

Longworth Parish Council

MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

Held at Longworth Village Hall at 7 pm on 22nd June 2016

PRESENT: Mrs Carlisle (Clerk), Councillor Hayward, Mr Hodgkins, Mrs Kinch, Mr Longstaff, Mr Pearce (Chairman), Mr Shaw, and 22 members of the public

74/16 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Ms Sabathy, Councillor Tilley and Mrs Woodford

75/16 DECLARATIONS of INTEREST

There were no changes reported.

76/16 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the 18th May meeting were put before the Councillors and accepted as being correct and duly signed

77/16 MELINDA TILLEY

Mrs Tilley sent her apologies.

78/16 ANTHONY HAYWARD (DISTRICT COUNCILLOR)

Mr Hayward advised that the planning has now been approved for the Botley Shopping centre, hotel and student accommodation.

The Vale of White Horse Local plan part 1 has been inspected and approved with minor amendments by the inspector, this is expected to be finalised later this year and will protect against developers building where they like. Mr Hayward highlighted that there has been a call for sites from local land owners to be submitted by the end of July for assessment.

Part 2 of the local plan is underway, this is for smaller housing schemes.

Changes are being introduced to the planning permission procedure for objections. Under the new guidelines where the Parish council wish to object to an application this will in future be referred to Mr Hayward (District Councillor) to call in, he may then take to the Planning committee on our behalf.

Discussions re the Devolution of the smaller councils are continuing with the aim to provide extra money for infrastructure etc... The proposal is to replace smaller councils with unitary authorities in our case South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse would be combined, this is still being discussed and no decision has been made yet.

79/16 OPEN SESSION

A member of the public reported an abandoned van in Pinewoods road, Clerk to report via fixmystreet.

A solar lamp was suggested for the Village lamp post – Clerk to investigate practicality of this.

80/16 MATTERS ARISING

Southern Electric have checked the cables in the trees by the allotment they are not concerned that it is dangerous, however they have recommended sheathing the wire

Ms Sabathy has requested that we contact Trading standards following on from the discussions about Newbridge and the comment made by a parishioner at the last meeting, to suggest that “fines are too low, if lorry drivers would prefer to take the fine than drive round”

81/16 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS for June 2016

Income from NSI Investments	20.53
Groundworks Grant	9000.00
Churchyard receipt re Dorothy May Douglas	200.00
VOWH Grant for HMQ 90 th birthday lunch	128.00
Total Receipts	9,348.53
Expenditure	
Clerks Salary June	418.04
Grass cutting	250.00
Band at HMQ 90 th Birthday	200.00
VAT	50.00
Total Expenditure	918.04

82/16 NAG UPDATE – MICHAEL HODGKINS

The last meeting was held on 26th May in Denchworth.

Faringdon Police are focusing on village events with “have your say day” and will endeavour to attend notified events. Police to attend Longworth Fete (hopefully).

Mr Hodgkins was able to advise that the parish council had agreed to Smartwater signs at either side of the village.

Speeding on A420 on Sunday mornings was discussed, it appears that motorbike trials are being held, the Police have agreed to attend.

The next meeting is scheduled for 25th August in Southmoor.

83/16 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE – MICHAEL PEARCE

The Neighbourhood plan has passed examination stage, conditional on one minor amendment which had previously been approved by the Parish Council. The Plan now goes to referendum which the Vale organise. There has been prior discussion about dates with the Vale and it was agreed to confirm the earliest possible being 18th August although the 25th August was also discussed as a back up if the earlier was not possible. It was accepted that this date(s) fell within the traditional holiday period however given the availability of proxy and postal votes the electorate would not be disadvantaged. Following the referendum if a simple majority is achieved in favour of the plan, it then goes to full council meeting in October to be “made”

84/16 RESERVOIR UPDATE – MICHAEL PEARCE

Thames Water have confirmed that they will attend the meeting on 3rd August and will present to the village their plans, re the safeguarding of the 3 potential reservoir sites. The presentation is expected to last about 10 mins, following this there will be a Q&A session.

Parishioners have been encouraged to send in their questions in advance so that Thames Water can prepare their answers, any further questions should be sent in advance to longworthpc@mail.com

85/16 PLANNING MATTERS/APPLICATIONS

P16/V0304/FUL Squirrel Cottage application (10 dwellings) amended details have been received for this application and the case officer has been changed to Sarah Green

P15/V2863/O Potting Shed nurseries application

The Potting Sheds application was submitted to the planning committee on 20th April, and approved with no regard to the emerging neighbourhood plan. Mr Pearce had written to Secretary of State (SoS) requesting that this application be called in should planning permission be approved.

The SoS has decided to call in this application. He accordingly directs, under his powers in section 77 of the 1990 Act, that the application shall be referred to him instead of being dealt with by the Local Planning Authority. He has also chosen to hold a local inquiry with a procedural "starting date" of 17th June 2016. Within 6 weeks of this date Longworth Parish Council need to forward a statement stating our case, which will be reviewed alongside the cases for Mr. Moody (Potting Shed Nurseries) and the Vale of White Horse.

The matters which he particularly wishes to be informed about for the purposes of his consideration of the application are;

- i. its consistency with the development plan for the area, and the Longworth Neighbourhood Plan;
- ii. its conformity with the policies set out in the National Planning Policy Framework on neighbourhood planning
- iii. its general conformity with the policies set out in the National Planning Policy Framework on, delivering a wide choice of quality homes, requiring good design, and conserving and enhancing the natural environment; and,
- iv. any other matters the Inspector considers relevant

This needs to be done professionally, which will involve the use of a consultant for advice.

Following clarification of the purpose of the vote requested by Mr Longstaff

The Parish Council Voted unanimously:

- a) to progress this inquiry,
- b) to use Neil Homer (our Neighbourhood Planning consultant) and
- c) to fund a maximum of £8.5k from Parish Council reserves.

It was stated that through discussions with the National Planning Casework Unit it had become apparent that the date for our referendum was indeed relevant and this was a further reason to request an early date with the Vale as referred to in minute 83/16 above.

86/16 PLAYGROUND

- The May inspection was carried out by Mrs Kinch at the end of May, June inspection to be done by Mr Shaw.
- New Equipment - £9k of the grant money has now been received from Groundworks the balance to be received on project completion
The Council agreed unanimously to go with Streetscape, with at least 10% retention
- Terms of transfer of Land ownership to be discussed at the next meeting

87/16 CHURCHYARD AND BURIAL GROUND – ROBERT LONGSTAFF

All running smoothly at the moment, no negative comments have been received recently.
Mr Longstaff to follow up with BGG re quote for repairing grave
It was agreed that Gary Smith can clear the compost heap,
working party at graveyard to be organised by Martin Eagle & Robert Longstaff.
Clerk to Check tombstones beforehand and that the Parish insurance covers public liability

88/16 ALLOTMENT UPDATE – WENDY WOODFORD

There was nothing to update re the allotments, A member of the public registered interested in renting the Northern allotment land which will be advertised in July Seven Voices.
The public gate next to Longworth House and adjacent to the allotments needs repairing,

89/16 SPEEDWATCH INITIATIVE – WENDY WOODFORD

There have been speedwatch equipment issues which have now been solved, letters have been sent to offenders from the previous session. Clerk to investigate the cost of illuminated speed signs.

90/16 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Update from Matthew Barber & Need not Greed. Invitation to the Summer Town and Parish Forum

91/16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Lesley Kinch – Transport representative reported that the 63 and 43 services will cease to run in July. Longworth will be left with only the volunteer bus to Faringdon twice per week.
Appleton, Cumnor & KB are interested in getting together to commission perhaps 1 or 2 school buses, per month, this would have to be a subscriber service. A member of the public suggested that Oxfordshire community foundation may have grants, ORCC help set up community bus services. Mrs Kinch agreed to investigate.

92/16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

3rd August in the Village Hall at 7pm

The meeting ended at 8.30pm

Signed.....

Date.....