLARATIONS of INTEREST

There were no changes reported.

85/14 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Ms Sabathy, and Mrs Broad

86/14 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the 20th August 2014 meeting need minor adjustment to point 75/14 (*auctioned*). Also an Issue with 78/14, re Ragwort, but no one from the allotment committee was present to discuss this.

87/14 MATTERS ARISING

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

88/14 MELINDA TILLEY,

Reported that her biggest problem currently was closure of Cow Lane in Goosey, the Highways department have now closed the road with concrete, as road users were ignoring the road closed signs. Ms Tilley is currently dealing with a Sexual exploitation case in Banbury and 7 men have been arrested. Departmental Budget cuts are causing difficulties with Social care.

Ms Tilley confirmed that she had met with Ed Vaizay to discuss the A420, and is now waiting for feedback on this, she will talk to him about the A420 crossing signs. The A417 at Challow is now closed until December 6th for the British Rail electrification project, the Wantage road bridge will not be closed.

89/14 PLAYGROUND INSPECTION

Mr Boyce carried out the September inspection on behalf of the Chairman, and October sheets have been issued to Mr Pearce, Nov to Mr Auckland and Dec to Mr Hodgkins. The main issue with the playground is the cable rider which urgently needs its steps replacing. Clerk to discuss with Justine Cardy from the Longworth Playground improvement committee (*Clerk to meet with on Justine 5th November*). Clerk also confirmed that the ROSPA playground report has

been forwarded to the Playground Improvement committee for advice for sourcing replacement parts as required.

90/14 CHURCH ROOF FUNDING REQUEST – FABIAN FRENCH

A number of discussions have been held with DAC at Church House, who are responsible for allowing the work. Initial confirmation has been received, and final permission for the work to go ahead is due following a meeting on 13th October. The PCC are applying to a number of different sources for funding and would very much appreciate a contribution from the Parish council. Fabian welcomed any questions from the meeting. Michael Pearce wanted to know who had stipulated the type of material to be used. Fabian confirmed that it was the diocese who are requiring Cotswold slate rather than English heritage, The former RFO (Alan Boyce) when asked his opinion on affordability, said that a sum of £5,000 would be well within the parish’s means. There is an understanding that the VAT should be recoverable. All Councillors Voted to support the repairs in the sum of £5,000.

91/14 ALLOTMENTS

No one present to give a report

92/14 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE – ALAN BOYCE

A questionnaire had been submitted to all residents, and follow up letters issued to all village households. A 41% response rate had been received at the time of the meeting, (the mean expected response rate for this size of village being 20%). The completed questionnaires have been sent for analysis, which is expected to take some time. A public meeting will be held to inform the village when results are analysed; this is unlikely to be before the New Year.

93/14	RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS	
	Receipts - for the month of September were as follows:	
	Interest on NSI	7.43
	Precept from VOWH	3300.00

	Payments made during September were as follows	
	Clerks Salary August £225 & September £180	405.00
	Meeting room hire	15.00
	Neighbourhood Plan expenditure during September:	
	Ordinance survey charges	70.70
	Blackwells invoices	90.52
	Photocopying	15.00

There followed a discussion about the Parish council investments of £7k with NS&I, and £24k with Lloyds, prompted by the end of one of the fixed term deals and £12k rolling back into the bank account. It was suggested that it could be worthwhile investing some of the money in low risk equity investment. Chairman and Clerk to discuss with advisors.

The Annual return has been received back from the auditors, together with their report, the minor points they raised were discussed at the meeting and corrections to be auctioned by Parish Clerk. The councillors accepted the external audit report. The report and accounts are available to view. Fee of £100 due to income being higher than £10,000 threshold.

94/14 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

email circulated to councillors re Speeding on Hinton Road, and possible traffic calming measures prompting a discussion, Michael Hodgkins reported that we used to have Police sitting monthly in Green Lane, monitoring speeds, but that this service was no longer available. It was decided that the Clerk should speak to the police about speed on Hinton Road, to see if we can get any help from the neighbourhood policing team (*Neighbourhood policing team have agreed to monitor this situation*). Robert Longstaff asked if it would be possible hire a camera to monitor, Clerk to check when contacting Police.

Reports of speeding traffic in Bowbank have been received and reported to the school – Michael Pearce to raise at the next governors meeting.

Complaints were received about litter at the bus shelter and wall crumbling at Bow House, on inspection the wall seems to be mostly sound it was agreed to locate a new waste bin at the bus shelter.

Fly tipping on Harrowdown Hill – reported to Biffa and now removed.

Longworth Fete raised £4300.

Request for funding from Oxfordshire Association for the Blind, to be brought to next meeting.

A query received re the number of prosecutions laid for weight restriction violation by heavy lorries at Newbridge, forwarded to Highways. Trading Standards were spotted monitoring there this week following this complaint.

95/14 COUNCILLORS' CONCERNS

No concerns from Eric Auckland or Michael Pearce, Michael Hodgkins reported that he was going to liaise directly with Jan Kelly re DK grave.

Robert Longstaff received a letter from Highways re overgrown hedge following the discussions with Highways about other hedges in the village, it said no hedge should be within 2 metres of road RL to follow up with Highways.

The meeting ended at 8:32pm

NEXT MEETING. 7:30PM Wednesday 5th November 2014 AT Houlton Room (Longworth Church). December meeting same place on 17th December.

Signed.....

Date.....