

Longdon Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Highways and Open Space Committee held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 18th October 2016 at WI Hall, Longdon.

Parish Councillors; Cllrs N Stanfield, K Taylor, C Kemp and K Morgan
Apologies; Cllr A Fullwood, H Meere, S Welch (co-optee), P Couchman
Clerk; H Goodreid
In Attendance; Will Rose as Co-opted Member

Min No.	Item	Action
1	Apologies for Absence	
1.1	Steve Welch, H Meere, A Fullwood and P Couchman.	
2	Declarations of Interest	
2.1	Cllr Stanfield informed Members that NJP Maintenance who had quoted for repair work to a gate and style, carried out work for him.	
3	Chairman to close meeting for public session	
3.1	No members of public were in attendance.	
4	Minutes from the Meeting held 2nd August 2016	
4.1	These were agreed and signed with the amendment at 7.8 that the first word 'This' be changed to 'Part' – this alteration was made by hand at the meeting. Proposed: Cllr Taylor; Seconded: Cllr Morgan	
5	Matters Arising on the Minutes	
5.1	Matters arising from the meeting have been actioned or would be dealt with on the agenda with the exception of:	
5.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6.3 - All walk leaflets have been placed in the stands and delivered to various locations within the Parish. • 7.1.2 – Cllr Morgan advised Members that he had not yet had an opportunity to contact the land owner. • 7.3 – a way marker has been placed on this path (FP53) • 7.4 - Footpath 22 – nothing to report • 7.8 – information awaited • 7.9 – Bridleway – overhanging branches still there and causing an issue. Cllr Stanfield to contact the County Council • 7.10 – Dark Lane (Bridleway 58) Upper Longdon – Will Rose reported that he had visited the site and whilst people could walk along the bridleway, it was obstructed by overhanging vegetation which prevented its use by horse riders. Cllr Taylor agreed to carry out a survey and report back. • 7.13 – the second phase of works are now delayed until 2017/2018 financial year. • 7.16 – Clerk to clarify issue re maintenance with Lichfield District 	<p>Clerk to write to County Surveyor</p> <p>Cllr Taylor to report back</p> <p>Clerk to clarify</p>

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	<p>Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7.17 – no progress to date – S Welch to chase 8.1 – gullies and storm drains have been cleared. 8.2 – Cllr Duckett agreed prior to the meeting to contact Richard Clarke regarding location of discs. 	<p>maintenance</p> <p>S Welch to action</p>				
6	Decisions on Planning Applications					
6.1	<p>In future planning decisions will be put on the agenda</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>16/00892/FUL</td> <td>Longdon Stud Ltd, Longdon Stud Farm, Bardy Lane, Upper Longdon</td> <td>Change of use of first floor void space of equestrian building to 2 no bedroom flat</td> <td>Approved 3rd October 2016</td> </tr> </table>	16/00892/FUL	Longdon Stud Ltd, Longdon Stud Farm, Bardy Lane, Upper Longdon	Change of use of first floor void space of equestrian building to 2 no bedroom flat	Approved 3 rd October 2016	
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7	Best Kept Village					
7.1	<p>A budget of £500 had been allocated to this but only £243.50 had been spent to date. £200 had been allocated to a spend in March 2017 to repair/replenish tubs after the winter and before the application for 2017 was submitted. £500 was agreed as the budget for 2017/2018.</p>					
8	Items for Discussion					
8.1	<p><u>2017/2018 Budget</u></p> <p><i>Dog Bins</i> – Proposed to increase by 2% to cover inflation. This would mean a budget of £969.</p>					
8.2	<p><i>Footpaths</i> – The committee considered additional works which could be carried out this year to use allocated budget. 1) path from St James Close to church – needs mowing and check handrails. 2) Footpath across The Glebe could be a project for this financial year. Agreed to request a budget of £2,000 in 2017/2018 in order to continue maintenance of footpaths.</p>					
8.3	<p><i>Finger posts</i> – nominal work needed for the year as main action has been undertaken in 2016 / 2017. Agreed £500 budget</p>					
8.4	<p><i>Notice Board</i> –All noticeboards being dealt with this year – either full replacement or repair/replacement of cork board. Bus shelter will need varnishing and Cllr Stanfield will go out and survey the shelters prior to getting quotes. No budget was identified for 2017/2018.</p>					
8.5	<p><i>New Projects:</i></p> <p>New footpath from the metalled pavement on High Street, behind the hedge, to the footpath to the pedestrian crossing on the A51. Aware that possibly LDC may have provision to create this so no financial allocation made.</p>	<p>Clerk to write to LDC to clarify position.</p>				
8.6	<p>It was considered that a sum of £700 be allocated for a survey of trees owned by the Parish Council.</p>	<p>Clerk to obtain quotes for tree survey</p>				
8.7	<p><u>Tenders associated with mowing contract</u></p> <p>Current budget is £3,800. Allowing for inflation, cuttings to be collected in front of Longdon School and possible extra cut as the growing season extends, it was agreed to request a budget of £4,460. Incidents of road signs being covered by hedgerow – this will need to be added to the</p>	<p>Clerk to draw up tender</p>				

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	contract. Clerk to draw up a tender to take out so that costs can be more accurate.	document
9	Footpaths and Bridleways	
9.1	<u>Application for upgrade of footpath no. 73 to Bridleway</u> Cllr Stanfield informed Members that in recent appeal decisions in relation to the delay in Council determining these applications, the Secretary of State expressed the view that a waiting time of 20 years, as advised by Staffs CC, was far too long and that applications should be dealt with in 12 months. Cllr Stanfield has been in touch with SCC and Mr Rowe who had submitted the original application, and Mr Rowe was to write to the Sec of State.	
9.2	<u>Gate on Footpath 36</u> A quote of £79.57 had been received from NJP Maintenance to replace the post on 22 nd October. It was agreed to accept the quote. Proposed: Cllr Taylor; Seconded: Cllr Morgan	Clerk to let the contract for the work
9.3	<u>Stile on footpath 40 and 41</u> This is an important stile as it is on three of the promoted walks. Cllr Stanfield has a new stile and will see if NJP Maintenance can replace parts of the stile on the same day that other work to be done under 9.2. It was agreed that as long as the work did not cost more than £50.00. Cllr Stanfield to liaise with the tenant of the land. Proposed: Cllr Taylor; Seconded: Cllr Kemp	Clerk and Cllr Stanfield to liaise
9.4	<u>Footpath 42 Broomy Fields</u> Will Rose advised Members that he had not yet had an opportunity to carry out an inspection.	
9.5	<u>General gate and stile repairs</u> Already considered earlier in the meeting.	
9.6	Footpath 66 – One of the two fingers on the post has been sawn off and Will Rose has replaced this.	
9.7	Footpath 45a - from Longdon Mill House to The Croft – reported from a resident that it was overgrown and owner of land has cut this back.	
9.8	Footpath 51 – from Red Hill to Lower Way – the finger post is missing at the Red Hill end. Will Rose has requested a new post. Cllr Stanfield to get costs to install when it is received. It would be looked to place the sign on the other side of the road.	Cllr Stanfield to get costs for installing post
10	Highways Matters	
10.1	<u>New Village Signs and Planters on highways verge</u> Discussion of possible signs similar to Kings Bromley / Yoxhall - Attractive village signs on a pole and gate entrance ways were considered. Cllrs requested that a design and costing exercise take place. Clerk to come back with costings and send to County Council to get costs and clarify permissions to install.	Clerk to look at costs and see what permissions are required

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10.2	<u>Planters on highway verge to mark entrance to Longdon Village</u> Link this to the new village signs. Substantial planters possibly. One by the BT boxes on High Street/Brook End junction and then by Cosy Cottage.	
10.3	Reflective posts along Borough Lane were discussed following incidents of cars driving off the road at the bend. Clerk to write to SCC to get costs and siting suggestions.	Clerk to write to SCC
10.4	<u>Access from High Street to A51</u> Land ownership is still being clarified. The right view as you pull out from High Street onto A51 is problematic. It was agreed to write to SCC to clarify the visibility splay required measurements. Cllr Stanfield to investigate the ownership of the land on the south side of the junction and advise the Staffs CC. Clerk to request that SCC write to owner to request hedge cut back.	Cllr Stanfield to find owners. Clerk to contact SCC.
10.5	<u>Ice Busters</u> SCC had offered a spray to treat icy areas in the village which would be operated by trained volunteers. SCC would provide the training. It was not considered that this offer be accepted as it would be difficult to find volunteers to carry out this work. Cllrs felt that the lengthsmans agreement with SCC should cover this. Clerk to clarify with Cllr Duckett.	Clerk to clarify with Cllr Duckett
10.6	<u>New Bus Service</u> Leaflets have been handed out to Cllrs to place in various locations around the parish.	
10.7	<u>Speed of traffic on A51</u> At full council it was suggested that SCC place the speed watch van at locations along the A51 to monitor speeds. Cllr Tittley had required information about sites for the van. It was suggested that the south side of A51 at Longdon Hall School and at Brady Lakes would be the preferred locations and that Cllr Tittley be informed accordingly.	Clerk to write to Cllr Tittley to action.
10.8	<u>Phone boxes</u> Notification had been received from BT that the telephone boxes at Upper Longdon and Brook End are to be removed.	
10.9	<u>Land Corner of Church Way/Berkley Way</u> Holly bushes on this land required cutting back to allow to better visibility. A quote had been received from GC McCulloch for £160 to cut back the holly bushes and £40 to lift the crown of the Ash tree with low hanging branch within the holly bushes at Church Way. Councillors agreed accept the quote from McCulloch for the sum of £200. Proposed: Cllr Kemp; Cllr Morgan	Clerk to request additional work from McCulloch
10.10	There are trees on this parish council owned piece of land which had not been surveyed. Councillors agreed to get quotes from registered arborists to undertake a survey. Clerk to get quotes to draw up a 3-year plan.	Clerk to get quotes
10.11	<u>SCC Highways Infrastructure Asset Management</u>	

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	Cllrs had received this for discussion. Contents were noted.	
11	Open Spaces	
11.1	<u>To review commissioned work</u> 4 finger posts. 3 of these have had their main posts painted in situ. 1 x the fingers posts have been taken down and repainted and will go up before the end of October. The 3 repainted posts will have their directions signs painted before the end of November. The notice board on High Street had been ordered and will be in situ by the end of October. Work is still required to repair and re varnish the notice board at Gentleshaw.	
11.2	<u>Longdon Green</u> A sign to advise of Site of Biological Interest was discussed. It was agreed to write to Steve Welch to get the wording / pictures. Need to link with the owners in order to get permission to place the sign on the green.	Clerk to write to S Welch.
11.3	<u>Gentleshaw Common</u> Land opposite the school – the parish council put tubs etc. on the land. It has not been leased along with the rest of the common to Staffs Wildlife Trust and the maintenance remains a matter for the Parish Council.	
11.4	<u>Dark Lane</u> Local farmers had requested that the NFU write to SCC requesting that clearance of Dark Lane take place. This would allow the local land owners to access their fields. Clerk to write to SCC to seek clarification on the status of Dark Lane and the County Councils future intentions and request that the obstructions be removed.	Clerk to write to SCC
12	Councillors Reports	
12.1	Cllr Taylor- has any representation come in to change the use of the land by the kennels? Cllrs reported that an application was made for the lifting of the green belt there to build 24 houses there. It was understood that this application had been rejected by Lichfield District Council.	
12.2	Will Rose – are councillors aware of impending charge at Rugeley tip (and possibly Lichfield tip) for depositing tyres and rubble? Cllrs had concerns that council tax was paid to allow residents to use the tip and restrictions of this nature may lead to fly tipping.	
12.3	Fire at Farm – Cllrs understood that this will be burning till well into 2017.	

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed 9.13pm

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