

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF LONGDON HELD
IN THE CANNOCK WOOD AND GENTLESHAW VILLAGE HALL, BUDS
ROAD, CANNOCK WOOD, ON TUESDAY,
12th NOVEMBER 2013

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

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr. P. M. Couchman

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting, held in the W. I. Hall, Ford Lane, Longdon, on Tuesday, 8th October, 2013, were, on a motion proposed by Cllr. Juxon and seconded by Cllr. Nash, approved and signed.

3. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

None was made.

4. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None was made.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No member of the public was present.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

AOB

Cllr Cherry reported the issue of the telephone was raised by the infant group and is being looked into, he asked Cllr Taylor if the matter of improving reception in the area could be raised at the Cannock Chase Parish Council meeting on Monday 25th November.

Fly-tipping on Cannock Chase

Cllr Welsh reported there had been no further action taken by the District Council

Maureen Piper Memorial

Members of the committee were not in attendance, therefore it was agreed the Council could only wait for further information

Highways & Footpaths

Cllr Taylor noted the overgrown land on Lower way is supposed to be in hand, the corner has been done, clarification is required from the resident to confirm what has been done and what intending to do. Cllr Clarke reported Richard Rayson has been slow in responding and asked the Clerk to clarify what correspondence has been received to date

General Administration

At the last meeting the Chairman asked Councillors to think about 'what are the outcomes we wish to achieve', Cllr Webb feels an extra meeting should be arranged to discuss how to take it forward. The Chairman asked Cllrs to think of ideas between now and the next Council meeting.

Two members of the public arrived at 7.55pm to discuss the Maureen Piper Memorial, **RESOLVED** to move to open Committee.

Open Committee

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Sandground and Mrs Felton to the meeting and invited them to address the Council.

Mrs Felton proposed that in commemoration of Mrs Maureen Piper's life a Weeping Ash tree (her favourite tree) along with a commemorative plaque be planted and costs have been obtained, the tree would be 7-8 feet tall and between 2-7 years old, it can be purchased from PD Nursery in Kings Bromley for a cost of £50.00 and £70.00 for the planting. Mr. Sandground informed the Council they are proposing a metal plaque on a wooden stake possibly concreted in the ground at a cost of £120.00 or £126.00 with the engraving. They would like the tree to be planted at the end of Swan Close by the bus stop; permission is to be sought from the County Council. The Chairman thanked Mr. Sandground and Mrs Felton for the updated information and asked if the Council can be informed of what support other organisations are offering.

Closed Committee

7. PLANNING

Report of Planning Committee

The following applications in view of the committee did not present any local planning problems or issues –

13/01035/FUL, 13/01050/FUL & 13/01073/FUL

These recommendations were accepted unanimously subject to - 13/01073/FUL the District Council stipulates that the owners will not be allowed any further developments on the site.

Planning Applications for consideration

13/01122/FUL Mr & Mrs Hughes, 22 Upper Way, Upper Longdon

RESOLVED the Council raise no objection to this application.

Planning decisions received by Lichfield District Council

13/00833/COU Longdon Hall School – Conversion & rebuilding of former coach house

13/00918/FUL Longdon Green House – Single storey rear extension to form orangery

13/00904/CLP. Certificate of Lawful Use dated 14th August and signed 8th October 2013

Since the last meeting, Lichfield District Council has issued no Notices of Refusal of Planning Permission relating to the Parish of Longdon.

Manorial Rights

The Chairman reported that due to a change in law a land registry notice and a letter has been received from Farrer & Co regarding the trustees of various Anglesey family estates who are looking to register a unilateral notice against the title to the Parish Council's property, the notice is being registered to protect the title to the minerals that lie underneath its property but do not form part of. The deadline for noting these interests was 13th October 2013, the Parish Council do not need to take any further action.

8. REPORTS OF MEETINGS

Lichfield District Parish Forum held on 2nd October

The Chairman presented a report of the meeting, for which he had already provided notes, distributed prior to the meeting (attached to the signed minutes) It was noted the Best Kept village has shrunk and 83% of Parishes don't enter. There is a village hall capital grants scheme available. There was a presentation on the Community Council of Staffordshire and an update on the LDC 'fit for future' was given.

Neighbourhood Planning Update

The Chairman presented a report on a meeting of the Working Group which had taken place on 14th October, 19th October and 22nd October 2013, for which he had already provided notes, distributed prior to the meeting (attached to the signed minutes).

It was noted flyer 2 was produced in a similar style to Flyer 1 and has distributed to all dwellings in the parish in early October. Two member of LDC planning gave valuable support as facilitators. Around 123 parishioners attended the meetings providing over 100 inputs on issues and wishes. An application for support and a grant of £7000.00 has been made to 'Locality', the Government agency handling its grants; a decision is expected around 23-26th November 2013.

To receive update of any other meetings

Cllr Taylor reported on a School Governors meeting held at St James School informing the Council that there was now a new Acting Head Mr Robson and he will stay for two terms. Interviews have also been held and a new teaching assistant has been agreed.

Cllr Cherry reported on a Village Hall Committee meeting informing the Council, the issue of installing a telephone at the hall has been raised, bookings are good and they are addressing the issue of the heating as it never goes off.

Cllr Clarke informed the Council he had attended a meeting of Staffordshire Playing Fields Association, there was a tour of St Georges Football Establishment and some contacts were made that maybe useful to help with the Neighbourhood Plan.

9. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

The Clerk reported that she has received notice of the following meetings and events:

- Neighbourhood Plan working group Tuesday 19th November 2013
- F & GP Tuesday 3rd December 2013

This was noted.

10. HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

Report from meeting of 5th November 2013

The Chairman gave a report from the meeting held on the 5th November 2013 and informed the Council it is good to see the footpath leaflets being displayed. The road signs are still an issue, ownership of the hedge on the A51 is still being obtained. There is a problem with Biomet lorries parking in the dip by Constitution Island and this is being investigated.

Brook End Green Trees – letter received

Further to the letter reported at the last meeting from Mrs Caudwell concerning trees on the green overshadowing her garden, it was agreed Cllr Welsh would investigate the matter, **RESOLVED** clerk to write letter to Mrs Caudwell to explain the Council have looked into the matter and are unable to see a problem with the trees.

Borough Lane – letter received

Cllr Clarke reported that he had been copied into a letter from resident Mr Fox concerning the volume of unrestricted traffic using Borough Lane, this was noted.

11. LONGDON LIFE NEWSLETTER

RESOLVED to do a Christmas edition of the newsletter, Clerk to produce letters and send to contacts for replies to be in by 18th / 19th November 2013 for delivery of Longdon Life during 1st week of December. Also if it is available in digital format it will be put on the Council's website.

12. LAW AND ORDER**To receive update on Neighbourhood watch / Owl / Smartwater**

Further to an email of 3rd October as previously circulated to Councillors

Cllr Cherry offered to be Co-ordinator for St James Close. **RESOLVED** Councillors will try and encourage all residents to become registered and Rob Nunn to be invited to the Annual Assembly to do a presentation on Smartwater.

13. PUBLIC TRANSPORT**Buses**

The issue of re-routing some of the 823 service is still pending, clerk to check correspondence file

Voluntary Scheme

Nothing to report

HS2

Cllr Clarke has been liaising with HS2 and they have offered the Council a copy of the consultation document (8 metres of shelf space) or alternatively an electronic version of the documents for public consultation and they will supply a computer. This would need to be sited where the equipment can be over seen and secure. **RESOLVED** to advise the parishioners documents will be available for viewing through Lichfield Library.

14. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**Contract mowing (see letter received)**

The clerk read out a report from Mr McCulloch informing the council that the last cut of the season has been carried out and there are also two dead trees on Longdon Green, two dead plum trees at the Stockley Lane Site and a dead Birch tree, he can remove all of the dead trees for a cost of £160.00 **RESOLVED** to instruct Mr McCulloch to remove the dead trees as per his quotation provided.

15. CLERKS CORRESPONDANCE – APPENDIX 1**Received by post**

- Red Lion, Longdon Green, Nr Rugeley retention of agreement – (see letter)
- Lichfield District Council public path order to be advertised
- X 2 Letters from residents re closure of Dark Lane
- Letter of thank from resident
- SPCA annual report & Accounts / SPCA Gazette
- Staffordshire Wildlife Trust urgent appeal
- History today Autumn Newsletter
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Received by email

- Consultation – Allocation of Council Tax Support Grant
- PSMA Newsletter October 2013
- Forward Plan 4th November 2013
- PC Meeting 25th November – Cannock Chase AONB Unit
- Neighbourhood Watch beware bogus callers in the Rugeley area
- RSN online Annual Meeting 18th November 2013
- SPCA Bulletin 8th November 2013
- SPCA (sad news) Sue Groom – Clerk to Brewood & Coven
- Parish Forum Meeting

This was noted, **RESOLVED** clerk to write to residents re closure of Dark Lane and refer them back to Staffordshire County Council who are dealing with the matter.

16. COMMUNICATIONS

It was noted that the Parish Council will look to enhance the website more and do more PR in the local papers such as the Lichfield Mercury.

17. DOCUMENTATION FOR CONSULTATION

- Cannock Chase Local Plan (part 1) examination

This was noted, closing dates for representations are 18th December 2013

18. CLERKS FINANCIAL REPORT – APPENDIX 2

To resolve to confirm Natwest Bank mandate change of signatories & online banking
As per solution 3 of bank mandate. **RESOLVED** to amend the signatories on the account to include the new clerk Mrs C Dillow and remove Mr B Sullivan.

On a motion proposed by Cllr Juxon and seconded by Cllr Welsh the accounts were approved for payment

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Clarke referred to an article on page 19. of the Lichfield Mercury.

RESOLVED to write a letter to the Landlady of the Swan with Two Necks, congratulating her on her prompt attention recently to a chocking customer. The public spirit reflected well for the image of the Parish.

20. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Full Parish Council meeting is to be held on 10th December 2013 in the W I Hall Ford Lane, Longdon.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm