

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF LONGDON HELD
IN THE MEETING ROOM OF CHRIST CHURCH, GENTLESHAW, ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 8TH, 2005.

Present: Cllr. S. K. Welch (Vice-Chairman, who, in the absence of the Chairman, chaired the meeting); Cllr. N. J. Bird; Cllr. H. C. Bramley; Cllr. R. C. Hemmingsley; Cllr. A. J. Juxon; Cllr. Mrs. H. A. Meere; and Cllr. Mrs. M. G. Nichols.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr. J. R. Andrews; Cllr. B. J. Butler; Cllr. M. A. W. Parsons; Cllr. N. Stanfield; Cllr. N. J. Roberts, of Lichfield District Council; and County Councillor F. W. Lewis.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting, held in the W. I. Hall, Longdon, on Tuesday, February 8th, 2005, were, on a motion proposed by Cllr. Juxon and seconded by Cllr. Bramley, approved and signed.

3. PARISHIONERS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

No parishioners were present.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(i) Footpath Leaflets

The Clerk reported that he had been advised that the footpaths leaflets ordered from The Benhill Press, Rugeley, would be ready for collection the following week, and he asked for authority to pay the account immediately upon receipt of the invoice.

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Meere and seconded by Cllr. Butler, approval was given.

(ii) Presence of Japanese Knotweed

Cllr. Bramley reminded the meeting that, if it was intended to destroy this weed, it should be done so on site and not taken away for disposal elsewhere.

(iii) Parish Plan

Cllr. Welch informed the meeting that the subject of parish plans would be discussed at the next AONB meeting, on which he would report at the next meeting of the Council.

(iv) Skip for Longdon Village Hall

Cllr. Bird reported that the Longdon Village Hall Management Committee was arranging a spring-clean of the Hall and its environs on Saturday, April 9th, for which it requested the use of a waste skip.

The Clerk was instructed to forward this request to the Operational Services of Lichfield District Council.

(v) Robinia outside No. 12, Berkeley Way

The Clerk reported that he had now received from the Arboricultural Officer of Lichfield District Council an application form requesting permission to carry out work on a tree covered by a Tree Preservation Order which he would complete and return.

He had spoken to Graham McCulloch, who, owing to pressure of work, would be unable to accept the commission.

The Clerk was instructed to seek quotations from the tree surgeons whose names appeared on the list sent to the Council by the Arboricultural Officer.

(vi) Gentleshaw Common – Draft Management Plan

The Clerk reported that Marieke Tomlin, the District Council's Countryside Officer, had sent him a copy of the above plan by e-mail.

He had downloaded two copies, which were now in circulation.

(vii) Cannock Wood & Gentleshaw Village Hall

The Clerk reported that he had, as instructed, written to Gary Powis, the Chairman of the Cannock Wood & Gentle shaw Village Hall Management Committee, informing him that the Council was prepared to make a donation of £500. 00 towards the cost of re-wiring the Hall and asking him to advise the Council when the work had been completed.

5. DECLARATION OF COUNCILLORS PERSONAL, PREJUDICIAL AND FINANCIAL INTERESTS

None was declared.

6. PLANNING

(i) Report of Working Group

Cllr. Welch reported that the following planning applications had been considered at a meeting of the Planning Working Group

02/00304/FUL: Proposed Development: Garage and games room extension, together with garage conversion to games room: Highfield, School Lane, Gentleshaw
Amendment: provision of windows into front and rear of approved extension, plus amended rear window.

There had been no objection to these minor amendments.

05/00110/FUL: Mr. A. Whitehouse: Retrospective application for extension to existing pool: land known as Coldwell Meadow, Briertey Hill Lane, Gentleshaw

There had been no objection to this change in land use.

05/00112/FUL: Mr, and Mrs. A. Parton: Two-storey side extension and various internal works to form lounge, laundry, conservatory, bedrooms and en suite: Stoneywell Farm, Longdon

It had been noted that only a very small extension had been added to this property so far and that the proposed extension remained within the footprint of the house. Consequently, no objection had been made to this application.

05/00165/FUL: Punch Taverns: Various internal and external refurbishment and erection of single-storey lobby/WC and first-floor extension enclosing staircase: The Redmore Inn, Hayfield Hill, Cannock Wood.

While there had been no objection in principle, it had been noted that the property had already been considerably extended and felt that the present proposals would probably exceed the District Council's guide-lines.

(ii) For Consideration

The following planning applications were then considered:

05/00203/FUL: Nigel Theaker, Estate Manager: Retrospective application for a steel storage container: Beaudesert Scout & Guide Camp, Beaudesert Park.

No objection was made to this application.

05/00208/LBC: Attridge, Phillips, Cope & Mawson: Erection of 3 no. satellite dishes on barn conversion: Units 1-3, Horsey Lane Farm, Horsey Lane, Upper Longdon

It was agreed that this development should be made sympathetic to the environment by ground-mounting the dishes.

(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:

04/01045/COU: Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Johnson: Barn conversion to residential dwelling: Moat Farm, Borough Lane, Longdon

04/01369/FUL: Roger Smith: First-floor extension over existing garage to form bedroom with en suite: 46 Upper Way, Upper Longdon

(iv) Refused by Lichfield District Council

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

(v) Other Planning Matters

(a) Erection of detached double garage at The Cottage, Windmill Bank, Gentleshaw

The Clerk reported that he had received notice that the above application (04/01373/FUL) had been withdrawn on 9th February 2005.

(b) Grain silos at Beaudesert Park Farm, Horsey Lane, Upper Longdon

The Clerk reported that he had received from Rob Duncan, Senior Planning Officer, Development Services Department, Lichfield District Council, a letter dated 25th February 2005, in which he assured the Council that, within a matter of months, the current stark appearance of these silos would fade in due course and become less intrusive. He had added that the galvanised finish had been approved as part of the planning conditions imposed on the consent and that, as a consequence, there was little that the District Council could do to assist further in the matter.

Councillors felt that this reply was unacceptable: two of the silos had already been painted green, so it was difficult to understand why the other two could not also be painted in this colour. Moreover, a galvanised surface could keep its shiny appearance for a very long time.

The silos were well within the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and their appearance should be in keeping with their environment.

It was felt that it was vital that a similar situation should not be allowed to develop again, and the Clerk was instructed to write to the Chief Executive urging her to ensure that there was no repetition in the future.

(c) Unauthorised developments at Rose Cottage, Bradley Lakes, and at Stockings Lane, Longdon

The Clerk reported that he had received from Stephen Hill, Development Executive, Planning, Development, Building Control and Business Investment, Lichfield District Council, a letter dated 7th March 2005, outlining the reasons for his Council's decisions in these cases and enclosing a copy of his Council's Planning Enforcement Policy.

A copy of Mr. Hill's letter had been sent to each Councillor prior to the meeting.

Councillors felt that, in the first of these cases, there was an opaqueness in the terminology used and an inconsistency in the arguments deployed to justify the District Council's response to the planning irregularities which he should be called upon to explain.

It should also be established whether the occupant of the bungalow at Bradley Lakes was paying Council Tax.

7. REPORTS OF MEETINGS

(i) SPCA - Lichfield Area Committee: February 10th

The Clerk presented a written report on a meeting of the Lichfield Area Committee of the Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association which took place in the Council Chamber, District Council House, Frog Lane, Lichfield, on Thursday February 10th, 2005 and which he and the Chairman had attended.

Cllr. Joe Powell, Chairman of the Lichfield District Parish Forum, had advocated closer ties with the Area Committee, suggesting joint meetings at which the Area Committee could transact its own business before amalgamating with the Forum.

In response, Mary Booth, Chief Executive of the Association, had pointed out that Area Committees played an important part in disseminating information to its members.

It was agreed, however, that there was a common interest in some topics, especially regarding planning, and that, while a lot of general information was available about the new Local District Frameworks, they were very complicated and an understanding was needed on how it was applied locally.

Another topic given consideration was the new Licensing Act, particularly as it applied to parish halls. This part of the Act was criticised as being ill-thought-out, and the advice given at the last meeting of the Parish Forum had been to carry on as before while current uncertainties and anomalies were being sorted out.

8. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

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

- (i) Sustainable Staffordshire Annual General Meeting: Wednesday, 16th March 2005, in the County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford, from 9. 30 a.m. to 2. 00 p.m.
Guest speakers: David Middleton, Chief Executive Officer of Midlands Environmental Company and the Business Council of Sustainable Development, and Dr. Adrian Murphy, of the National Industrial Symbiosis Programme, who will talk on how sustainable development could add value to Staffordshire.
It seemed unlikely that the Parish Council would be represented.
- (ii) “Linking the Past to the Future” – Managing the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Beauty Landscape: Wednesday, 16th March 2005.
This day-long event would begin at 9. 30 a.m. with registration at Ye Olde Windmill Inn, Gentleshaw, and would include a guided walk round Sutton Park in the morning, Followed, after lunch, by a demonstration of historic heathland products and a guided walk round Gentleshaw Common.
Both Cllr. Hemmingsley and Cllr. Welch would be attending this event.

9. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

(i) A51 Route Management Strategy

At the meeting in the W. I. Hall, Longdon, on March 1st, David Grain and Alan Chapman, of the Development Services Directorate of Staffordshire County Council, had introduced their proposed speed management measures for the A51 through Longdon to the Parish Council.

There had been a very positive reaction to these proposals at the public meeting which had preceded the present meeting, and the Council’s own response was entirely favourable.

The Clerk was, however, instructed to write to Mr. Grain, making known to him the three suggestions which had been made at the public meeting, namely, extra lighting in the region of the puffin crossing, the installation of safety barriers on the pavement opposite the footpath from The Croft, and the extension of the speed limit beyond the southern exit from Longdon Green onto the A51.

It was agreed that the Clerk should write to both Cllr. Lewis and Mr. Fabricant, thanking them for their efforts to ensure that a road safety scheme was drawn up and implemented.

(ii) Traffic Calming in Upper Way

Cllr. Welch reported on a site meeting which had taken place at Upper Longdon on February 17th and at which Simon Edwards, of the Development Services Directorate of Staffordshire County Council had met Cllr. Andrews, Cllr. Parsons, Cllr. Welch and the Clerk to consider measures to improve road safety in Upper Way.

It had been suggested that a gateway feature might be built opposite North Lodge which would reduce the road at that point to a single lane and that, where there was no pavement, the verge should be re-laid in a contrasting colour, providing a strip wide enough for pedestrians to walk along and at the same time giving the impression to passing motorists that the road was narrower than it actually was.

The suggestion of a flat-top speed cushion opposite North Lodge had been rejected on the grounds that these could only be laid in sequence every 80 or 100 yards.

During the meeting the group had been joined by Mr. Roger Adams, of 126 Upper Way, who had expressed his willingness to allow a portion of his newly-laid flower bed to be re-claimed as part of a footway, but, under Mr. Edwards' proposals, this would not be necessary.

The Council now awaited plans showing the proposals in detail.

(iii) Cast-Iron Roadside Signs

The Clerk reported that he had received from K. R. Owen, Divisional Engineer South, of the Development Services Directorate of Staffordshire County Council, a letter dated 23rd February 2005, confirming that he had no objection to the Council's proposal to renovate these signs but informing the Council that each location would need a Road Operating Licence together with an inspection fee of £122. 50.

Councillors felt that such a fee would be exorbitant, particularly as there was no indication as to what the Council would be paying for, and the Clerk was instructed to reply to Mr. Owen making its objection known.

(iv) Missing Crossroads Sign on A51 at Longdon

The Clerk reported that he had received from Will Rose, of The Croft, Longdon, a copy of a letter dated 26th February 2005 which he had written to County Councillor Frank Lewis complaining about the dilatory and discourteous response he believed he had received from CLARENCE and the Lichfield Area Highway Office regarding his report that the above highway sign was missing and asking Cllr. Lewis to take the matter up on his behalf.

The Clerk added that, as a result, he believed that Mr. Rose had received an apology and the matter had been resolved to his satisfaction.

(v) Community Paths Initiative – “Three Longdons” footpaths walk

Cllr. Mrs. Meere reported that the footpaths had now been identified and would be walked by Will Rose, a member of the Footpaths Working Group.

She had completed and submitted the application form for funding under the Community Paths Initiative.

10. GREENS AND OPEN SPACES

(i) Mowing Contract 2005/2006

The Clerk reported that he had received quotations from the following:

Graham McCulloch	Eight cuts per year (at £200 per cut)	£1600. 00	
	Mowing centre of Longdon Green	£ 200. 00	
			£1800. 00
M. I. S., Burntwood	Eight cuts per year		£3520. 00
Sharp Landscapes, Burntwood	Total per cut excluding rough area at Longdon Green (£260 x 8)	£2080. 00	
	Rough area:	£ 100. 00	
			£2180. 00

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Juxon and seconded by Cllr. Bramley, it was agreed that the mowing contract for 2005/2006 should be awarded to Graham McCulloch.

The Clerk was also instructed to make enquiries about the arrangements for cutting the area of grass opposite Gentleshaw School.

11. PARISH WEBSITE

Cllr. Hemmingsley announced that the launch of the parish website would take place at St. James School, Longdon, on Monday, March 16th, from 7. 00 p.m.

Provision had not been made in the original estimate for the cost of including a Diary Page, for which, subject to the Council's approval, there would be an additional fee of £50. 00, which would still keep the project within budget.

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Bramley and seconded by Cllr. Juxon, it was agreed that this additional payment should be made.

Cllr. Hemmingsley added that, since it would be difficult to record regular weekly events at the Village Hall on the Diary Page, he proposed entering them on the Hall's own page.

He had also inserted a statistics page which would record the number of 'hits' and allow him to gauge the success of the website.

12. ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

It was agreed that this year's Annual Assembly should take place in St. James School, Longdon, on Tuesday, April 26th, commencing at 7. 30 p.m.

The guest speaker would be Andrews Halden, Chief Executive of The Community Council of Staffordshire, who would talk about parish plans.

13. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2005

The Clerk confirmed that entry forms for both Longdon & Longdon Green and Upper Longdon had been submitted and posters and handbills ordered.

He would be writing to the Head Teacher at St. James School asking if, once again, his pupils would provide posters for the Competition.

He suggested that a programme of maintenance and improvement be drawn up at the next meeting of the Council.

14. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(i) Accounts for Payment

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

Christ Church, Gentleshaw	Hire of Church	£ 25. 00
W. B. Sullivan	Clerk's Salary: £187. 50 Photocopying: £101. 36 Postage: £ 10. 62	£299. 48
Central Independent Newspapers	Advertisement: Mowing Contract	£ 90. 24
Community Council of Staffordshire	Membership Renewal	£ 20. 00
Eric Roy	Parish Website: Second Interim Payment	£350. 00

(ii) Payments Received

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No payments had been received since the last meeting.

(iii) Current Balances

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

NatWest c/a: £1878. 41 The Halifax s/a: £11918. 65

(iv) Appeals for Grant Aid

None had been received.

Cllr. Hemmingsley suggested that an application form should be included on the parish website setting out the information required by the Council before considering the awarding of grants.

(v) Report of Internal Auditor

The Clerk reported that John Blount, the Independent Internal Auditor, had made an interim inspection of the Council's accounts on Monday, February 21st, and a copy of his report had been sent to each Councillor prior to the present meeting.

Mr. Blount had suggested a number of minor ways in which the Council could improve its financial procedures which would be considered by the Finance Sub-Committee.

(vi) Expansion of Finance Sub-Committee to become Finance & General Purposes Sub-Committee

It was agreed that, in the absence of the Chairman, discussion on this proposal should be deferred.

15. CORRESPONDENCE SINCE LAST MEETING

(i) The Clerk reported that he had received from The Rt. Hon. Alun Michael, M. P., Minister for Rural Affairs and Environmental Quality, an undated letter informing the Council that the Government had formally introduced the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill which was available for viewing in full on the Parliament website at

<http://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills.htm>.

(ii) The Clerk reported that he had received from Richard Yearbsley, Divisional Officer, Burntwood & District LPU, Staffordshire Police, a letter dated 8th February 2005, enclosing posters publicising a “Specials Weekend” on the 26th & 27th February 2005 and asking that they be displayed on the parish notice-boards, which the Clerk had done.

(iii) The Clerk reported that he had received from Lynn Hill, Early Years & Childcare Unit, Staffordshire County Council, a letter dated 11th February 2005, inviting the Council to become involved in the development of a Play Strategy which the Unit was developing.

While no Councillor indicated a desire to become personally involved, the Clerk said that the Chairman intended to use the opportunity which this invitation provided to follow up his enquiry about the support given to parish councils interested in providing play equipment in their parish.

(iv) The Clerk reported that he had received from Beth Williams, Senior Development Officer – Canvassing, The Recycling Consortium, Bristol, a letter dated 15th February 2005, informing the Council that her organisation was currently recruiting teams of doorsteppers and asking that the enclosed poster be appropriately displayed, which the Clerk had done.

(v) The Clerk reported that he had received from R. Rowley, Resources Directorate, Staffordshire County Council, a letter dated 16th February 2005, informing the Council that, in future, budgets books and statements of accounts would not be produced in paper form but the information would be accessible via the County Council’s website or available as a CD Rom.

(vi) The Clerk reported that he had received from David Grain, Project Manager – Engineering Projects & Structures Unit, Development Services Department, Staffordshire County Council, a letter dated 17th February 2005, confirming the arrangements for the meeting on March 3rd, at which the suggested proposals for the A51 in the vicinity of Longdon would be discussed, but warning that the delivery of the scheme was dependent on the level of capital budget allocated to the department through various funding sources.

(vii) The Clerk reported that he had received from Nina Dawes, Chief Executive and Deputy County Returning Officer, Lichfield District Council, a letter dated 22nd February 2005, enclosing two posters to recruit staff for an election team needed for the County Council elections and possibly a General Election on May 5th.

He would display these posters where space was available.

(viii) The Clerk reported that he had received from Michael Fabricant, M. P., a letter dated 24th February 2005, enclosing a letter from one of his constituents, Neil Vyse, of Stockings Lane, Longdon, in which Mr. Vyse had asked Mr. Fabricant to use his influence to ensure that the Parish Council held a public meeting to discuss proposals for a road safety scheme in Longdon.

He had advised Mr. Fabricant that such a meeting had already been arranged.

(ix) The Clerk reported that he had received from Michael Garrett, Manager of the Burntwood and District Citizens Advice Bureau, a letter dated 24th February 2005, enclosing for completion a copy of his Bureau's Satisfaction Survey.

However, no-one felt qualified to complete this survey.

(x) The Clerk reported that he had received from J. G. Brown, Chief Assistant, Democratic and Legal Services, Lichfield District Council, a letter dated 28th February 2005, in which he had enclosed a copy of a letter from the Head of Unit, Home Office Coroners Unit, dated February 2005, together with two copies of a Burial Grounds Survey for completion.

It was agreed that a copy each should be sent to the Rev. Martin Butt and the Rev. Michael Jefferson, respectively Vicar of Gentleshaw and Vicar of Longdon.

(xi) The Clerk reported that he had received from Michael Fabricant, M. P., a letter dated 2nd March 2005 in which he had enclosed a letter from Hazel Blears, M. P., Minister of State at the Home Office, dated 23rd February 2005, written in reply to the Clerk's letter regarding police resources in Staffordshire.

It was agreed that a copy of the Minister's letter should be sent to the Chief Constable for his comment.

(xii) The Clerk reported that he had received from Emma Beaman, Rural Field Officer, Community Council of Staffordshire, a letter dated 2nd March 2005, inviting a representative of the Council to attend an AONB workshop at The John O'Leary Education Centre, Marquis Drive, on Tuesday, March 24th, 2005.

Cllr. Welch agreed to attend this workshop on behalf of the Council.

16. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

- (i) From The Corporate Director – Democratic and Legal Services, Lichfield District Council:

Report of Corporate Director of Development Services for meeting of the Council on Monday, 21st February 2005;
Report of Corporate Director of Development Services for meeting of the Council on Monday, 14th March 2005;
Agenda for meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday, 22nd February 2005;
Minutes and Reports for meeting of the Council on Tuesday, 22nd February 2005;
Local Development Framework – Consultation Documents:
(a) The Core Strategy – Preferred Options;
(b) Allocation of Land and Site Development Policies – Preferred Options;
(c) Sustainability Report for the Core Strategy and Allocation of Land
(d) Documents;
Report of Chairman of Lichfield and Tamworth Health Scrutiny Committee;
Amended Council Tax Resolution 2005-2006;
Executive Arrangements – Forward Plan 2004/2005 Version 1 (to take effect on 1st March 2005);
Executive Arrangements – Forward Plan 2004/2005 Version 2 (to take effect on 1st March 2005);
Executive Arrangements – Forward Plan 2004/2005 Version 3 (to take effect on 1st March 2005);
Calendar of Meetings, fortnight ending 6th March 2005;
Calendar of Meetings, fortnight ending 20th March 2005.

(ii) From The Electoral Registration Officer, Lichfield District Council:

Monthly Applications for 1st March 2005.

(iii) From The Passenger Transport Unit, Development Services Directorate, Staffordshire County Council:

Public Transport News – March 2005 (2 copies).

(iv) From The Community Council of Staffordshire:

Rural News and Views: Spring 2005;
StaffFORWARDshire: Issue 6, Spring 2005.

(v) From The Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association:

Booking Form: "Preparing for and surviving the audit" – a seminar for both Clerks and Responsible Finance Officers, as well as Councillors on Tuesday, 22nd March 2005, at the Jubilee Hall, Bargate, Brewood, from 7. 00 p.m. to 9. 20 p.m. (registration from 6. 45 p.m.)
Fee: £18. 00 per person for SPCA members (including background papers and refreshments).

17. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

(i) The Clerk reported that, following a complaint about the luminosity of the street lighting at each end of Brook End, he had contacted the Acting Principal Lighting Engineer at the Development Services Directorate of Staffordshire County Council, who had advised him that an outside contractor was following a five-year replacement programme which could be consulted on www.lightingforstaffordshire.

However, when the Clerk had called it up, he had discovered that it covered only the next three months and that, during that period, work was being carried out in locations in Lichfield and Tamworth only.

(ii) Cllr. Bird drew the attention of the Council to work being carried out at a site in Borough Lane, where hard-standing had been laid and sheds erected.

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Development Services Directorate at Lichfield, asking whether permission for this development was needed and had been sought.

(iii) Cllr. Hemmingsley reported a continuing problem caused, it was believed, by a broken drain below the surface of the road outside "Windyridge", Commonside.

The Clerk was instructed to report this problem to South Staffordshire Water.

(iv) Cllr. Bramley reported that sewage was seeping onto Church Hill from outside Lilac Cottage.

The Clerk was instructed to report this problem to the Health and Safety Officer at Lichfield District Council.

(v) Cllr. Mrs. Meere reported that the missing right-of-way sign had been replaced at Tithe Barn.

(vi) Cllr. Welch reported that there had been a complaint about the siting of the post box at Bradley Lakes, which was obstructing the view of motorists joining the A51 from the service road in front of the houses.

The Clerk was instructed to forward this complaint to Royal Mail.

(vii) Cllr. Welch reported that he had been told that a tree in Dark Lane, Longdon, was in a dangerous condition.

The Clerk agreed to investigate.

(viii) Cllr. Welch reported that he had received a request for a litter bin at the bus terminus in Startley Lane.

The Council agreed to consider this request at its next meeting.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Cllr. Bramley informed the Council that he would shortly be leaving the district and was therefore offering his resignation.

In accepting Cllr. Bramley's resignation, the Chairman, speaking on behalf of the Council, thanked him for his contribution during his time in office and wished him well in the future.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, April 12th, 2005, in the W. I. Hall, Longdon, commencing at 7. 30 p.m.