

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 9th May 2022 at 7.30 pm at Longborough Village Hall.

Councillors Present: Cllrs T Howse (Chair), A Driver (Vice Chair), B Prior (Vice Chair), R Green, J Marley, and R Wheeler.

Also present: Clerk to the Council, Jenny Walsh. There were 3 members of the public present.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were accepted from Councillors Stowe, Cunningham and McDonagh.
2. **Declarations of Interest** - Members must declare any interest as it arises. There were no declarations made.
3. **Public Participation** The meeting was temporarily suspended to hear representations from the public.
 - i. **Mr S Mathers** reported that some of the cables and plastic cover pots installed by Gigaclear during the recent broadband installation had been damaged. The Chairman responded that this would be reported to Gigaclear.

The meeting then resumed.

4. **Approval of minutes** - Minutes of the meeting held 28th March 2022 were approved unanimously and duly signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters arising from the meeting held on the above date.**
 - i. **Item 8 Request from a resident for a flagpole on the Memorial Green**– The Chairman had received feedback from Councillors who had undertaken informal consultation with residents regarding the proposal put forward by Mrs Wright at the last LPC meeting and the consensus was that there was insufficient interest or support for the scheme so no further action would be taken by the Parish Council at the present time.
6. **County Councillor's Report** - Cllr Stowe had submitted a written report in lieu of having given his apologies for absence. The Council had submitted a request for support for two Highways schemes: consideration of the purchase and installation of slow down speed cameras and provision of additional kerbing stones around the perimeter of the memorial green and the Ashwell. Cllr Stowe had indicated that the relaxation of policies surrounding speed initiative could mean that the speed cameras could be considered and possibly gain some funding from the community funding initiative currently in place. Following a question from Cllr Wheeler concerning whether grasscrete would be a better form of deterrent to parking on the greens, the Clerk would check previous Minutes and report back to Council as to whether anything definite had been agreed.
7. **Ward Councillor's Report** - Cllr Cunningham was unable to attend but had submitted a written report (previously circulated) which raised two matters firstly concerning information on additional strategies in place by CDC to support those affected by the crisis in Ukraine. The Chairman would post details of the website set up by aid agencies on the Council's website. The second matter related to the approved budget for CDC for 2022/3 including borrowing and scales of increased charges on some public amenities such as car parks.

8. Correspondence

i. Email from a resident regarding planning application

This matter is documented under Item 10 below – Planning.

9. Finance

i. Approval of finance documents for the end of financial year 2021/22

were approved unanimously as follows: Annual Statement of Governance; Internal Auditor's report (nil return on points for action); Exemption Certificate for small authority; draft final accounts and explanations.

ii. Insurance for 2022/3

A quotation had been received from the Council's existing insurers for a further year, or three year option but that an increase of 20% on last year had been noted. The Clerk was asked to raise a question on the valuation of play equipment on the contents schedule for the quote and a quotation from another provider was still pending. It was agreed that a decision would be made once all the relevant information was available but not later than end May when the current policy expired.

iii. Payments for April and May 2022

- April Mrs J Walsh Salary and expenses (DP)
- April HMRC PAYE (DP)
- April GAPTC Annual subscription - £125.06
- April SLCC Annual subscription- £112
- April A Coombes Audit fees - £59.85
- May Mrs J Walsh Salary and expenses (DP)
- May HMRC PAYE (DP)
- May RoSPA Playground inspection - £84

The above payments were approved unanimously.

10. Planning/Licensing

i. Planning/Licensing Applications received

22/00943/TCONR- The Old Stables, Banks Fee Lane – Tree work associated with the proposed building plans shown below. No objections.

22/01009/FUL- The Old Stables, Banks Fee Lane - erection of two storey extension and relocation of parking area and associated works. Demolition of existing conservatory, chimneys and two storey extension (part retrospective). No objections. Following an email query from a resident regarding public notification of the application, a response to an email sent by the Clerk to the Case Officer was still pending.

ii. Planning Decisions - None recorded.

iii. Consideration of National Park status for the Cotswolds

– Consideration of the status of National Park had been debated at CDC and the present position was believed to be that CDC were awaiting a response from Government to the questions they had raised seeking clarity before a decision to go forward could be voted upon. The Clerk added that a resident had queried whether obtaining National Park status would override or detract from the existing designation of the region as an area of outstanding natural beauty (ANOB). To the best of her belief, one would not be superseded by the other, but she would check this with Cllr Cunningham when he had returned from his current vacation.

11. Highways

i. Highway report-

The Chairman had previously reported (See item 6).

ii. Road safety and Speedwatch project

– Cllr Driver reported that the Speedwatch team had conducted a check last Friday which showed evident of some vehicles travelling at 28 mph inside the 20mph restricted zone so there was cause for concern. Cllr Howse had volunteered to join the team and was awaiting training from Mr Mathers.

12. Repairs and Maintenance

- i. Consideration of refurbishment of a bench as part of the Queen's Jubilee commemorations** – The Chairman asked for support for an idea to refurbish an existing bench situated by The Ashwell which had originally been installed in commemoration of the Queen's Silver Jubilee. It seemed appropriate that the bench be re-furbished with either a new or updated plaque showing both the silver and Platinum Jubilees displayed on it. Councillors unanimously supported the idea and Cllr Howse would present some costings for the scheme at the next meeting.
- ii. Grass cutting and maintenance** -Cllr Green had submitted some pictures taken of areas badly in need of maintenance/grass cutting across the village and Cllr Howse would compress them into a format suitable to send on to GCC Highways for a request to confirm ownership and or timescale for cutting to be carried out.

13. Plans for celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – June 2022

The Chairman outlined the activities which had been organised for Longborough over the four days of the Bank Holiday weekend. Mike Prior was thanked for securing a £150 community grant towards the festivities and St James Church, Longborough Village Hall and Cricket Club had all willingly donated £150 each as contributions as well. Council agreed unanimously to donate £150 towards the celebrations in addition to the above.

14. Any other Business and councillor's requests for items for consideration at the next meeting

- i.** The Clerk reported that the annual playground inspection report was now available and this matter would be included on the agenda for the July LPC meeting.
- ii.** The Clerk added that the application forms for award of community grants in 2023 would be issued shortly and the matter included on the agenda for the July LPC meeting.
- iii.** Following a query raised by an email from a resident, the Chairman confirmed that the noticeboard outside Longborough village school did not belong to the Parish Council and its purpose was as a community facility so local residents were able to display appropriate notices/advertisements.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on 11th July 2022.