

# Longworth Parish Council

## **MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.**

Held at Longworth Village Hall at 7pm on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015

**PRESENT:** Mr Hodgkins, Mrs Kinch, Mr Pearce (Chairman), Ms Sabathy, Mr Shaw, Mrs Woodford, Mrs Carlisle (Clerk) and 10 members of the public.

### **132/15 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from, Mr Hayward, Mr Longstaff and Councillor Tilley,

### **133/15 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> November meeting were put before the Councillors and accepted as being correct and duly signed

### **134/15 DECLARATIONS of INTEREST**

There were no changes reported.

### **135/15 OPEN SESSION**

A member of the public expressed concerns about the use of the disused stone building to be converted into a garage as it cuts into their garden at Old Farmhouse on the planning application for Princes farm, Tucks Lane, he was in favour of the development, and his only concern was the stone outbuilding, it was agreed that the council would include this in their response on VOWH planning portal. Another member of the public was concerned about the planning application received from the Nursery site (currently Potting shed nursery), and asked whether details could be sought re the use of the remainder of the site? Mr Pearce explained that If they get a planning consent on a small part of the site, it doesn't automatically give planning on the whole site. The Slow sign opposite Duck Cottage and The Gables is partially obscured when coming into the village, Clerk to report to Highways. The missing Bus shelter glass was discussed again, Clerk to get a quote for fixing this. It was reported to the police and allocated a crime number.

### **136/15 MATTERS ARISING**

Clerk to remind Mr Longstaff that the report for the Churchyard is still outstanding. Clerk and Mr Hodgkins to compile a list of the people buried in the new graveyard, it is their families responsibility to look after the grave. Clerk to also speak to church warden Mr French, re the records for main churchyard.

### **137/15 DONATION REQUEST – Tax Aid**

Councillors voted unanimously not to make a donation to Tax Aid, request received on 20<sup>th</sup> November.

**138/15 NAG UPDATE – MICHAEL HODGKINS**

We are still awaiting a demonstration of the new equipment. Mrs Woodford co-ordinator has spoken to the 6 speedwatch volunteers to involve them in site identification of the best 6 sites in the village and forward to the Police to check that they are safe sites. Clerk to advertise in Seven voices for more recruits to man the machine, ideally another team of 3 are needed. Suggestions for sites will be welcomed from the public – Appleton – Hinton road, Rectory lane The Square near The Old Post Office, and Church Road, have been suggested. Mr Hodgkins to find out what permission is needed before setting up the speed cameras particularly when adjacent to business premises. The Faringdon Police are happy to do home visits if vulnerable people feel this would be a good thing, villagers need to be informed to feed back to Mr. Hodgkins if required. Clerk to put Police newsletter on the notice board each month.

**139/15 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Permission granted for P15/V2480/FUL West View cottage Church Lane for a new detached Garage and new access road from the High Street.

P15/V2612/FUL Princes Farm Tucks Lane, PC generally in support of this application *Nigel Shaw mentioned that he recalled that the Pointons may have entered into a S16 agreement on the land which suggests that they cannot sell part of land - Clerk to refer to the appropriate document.*

P15/V2907/FUL Proposed new 5 bedroom dwelling, land adjacent to Moorlands, High Street, Longworth one Councillor abstained and one was absent, in general councillors thought the plans were large for the plot, but agreed not to object.

P15/V2863/O - outline application for the erection of up to 13 dwellings with associated access. The Potting Shed Nursery Hinton Road Longworth Abingdon OX13 5HQ, councillors not in favour of this application. An Extension given for the Parish council response until the end of January, councillors to ponder their response. Planning has been put in on this high grade agricultural land twice before and refused both times. Ms Sabathy pointed out that the planning application, refers inaccurately to the Neighbourhood plan, and goes against the NP which supports the VOWH emerging Local Plan 2031, which is entering stage 2 in Feb, and expected to be ratified in Summer. The Vale Plan and NP cannot be used as the only basis for rejection, but this application is not in character with the rest of the village, encroaches outlying edges of the village, and there are several serious objection points for the PC's response. Mrs Woodford thought it would be a shame to see loss of small business in village. PC to get together to draft response by end of January. A member of the public commented that this should be rejected on the grounds of sustainability.

**140/15 PLAYGROUND**

The November inspection was carried out by Mr Shaw, the playground was in a sorry state, grass not cut, litter bin bulging empty cans around the site, hedge not cut. Generally needing a tidy up, Clerk to contact BGG for a quote for doing some maintenance. Sheets issued to Mr Pearce for the December Inspection, Mrs Woodford to do January. Clerk reported that a funding application and additional information have sent in to Tesco for replacing the activity trail. Clerk to get together with Mrs Cardy to apply for more grant income after Christmas.

**141/15 CHURCHYARD AND BURIAL GROUND**

BGG trimmed the hedges this week at the bottom of the new burial ground and it is generally looking a lot better. Mr Longstaff to prepare a report for the Parish Council once more information is received. Clerk and Mr Hodgkins to create a record/register of those buried.

**142/15 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE SANDRA SABATHY**

We are now in village consultation. There will be a public meeting on Saturday Jan 16<sup>th</sup>, with 2 presentations at 12 noon and 2pm, statutory consultees have been consulted, the cut-off date is currently 28<sup>th</sup> January for feedback. The Parish Council would like to encourage people to feedback on the plan both positive or negative. A report will be produced after consultation period to go to independent examiner which will contain all the feedback from the village and statutory consultees.

**143/15 ALLOTMENTS UPDATE WENDY WOODFORD**

Very quiet time of year, Mrs Woodford to consult Mr and Mrs Pointon to find out which trees belong to them and which are growing wild on the Allotments. Clerk to identify whether the footpath around the allotment belongs to the Parish Council or the Pointons. There was a discussion about the wider path kissing gate and whether it could be removed, Mrs Woodford to talk to Mrs Pointon about this gate which is in need of repair to discuss this. Following a request for information Percentages of Longworth residents at the allotments were reported, 54% rented by Longworth people, 4% plots owned and maintained by people who have moved out of the village 5 empty plots 10% and non Longworth residents 32%. It was considered unnecessary to pass on peoples personal details and thought that this information would be sufficient to answer the query.

**144/15 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**

Clerk advised a delay with the Financial regulations and Standing which are being worked on and will be presented at the February 2016 meeting with a view to making amendments to the documents as advised by councillors in time to be adopted for the new financial year at the May 2016 Annual meeting

<b>9 RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS</b>	
<b>Receipts for November/December 2015 were as follows:</b>	
Interest on NSI	14
Churchyard grave reservations	200
VAT Refund	185
<b>Payments November/December 2015 :</b>	
Clerks Salary £398.97	798
Poppy wreath and donation	67
BGG invoice for cutting the churchyard grass & graveyard maintenance	544
Allotment Signs	13
Allotment Water rates	118

The 2015/16 Forecast and 2016/17 budget for precept workings were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting together with some narrative, however as this information was late going out not everyone had time to digest and form an opinion as to whether the budget was reasonable. In principle Councillors who had reviewed the budget were happy with it, and it was agreed that unless changes were requested from the remaining two councillors The amount of precept to be requested from VOWH is £8600, councillors to feedback any concerns, as soon as possible so that this request can be sent to VOWH. *The precept budget was submitted to VOWH in-line with their deadline of 11<sup>th</sup> January.*

**145/15 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

An email received from Mr & Mrs Pointon re dead elm saplings on the allotment and the need for gate repairs. Mrs Woodford to deal with these queries.

Letter also from Mr & Mrs Pointon re purchase of 6.5 acre field adjacent to the allotment, to be added to the next meeting agenda

Letter received from Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire re HMQ 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations. Mr Pearce to contact Mrs Hall to see if this can be combined with the Big Lunch. Thank you letter received from British Legion. A Fact sheet entitled changes to smaller authorities local audit and accountability framework received from NALC/SLCC, Clerk to feed back any relevant points to a future meeting.

**146/15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Standing Orders and financial regulations are still being updated.

the Footpath outside the old Rectory, needs clearing, Clerk to contact Highways to get this cleared.

Huge accumulation of beer cans on Hinton Road to be reported to Biffa from Northfield Crossroads to Frilford farm garages, to be reported to Biffa Waste team for a litter pick and Mr Hodgkins to report to Police, as it was thought this might relate to drink driving. An increase in Dog mess in the village, Clerk to put up more signs. Clerk to circulate to see if everyone can make 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb for the next meeting instead of 27<sup>th</sup> January as several councillors are unable to make this meeting.

The meeting ended at 8.10pm

Date of next meeting Wednesday 3rd February in the Village Hall.

Signed.....

Date.....