



Dear Councillors

I hereby give notice of summons to attend a meeting of the Parish Council that will be held at the Longborough Village Hall on Monday 13th January 2020 to commence at 7.30pm.

Jenny Walsh

Clerk to the Parish Council

7th January 2020

Meeting Agenda

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest** - *Members must declare any interest as it arises*
3. **Public Participation** *'In accordance with Standing Orders, members of the public may make representations to the council (limited to 3 minutes per topic with a maximum time of 10 minutes) on any topic that is included on the agenda. Persons wishing to speak should, where possible, contact the Clerk in advance of the meeting, giving the nature of their question so that the best possible response can be provided if appropriate. Members of the public are not permitted to speak at any other point in the meeting unless asked to do so by a Councillor.'*
4. **Approval of minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held 11th November 2019 (previously circulated).
5. **Any Matters Arising:** from the last meeting, but not an agenda item (*For information only*)
 - i. **Update on CDC grant for Youth activities**
 - ii. **Fencing around front of a property on High Street**
6. **County Councillor's Report**
7. **Ward Councillor's Report**
8. **Correspondence**
 - i. Letter from owner of Amberley, Longborough
9. **Finance**
 - i. Approval of budget and Precept for 2020-21
 - ii. Monthly finance reports
 - iii. Approval of payments for December 2019 and January 2020
10. **Planning/Licencing**
 - i. **Planning/Licensing Applications received –**
 - 19/04146/TCONR – felling of spruce tree at Elm Tree Cottage, Longborough –Tree Officer to determine
 - 19/04046/FUL- linked rear extension at Frogmore Farmhouse, Stow Rd. – No objections
 - 19/04139/FUL – New gates, piers and boundary wall at The Rectory, GL56 0QF – No objections
 - 19/04749/OUT – erection of 15 dwellings on land west of Davies Rd, Moreton in Marsh (TBA)
 - ii. **Planning/Licensing Application Decisions:** None recorded.
11. **Repairs and maintenance**

- i. **War memorial maintenance**

12. Highways

- i. **Highway defects list – meeting pending with GCC and County Councillor**
- ii. **Installation of superfast broadband- works by Gigaclear commenced Dec 2019**

13. Plum Tree development – update on foul water system

14. Review of Parish Council website – report from Cllr Howse

15. Review of Parish Plan – report from Cllr Mathers to be considered (special LPC meeting 2nd March 2020)

16. Neighbourhood Watch – (requested by Cllr Mathers)

17. Dog fouling – complaints from residents to consider

18. Draft policy on liaison with the Press (requested at November meeting)

19. Any other business and councillors' items for consideration at future meetings

The next meeting will be on Monday 9th March 2020 at 7.30pm.

Amberley "New Build House" (behind the shop) – December 2019 Update.

Having had a few folks asking for an update on the progress of the building of our new home, Amberley, I thought I'd put pen to paper!

Firstly, please let us apologise for any inconvenience the build has caused the village. We have had a couple of busy periods of larger vehicles travelling and parking up in the village. This was mainly early on due to the volume of subsoil which needed to be taken from site, followed by the amount of concrete and steel the structural engineers specified to go in the ground.

For those of you not aware, there was an existing property on the site which was demolished and is being replaced. The old house was in a fairly poor state of repair and would have taken a great deal of effort to make it structurally sound in the first instance. So, the decision was made to demolish and start all over again.

Prior to our purchasing of Amberley, we needed to obtain retrospective planning permission for part of the garden. On the back of this, we were given permission by Cotswold District Council to relocate the property to a more central plot location. Relocating the property moved it away from Stuart and the shop, in adjoining properties. We've had to do a lot of manoeuvring around the beautiful walnut tree.

Following some very lengthy site investigation, it was found that the site is located on an ancient landslip site, which is approximately 3.5m below current ground level. This led to the need for concrete and steel piling of the foundations for the new house with some 60 piles (over 12 metres deep and 0.35m in diameter) drilled and filled with concrete and steel.

Cotswold District Council's planning and conservation officers, along with Sue (my wife) and I, were very keen to build a contemporary building, using locally-sourced stone to blend in with the stone used to build much of the village.

Only a small area of the property is visible from the road and our architects have designed a home for us which is predominantly single storey so that we can carry on living here into our later years, as we will be able to live predominantly on the ground floor.

We also wanted the house to blend into the scenery; a bit tricky with such a public and elevated site, but we are really pleased with the way it's turning out. The stone we've used is already starting to tone down somewhat and some of the oak is already taking on that lovely grey colour.

The design concept for Amberley, is that it was originally an old barn with extensions; hence the two types of finish we have to the stonework. As part of our trying to blend in to the surrounds, we have flat roofed areas, which will have sedum on them. Some would call them 'grass roofs' – not sure if we have many in the village?

Timeline-wise, the existing property was demolished in July 2018. We only had one quite hairy moment during demolition, sorry Stuart!

Building work started at the end of January 2019 and we are hoping to move in during spring 2020. We think we may be moving into a building site as we'll have quite a bit of landscaping to carry out to get the gardens to where we want them. The old greenhouse was relocated and has been very productive this summer. (*Note to self: cut back on the chilli plants*).

The builders travel from Hereford daily and they are finding the weather a challenge at times, especially the wind and more recently the heavy rain. It has been so muddy on site.

Our most recent challenge, apart from building a house, has been the pond and the duck weed. Who knew there were so many 'pond experts'?! Numerous have visited the site and given us their advice. Work on and around the pond is ongoing. In the spring we plan to dredge it as the years of falling leaf matter from the adjacent tree and dogwoods has built up which has, in turn, caused the problem with duckweed.

The pond is spring fed, from multiple areas, which takes quite a lot of managing as you can tell with the amount of boggy soil around the pond. In the spring, because we are not going to get down there anytime soon with the correct equipment and get back up the hill, we are going to start trying to naturalise the pond and surrounding areas. As it stands now, only a very small part of the pond is lined and it seems was not done very professionally a fair few years ago. We think this was done to try and control the spread of the pond, but who knows? The pond is approximately 600mm deep (two feet in English), comprising about a third sediment/muck (call it what you will), which needs to be cleared out. This will help to cut down the growth of the pond and duckweed.

At some stage the horrible security fencing will be removed from the bottom of the garden so that we can appreciate the handmade chestnut post and rail fence we erected a while back.

Our little orchard is coming on nicely and the fruit trees we relocated from the old garden last summer are now established and bearing fruit again. The mulberry bush has produced fruit for the first time this year, which was quite exciting as we had never seen the fruit let alone eaten it. Don't expect to see these for sale in the shop as they are in our freezer!

And then we have the Thames Water challenge. On the day we purchased Amberley, it became very obvious that we had a problem with the mains sewer, which is located about 8 metres into our property. It picks up several of the properties up the hill and the both Hope Cottages on its way out to the road. Long story short, Thames Water spent some 8 weeks digging up the drive to repair the drain, which was not carried out correctly, by the contractors. So, along with three-phase electricity supply, we will be digging up the drive, footpath and if Thames Water carries out there job correctly, possibly the road.

The final part of the job will be the completing of the landscaping, which will include the erection of several retaining walls. We are hoping to have productive raised beds in and around the relocated greenhouse. We will off course make good the field, after the removal of the sub-soil mounds.

Melvin Lusty December 2019

BUDGET 2020-21 DRAFT

TITLE	BUDGET		NOTES
	2020-20	2019-20	
RENT	155	300	9 sessions@£17
SALARY	5,230	3,900	inc 2% pay award - see note below
TRAINING	500	250	£300 GAPTC for 5 cllrs; Clerk training gp sessions £200
STATIONERY	250	250	U/spent in 2019 so not increased 2020
MAINTENANCE	1,210	1,000	Incs £210 vired fm Services cost centre now removed
I.T/WEBSITE	400	0	Web mgmt, hosting etc.
INSURANCE	610	580	last of 3 yr agreement
AUDIT	200	200	No inc - budget still allows for cost if random E.audit
SUBSCRIPTIONS	230	220	GAPTC & CPRE
PC DONATIONS	2,700	2,650	Total budget for donations to local organisations
MISCELLANEOUS	540	540	No inc - budget uspent in 2019
GRASS CUTTING	2,850	2,700	quote H'scapes std spec £2655 & extra on-off cut
EXPENSES	315	300	Clerks travel etc.
YOUTH net of grant	350	600	CDC grant would enable 2 x Play Rangers days with this contribution
SERVICES	0	210	Services budget shifted to IT for 2020
			inc. 15,540 13 %
	15,540	13,700	

Notes

5% uplift on 2019 prices unless otherwise stated

% inc (15,540-13700)/13700*100/1

Salary - includes 2% nat pay award but no allowance for hrs in excess of 7 week

Consider £2k from General Reserves for Special Projects - eg Neighbourhood Plan, War memorial etc.

2019 total expenditure included £210 unspent for 'Services' - removed in 2020

New Cost Centre - IT/website