

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF LONGDON HELD
IN THE W. I. HALL, FORD LANE, LONGDON, ON TUESDAY, MAY 8TH, 2012.

Present: Cllr. Mrs. G. D. Duckett (Chairman); Cllr. B. J. Butler; Cllr. C. D. Cherry;
Cllr. R. A. G. Clarke; Cllr. P. M. Couchman; Cllr. A. J. Juxon;
Cllr. Mrs. H. A. Meere; Cllr. K. C. Taylor; and Cllr. S. K. Welch.

Also present were the Clerk; County Councillor F. W. Lewis, MBE;
and one parishioner – Mr. Nicholas Betteley, of Lysways Lane, Longdon
Green.

*The Chairman began the meeting by welcoming Cllr. Cherry on his return to
the Council after an extended period of indisposition.*

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr. M. J. Nash; Cllr. C. J. Webb; and Cllr. N. J. Roberts, of Lichfield
District Council.

2. REVIEW OF CURRENT PRACTICES AGAINST RISK ASSESSMENT
REGISTER

It was agreed that these should be reviewed during the course of the meeting.

3. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Taylor and seconded by the Chairman, the minutes
of the previous meeting, held in the W. I. Hall, Ford Lane, Longdon, on Tuesday,
April 10th, 2012, were approved and signed.

4. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Juxon and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Meere, the
minutes of the Annual Assembly, held in the Hall of St. James C. E. (V. C.) School,
Longdon, on Tuesday, April 24th, 2012, were approved and signed.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Betteley to the meeting and invited him to address
the meeting.

Mr. Betteley said that he wanted to inform the Council of his plans to demolish his
present residence, The Spinney, and replace it with an alternative dwelling.

The present house had been built in 1954 on heavy clay and was subject to movement. He had contacted Lichfield District Council and had been advised that the house did not have listed status; moreover, it stood in an area of mixed development and did not have any particular aesthetic value. However, since it stood in a Conservation Area, he had been in consultation with the District Council's Conservation Officer.

He had consulted Janet Hodson, a design consultant, who had been working on the project over the past eighteen months, delay having caused by the presence of a bat, for whom provision had to be made.

Restrictions had been placed on the volume and footprint of the new building, and he assured the Council that the new dwelling would be built with quality materials and, he hoped, would have an oak frame.

Asked whether there were likely to be any areas of contention with neighbours, Mr. Betteley said there were none of which he was aware, adding that the new building had to be built on foundations a metre lower than at present so as not to be higher than the building it was replacing.

At the conclusion of his presentation, the Chairman thanked Mr. Betteley for informing the Council of the proposed development, and invited him to stay for the remainder of the meeting, an invitation which Mr. Betteley accepted.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(i) Lighting in Giddywell Lane

The Clerk reported that he had written to Mr. Hook, the County Council's Principal Lighting Engineer, asking him what level of financial support he would expect from the Parish Council to make the project viable.

(ii) Development at "The Swan with Two Necks"

The Clerk reported that he had no response from Mr. Rayner to the Council's invitation to attend the Annual Assembly to outline his plans for the development of "The Swan with Two Necks".

The Chairman said that she believed that the project had been suspended.

(iii) Footpath Leaflets

Cllr. Juxon reported that the footpath leaflets had been delivered to his house and it now remained for the Council to decide how they were distributed.

It was agreed that they should be offered to the five public houses in the parish, the Village Hall, W. I. Hall and the Memorial Hall and to the Tourist Information Bureau in Lichfield.

All these outlets would be free to donate any money to a charity of their choice.

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Juxon and seconded by Cllr. Welch, the Clerk was instructed to order seven five-tier display stands.

The Chairman thought that there was space in the Village Hall to store the surplus.

(iv) Registering Brook End

Cllr. Clarke reported that preparations for a submission to The Land Registry were now complete and all that needed doing was for the Clerk to obtain a certified copy of the original Deed of Conveyance to enclose with the application.

Cllr. Mrs. Meere said that she was sure that her husband would be willing to provide the certification.

(v) Parish Website

Cllr. Clarke reported that the new website was now up and running and that Cllr. Cherry would be its editor, which Cllr. Cherry himself confirmed.

He thought that issues of “Longdon Life” could be saved in the pdf format for forwarding to Eric Roy.

He was dissatisfied with the entries from the schools, which were not very informative about their academic work, and only one public house, “The Windmill Inn”, had a decent entry.

No electronic copy of the Parish Council’s logo survived and, as a result, its reproduction on the website was poor. He suggested that the Council might like to consider running a competition to find a replacement, but it was thought that the Council had enough projects in hand at the moment.

(vi) Annual Assembly

In reviewing the Annual Assembly, the Chairman said that three issues had emerged: a cycle path along the A51; the proliferation of signage; and the bid by St. James School to run both a pre-school unit and an after-school club.

As regards the first of these, she thought that it would be necessary to ask the County Council to re-designate the existing footpaths between Lichfield and Rugeley as cycleways and to cut back the encroaching turf on either side.

An enquiry could be made as to the availability of grants from Sustrans.

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Taylor and seconded by Cllr. Welch, it was agreed that the Clerk should go ahead with these enquiries.

The question of signage and the suggestion that two or three could be attached to individual posts, thus reducing the number of posts could also be referred to the County Council.

The third issue had been the bid by the School to set up a ‘wrap-around club’ catering for children between 7.30 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. and the impact that this would have on both Longdon Pre-School and Longdon Village Hall, which would suffer a drastic loss of income if Pre-School were forced to close.

There was a possible compromise if the Pre-School were to continue to run the nursery class for the School in the Village Hall, and it was understood that the Pre-school would indeed make a bid if the School went ahead with the proposal, but it was also understood that the School was considering the possibility of acquiring a mobile classroom if the project reached fulfilment.

It was agreed that clarification of the proposal was needed.

(vii) Computer Course

Cllr. Clarke said that he hoped to continue the computer course in the autumn.

7. PLANNING

(i) Report of Working Group

12/00308/Mr. and Mrs. Harris: Garage and bay window extension to front:
5, St. James Close, Longdon

It was agreed that the development, which included a pitched roof, would be an improvement and, since it did not exceed the existing footprint, the Council saw no grounds for objecting.

12/00236/FUL: Mr. M. Hammersley: Conversion of four residential units
into two: Gorton Lodge Farm, Stoneywell Lane, Longdon

It was noted that a development which began as holiday lets had then become permanent dwellings, and the applicant was now seeking to create two larger dwellings within the Green Belt.

It was agreed that, on principle, the Council should object to this application on the grounds that it was an example of incremental development within the Green Belt and, if approved, could set a precedent which would be difficult to resist in the future.

12/00327/CLE: Mr. N. Massey: Certificate of Lawfulness (Existing): Continued occupation of dwelling in breach of agricultural occupancy: High Meadow, Hill Top, Longdon Green

The Clerk reported that he had discussed this application with Della Templeton, a senior planning officer at Lichfield District Council, who had told him that, unless the Parish Council had evidence that the dwelling had been used in accordance with the agricultural occupancy condition within the past ten years, the application could not be opposed, since the present owners had bought the property unaware of the condition and had continued to occupy it in ignorance of the condition.

The Council accepted this ruling with some reluctance, seeing the application as yet another example of a planning condition which had proved valueless.

12/00411/CON (Conservation Area Consent): Mr. and Mrs. N. Betteley:
Demolition of existing building: The Spinney, Lysways Lane, Longdon Green

It was agreed that more time was needed to consider this application.

12/00438/FUL: Mrs. D. Hodson Walker: Single-storey side and rear extensions to form laundry room, study, WC, kitchen and breakfast area: 4, Brereton Hill Lane, Upper Longdon

It was noted that an earlier application had been withdrawn and modified.

The Council saw no problems with this application; there was no increase in the present footprint and no intrusion into agricultural or grazing land.

12/ 00453/FUL: Mr. A. R. Baskerville: Erection of building to store agricultural machinery: Field at Lysways Lane, Longdon Green

The Council assumed, on past experience, that this application would receive automatic approval and saw no point in commenting.

(ii) For Consideration

There were no further plans for consideration.

(iii) Approved by Lichfield District Council

The Clerk reported that, since the last meeting, Lichfield District Council had issued the following Notices of Approval of Planning Permission:

11/01171/FUL: Lichfield Cathedral School: Two-storey extension to provide classrooms, assembly hall and reception area: Lichfield Cathedral School, Church Hill, Longdon Green

12/00181/FUL: Mr. J. Haden: Conversion of out-building to a one-bedroom holiday let: Churchfield Cottage, Smithy Lane, Longdon

The Clerk reported that he had received from Mrs. Chris Billings, Development Control Manager, Democratic, Development and Legal Services, Lichfield District Council, a letter dated 26th April 2012, confirming that, notwithstanding the parish Council's concerns about the granting of planning permission, this application had been approved by the Council on 3rd April 2012.

She had explained that, in the case of this particular application, the provision of holiday accommodation was in accordance with current policy and guidance.

Should the applicant apply in the future for change of use to an independent dwelling, this application would be determined on its individual merits.

Mrs. Billings had also confirmed that no new access was proposed.

12/01289/FUL: Mr. N. Brown: Construction of new access driveway to existing dwelling: The Cottage, Longdon Green

(iv) Refused by Lichfield District Council

The Clerk reported that, since the last meeting, Lichfield District Council had issued no Notices of Refusal of Planning Permission relating to the Parish of Longdon.

(v) Other Planning Matters

(a) Byron Court, Upper Longdon

The Clerk reported that he had received from Chris Hibbs, Principal Planning Officer (Enforcement), Democratic, Development and Legal Services, Lichfield District Council, an email dated 11th April 2011, informing the Council that she had written to the occupiers of the properties, who had responded as follows:

No. 1. The occupiers had moved in in 2000 and refurbished the building, filling in the swimming-pool (with Buildings Regulations), and had used it for visitors. The daughter's friends had occupied the building for a time, but there had been no formal agreement, and no separate meters, bins or postal address.

This, Mrs. Hibbs judged, would have been incidental or ancillary to the use of the use of the main dwelling.

No. 2. This building had been purchased in 1992 and refurbished internally recently. It was not occupied other than as being part of the main house.

Mrs. Hibbs had concluded that, while there was furniture inside and curtains at the windows, this was consistent with them being part of the house, and on that basis there appeared to be no evidence of any change of use.

She therefore proposed to take no further action.

This explanation did not entirely satisfy Councillors, who were concerned that the occupants, whoever they were, should be paying Council Tax.

8. REPORTS OF MEETINGS

(i) Staffordshire Branch, Campaign to Protect Rural England: April 28th

Cllr. Welch gave a short report on the Annual General Meeting of the Staffordshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, which had taken place in the Darwin Suite at The Wedgwood Museum, Barlaston, on Saturday, April 28th and at which he had given a talk on Cannock Chase and its wildlife.

He said that the main area of concern at this meeting had been the proliferation in the number of wind turbines, which seemed to be running out of control.

The Secretary of the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust was trying to forge links between the two organisations, which were aiming to work more closely together in spite of clashes of interest.

(ii) Cannock Wood & Gentleshaw Village Hall Management Committee Annual General Meeting: April 30th

Cllr. Taylor gave a report on the Annual General Meeting of the Management Committee of Cannock Wood and Gentleshaw Village Hall, which had taken place at the Hall on Monday, April 30th, 2012.

The retiring Chairman, Gary Powis, who had been in office for the past ten years, had not offered himself for re-election owing to ill-health.

The past year had been a very successful year in which the public address system had been updated and the outside lighting replaced. However, the potholes in the car park still awaited repair. The School had not contributed to its maintenance, even though it was being extensively used by parents bringing their children to school or meeting them at the end of the day; and the possibility of erecting a barrier was considered but dismissed.

A Craft Fair had raised £250. 00 towards the cost of filling in the holes and, generally, the accounts were in good shape.

The website would need updating, and the possibility of engaging a paid Bookings Secretary, for which there was a vacancy, was considered.

Ways of celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee were discussed.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Taylor for presenting his report.

9. NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The Clerk reported that he had received notice of the following meetings and events:

(i) Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty - Parish Councils' Meeting: Monday, May 14th, 2012, at the Pye Green Community Centre, Cannock, commencing at 7. 00 p.m.

Cllr. Welch said that he would be unable to attend this meeting; Cllr. Taylor said that he would go in place of Cllr. Welch if free.

(ii) The Academies Show ("Learn how the Academies Programme is changing the education landscape"): 'Free-to-Attend' Conference at Olympia, London, on Wednesday, 16th May, 2012.

(iii) Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Centenary Celebrations: Wednesday 16th May, 2012, at the Wolseley Centre, Wolseley Bridge, Stafford.

(iv) Localism and Neighbourhood Planning Briefing Session: Tuesday, May 22nd, 2012, in the Council Chamber, District Council House, Frog Lane, Lichfield, from 6. 00 p.m. to 8. 00 p.m. Registration from 5. 30 p.m.

Four Longdon representatives would be attending – Cllr. Mrs. Duckett, Cllr. Clarke, Cllr. Webb and the Clerk.

(v) Cruse South Staffordshire – Area Annual Business Meeting: Thursday, June 28th, 2012, at The Coton Centre, Comberford Road, Tamworth. from 7. 00 p.m.

10. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

(i) Request to re-open Dark Lane

The Clerk reported that he had received a phone call from Mr. Phillip Hammersley, who was concerned that the temporary closure of Dark Lane as the result of a fallen tree would become permanent.

He complained that, if the lane were permanently closed, he would not be able to maintain his farming activities from the lane, and it would not be long before it became a site for unlawful encampments and the illicit dumping of waste.

Cllr. Clarke reported that he had canvassed all eleven residents in the lane, who had been unanimous in their desire to see the lane closed to through traffic permanently, since, open, it was used by 'boy racers' competing with friends driving along Coffins Hollow and Borough Lane.

It was felt that Mr. Hammersley's concerns could be addressed by erecting a keyed gate at the top of the lane similar to the gate in Abnalls Lane, although it was also pointed out that he could still access fields from the lower part of Dark Lane.

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Juxon and seconded by Cllr. Butler, it was unanimously agreed that the Council was minded to support the closure of the lane to through traffic provided that it was continued to be maintained as a bridleway and footpath.

Cllr. Lewis said that he was willing to arrange a site meeting with Richard Rayson, the Community Highway Liaison Manager, towards the end of the month, when he would have relinquished the post of Chairman of Staffordshire County Council and have more time for a meeting.

(ii) Quotation from Aqua Jet Services for new notice-board and bench at top of Grange Hill

The Clerk reported that he had received from Alan Johnson, of Aqua Jet Services, a quotation of £180. 00 for a new notice board and £230. 00 for a trestle-type bench.

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Welch and seconded by Cllr. Butler, it was agreed that these quotations should be accepted.

However, the consent of the Highways Authority would have to be obtained before the bench could be erected.

11. GREENS AND OPEN SPACES

(i) Report of Mowing Contractor

The Clerk reported that he had received from Graham McCulloch a report dated 21st April 2012 informing the Council that he had completed the first cut of the season the previous day.

With his report, Mr. McCulloch had enclosed a copy of his insurance policy.

12. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

(i) Grant Application Form

The Clerk reported that he had received from Eric Roy, the Parish Council's webmaster, an email dated 20th April 2012, in which, in reply to the Council's enquiry as to whether the Grant Application form could be made inter-active, had explained that the number of "fields" on the form, each of which had to be accepted and validated, would entail a considerable amount of programming work which would cost into three figures.

For a relatively low volume of forms, of which only some would use the interactive facility, this appeared not to be a very effective use of Parish Council's funds.

13. LAW AND ORDER

(i) Report from Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr. Taylor reported that he had received from Rob Nunn, Watch Liaison Officer, an email dated 4th May 2012 warning of a new scam in which the victim received a parcel containing a brand new mobile phone which he had not ordered, delivered by a courier claiming to be from a company called Yodel.

The following day, a male person called, also claiming to be from Yodel, to collect the phone, explaining that it had been delivered in error.

In the two cases reported, this person has been described as Asian, wearing a hi-viz jacket, who, one occasion, was seen to get into a white Combi van with covered number plate.

In both cases, the residents had contacted the phone companies concerned and were advised that this was a scam, so did not hand over the phones.

It was feared that there might be other victims, and anyone receiving an unexpected phone was being asked to contact the police.

Finally, since the victim's credit card details might have been stolen in order to set up the phone account, anyone approached should check their credit card statements.

14. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

The Chairman reported that she had received and judged a large number of posters from the pupils of St. James School.

There had been one winner from each of four categories, and, on a motion proposed by Cllr. Taylor and seconded by Cllr. Welch that each should received a £10 W. H. Smith's token.

It was also agreed, on a motion proposed by Cllr. Taylor and seconded by Cllr. Welch, that a donation of £50. 00 should be made to the School for the purchase of books for the School Library.

It was further agreed, on a motion proposed by Cllr. Taylor and seconded by Cllr. Butler, that a donation of £50. 00 should be made to Longdon Pre-School in appreciation of the contribution which the staff and pupils had made to the provision of children's posters.

The Clerk informed the Council that Mr. and Mrs. Rogers no longer felt able to maintain the flower tubs at the top of Shavers Lane, and it was agreed that they should be removed.

Cllr. Taylor confirmed that Taylor Maids would continue to clean the telephone kiosk at the top of Grange Hill, and it was agreed that the firm should be invited to display its business card in the kiosk.

15. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(i) Accounts for Payment

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Welch and seconded by Cllr. Taylor, payment of the following accounts was approved:

*Benhill Press, Rugeley	1000 copies x 5 Walk Leaflets	£987. 00
AON	Insurance Premium	£880. 11
Eric Roy	Re-development and publication of web pages	£470. 00

Pointing out that Mr. Roy had, at the request of the Council, held his quote for over twelve months, Cllr. Clarke proposed an additional payment of 10%.

However, it was doubted whether this within the powers of the Council and, in the absence of a seconder, Cllr. Clarke's motion failed.

Instead, the Clerk was instructed to write to Mr. Roy expressing the Council's gratitude.

Graham McCulloch	Mowing – April 20 th	£370. 00
#W. B. Sullivan	4 Half-Barrel Flower Tubs: £100. 00 4 Bags of Compost: £ 14. 50	£114. 50
Community Council of Staffordshire	Membership Fee	£ 22. 10
Longdon W. I.	Hire of Hall – May 8 th	£ 12. 00

(* confirmation # Payment under Section 137)

(ii) Payments Received

The Clerk reported that, since the last meeting, the following payments had been received:

Lichfield District Council	Precept 2012/2013	£13650. 00
Staffordshire County Council	Mowing Agreement	£ 707. 15
Longdon Parochial Charities	Jubilee Fund	£ 100. 00
Longdon Parochial Church Council	Jubilee Fund	£ 100. 00
A. I. D. Fuel Oils Ltd.	Advertisement: "Longdon Life"	£ 9. 00
Longdon Club & Institute	Advertisement: "Longdon Life"	£ 7. 50
N. J. Sutcliffe	Advertisement: "Longdon Life"	£ 7. 50
A. W. Johnson	Advertisement: "Longdon Life"	£ 7. 50
A. D. Bennett	Advertisement: "Longdon Life"	£ 6. 50
P. J. Adams	Advertisement: "Longdon Life"	£ 5. 00

(iii) Current Balances

The Clerk reported that, currently, the Council's balances stood as follows:

NatWest c/a:	£2886. 53	The Halifax s/a:	£14389. 33
<u>less uncleared cheques</u>			
	1695: £ 24. 00		
	1696: £ 384. 91		
	1701: £ 200. 00		
	1705: £1500. 00		
	1706: £ 348. 90		
	1707: <u>£ 237. 48</u>		
	£ 191. 24		

(iv) Requests for Grant(a) Open Spaces Society

The Clerk reported that he had received from Tim Crowther, Chairman, The Open Spaces Society, a letter dated 13th April 2012, inviting the Council to make a donation to the Society's 'Octavia's legacy' appeal commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the death of Octavia Hill.

However, it was agreed that this was too general an appeal to enable the Council to respond positively.

(b) St. James Church, Longdon

The Chairman reported that she had received from Judy Grew, Churchwarden at the Parish Church of St. James the Great, Longdon, an email dated 23rd April 2012, in which she had stated that the PCC's priority in receiving financial support from the Parish Council would be a grant towards the cost of maintaining the churchyard, rather than towards improving the car park, since it was very important to all the parish and especially to all those visiting family graves.

Moreover, the churchyard had now, by the hard work of a band of volunteers, been brought back to a good condition, and it would be very sad to see the standard deteriorate.

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Juxon and seconded by Cllr. Taylor, it was agreed that an immediate donation of £1000. 00 should be made to the churchyard fund.

(v) Report of Independent Auditor

The Clerk reported that the Council's accounts for the financial year ended on 31st March 2012 had been examined by Alan Toplis, of Alan Toplis Associates, on Thursday, 26th April and found to be in good order.

He now awaited Mr. Toplis's written report.

(vi) Approval of Financial Statement for the Financial Year 31st March 2012

Copies of the Financial Statement for the Financial Year ended 31st March 2012 having been distributed at the previous meeting, it was, on a motion proposed by Cllr. Welch and seconded by Cllr. Juxon, approved and adopted by the Council.

(vii) Approval and Signing of Annual Return

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Taylor and seconded by Cllr. Juxon, the Annual Return for the Financial Year ended 31st March 2012 was completed and signed by the Chairman.

16. CORRESPONDENCE SINCE LAST MEETING

(i) The Clerk reported that he had received from Vanessa Vaughan, Programme Officer, c/o Planning, Policy and Development Control, Staffordshire County Council, a letter dated 4th April 2012, informing the Council that the Government had recently published the National Policy Framework; however, this new policy document had not superseded Planning Policy Statement 10 (“Planning for Sustainable Waste Management”) and its Companion Guide.

Nevertheless, should the Council consider that aspects of the plan that rely on other policy statements which have been revoked as the consequence of the publication of the framework needed re-visiting, it should make representations to the Programme Officer by 25th May, 2012.

The form for this purpose could be downloaded at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/wcs-examination and emailed back to the Programme Officer at programme.office@staffordshire.gov.uk.

(ii) The Clerk reported that he received from Rachel Jameson, of Zurich Municipal, a letter dated 24th April 2012, claiming to offer the best possible levels of insurance cover and support available.

However, the Chairman, having already studied the terms of the Council’s current policy, had recommended renewal, and the Council had accepted her recommendation.

(iii) The Clerk reported that Matthew Deakin-LeDoux, Project and Design Support Manager, Transformation Support Unit, Staffordshire Parish Council, a letter dated 2nd May 2012 informing the Council that the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Broadband Project to bring improved broadband services to the area was gathering speed and attaching an invitation from Cllr. Mark Winnington to attend a Broadband Champions meeting and sign up to become a Broadband Champion for Staffordshire.

17. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk reported that, in addition to the above correspondence, the following communications had been received:

- (i) From Heather Gibbons/Dawn Everitt, Development and Legal Officers,
Democratic, Development and Legal Services, Lichfield District Council:

Calendar of Meetings, fortnight ending 22nd April 2012;
Calendar of Meetings, fortnight ending 6th May 2012;
Forward Plan – Version 1 – Issued 16. 04, 2012 – Effective for the Period
01. 05. 2012 – 31. 08. 2012.

- (ii) From Sally Duckett, Licensing Officer, Democratic, Development and Legal
Services, Lichfield District Council:

Licensing Act Applications registered during w/e 5th April 2012;
Licensing Act Application registered during w/e 20th April 2012;
Licensing Act Application registered during w/e 27th April 2012.

- (iii) From Karen Travers, Admin Officer – Electoral Services, Lichfield District
Council:

Register of Electors – Notice of Alterations (May 2012).

- (iv) From Jan Wright, Administration Assistant, Lichfield and District Community
and Voluntary Support Sector:

S3SN – E Bulletin – Issue No. 11/12 – 22nd March 2012;
S3SN – E Bulletin – Issue No. 12/12 – 5th April 2012;
S3SN – E Bulletin – Issue No. 13/12 – 12th April 2012;
S3SN – E Bulletin – Issue No. 14/12 – 19th April 2012;
S3SN – E Bulletin – Issue No. 15/12 – 26th April 2012.

- (v) From Sarah Mellor, Operation Manager, East Staffordshire Community and
Voluntary Service:

ESCVS CRB Service.

- (vi) From The Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association:

SPCA Update (13th April 2012);
“Show your support during the jubilee – come out to see “The President””;
SPCA Update (20th April);
Request to support Early Day Motion on Planning Appeals;
Internet Safety Guide; Two-day Emergency Outdoor First Aid Course;
“All you need to know about biomass”;
Training Standards and Neighbourhood Warnings.

(vii) From The National Association of Local Councils:

Conferences – “People in Action”.

(viii) From Staffordshire Branch, Campaign to Protect Rural England:

Annual Report 2012;
AGM Agenda;
Nomination Form;
Trips and Visits 2012;
300 Club Draw for 2012.

(ix) From Emma Beaman-Green, AONB Assistant, Cannock Chase AONB:

Minutes of Parish Councils’ Meeting held on Thursday, 20th October 2011;
Agenda for Parish Councils’ Meeting to be held on Monday, 14th May
2012.

(x) From David Potts, Two Saints Way Project:

“Forward to the Ancient Future”
- a short report on the inaugural pilgrimage on the Two Saints Way.

(xi) From Ordnance Survey:

PSMA Newsletter – April 2012;
Royal Mail royalty terms for PSMA members 2012-2013;
PSMA Region Update (2nd May 2012).

(xii) From The Secretary, Cannock Wood & Gentleshaw Village Hall Management Committee:

Minutes of meeting of 26th March 2012;
Agenda for meeting to be held on 30th April 2012;
Minutes of 2012 Annual General Meeting;
Treasurer’s Report.

(xiii) From The Secretary, Beaudesert Sports Field and Recreation Ground Trust:

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 20th March 2012.

(xiv) From Martin Taylor, Sustainable Gov.:

Keeping staff motivated and trained.

(xv) From The Rural Services Network, Tavistock, Devon:

Weekly Email News Digest – 10th April 2012;
Weekly Email News Digest – 16th April 2012;

Weekly Email News Digest – 23rd April 2012;
Weekly Email News Digest – 30th April 2012;
Rural Opportunities Bulletin – May 2012.

(xvi) From Steve Shaw, National Co-ordinator of Local Works:

Empowering Town and Parish Councils – please help end Government delays.

(xvii) From HAGS, Sturminster Newton, Devon:

New price list available soon;
HAGS ROX climbing wall re-designed to offer greater benefits!

(xviii) From Nottssport, Lutterworth, Leics.:

“Re-cover your wetpour and recover your repair budget”.

(xix) From Sutcliffe Play Limited, Pontefract:

Sutcliffe Play at Playfair: 19th & 20th June, at Stoneleigh Park, Coventry.

18. DOCUMENTS

The following documents were available for Councillors to consult:

- (i) National Planning Policy Framework;
- (ii) VAT: Addressing borderline anomalies (consultation document);
- (iii) “Our Village” – Stonnall Draft Strategy;
- (iv) Heritage Update 229 – 13th April 2012.

19. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

(i) Cllr. Juxon reported that, at the Annual Vestry Meeting, Graham Massey had replaced Judy Grew as Churchwarden, following Mrs. Grew’s decision not to continue.

Alan White had remained as the other Churchwarden.

(ii) Cllr. Taylor reported that he had recently attended both a full Governors’ meeting and a meeting of the Disciplinary Committee at St. James School.

(iii) Cllr. Taylor further reported that some sort of survey was being carried out along Lower Way, but he had been unable to establish its purpose.

He was also concerned at the work being carried out at No. 19, The Grange, where blue engineering bricks were being replaced with red domestic bricks and where an access appeared to have been created onto Upper Way.

The Clerk was instructed to make enquiries.

(iv) Cllr. Juxon reported that, once again, the drains in Borough Lane were blocked and, as a consequence, surface water was running down the road.

The Clerk was instructed to advise the County Highway Department of this problem.

(v) The Clerk reported that Cllr. Webb had expressed his concern over the erection of a marquee at the entrance to "The Red Lion".

Although the marquee had now been removed, it was agreed that the licensee should be reminded that this was part of Longdon Green.

(vi) Cllr. Welch reported that, the previous Thursday, Cannock Chase had been visited by two MPs – Jeremy Lefroy, Member of Parliament for Stafford, and Richard Benyon, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs –, both of whom had been very impressed by what they had seen.

On another issue, Cllr. Welch agreed to speak to Emma Beaman-Green about the problem of litter in laybys alongside the Chase.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday, June 12th, 2012, in the W. I. Hall, Ford Lane, Longdon, commencing at 7. 30 p.m.