

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 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 and J Marley.

**Also present:** County Councillor Lynden Stowe, District Councillor David Cunningham & Clerk to the Council, Jenny Walsh.

There were no members of the public present.

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1. **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were accepted from Councillors McDonagh and Wheeler.
2. **Declarations of Interest** (*Members must declare any interest as it arises.*) There were no declarations made.
3. **Public Participation**- There were no representations by the public.
4. **Approval of minutes** - Minutes of the meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were approved unanimously and duly signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters arising from the ordinary meeting held on the above date.**
  - i. **Waterstyles development**- It was noted that a new firm of contractors had undertaken grounds work at the development and the site was visibly improved.
6. **County Councillor's Report** – Cllr Stowe reported that constraints on the budget for GCC in 2023/4 were considerable and staffing issues around high turnover and recruitment problems had added pressure to continuity of service provision. Discussions on budget were on-going but the Council hoped to keep increases as low as possible for tax-payers. Cllr Howse asked questions regarding the Parish Council's recent bid for support from the Speedwatch Fund and Cllr Stowe advised that a bid should be submitted for a modest ANPR facility from the funds and if this was not forthcoming, he would consider providing financial assistance from his own Councillor fund. Councillors welcomed news that work on the extended kerbing to the Memorial Green in the village centre, was scheduled to commence in February 2023, weather permitting.
7. **Ward Councillor's Report** - Cllr Cunningham reported on the following matters
  - Consultation on the 2023/24 budget for CDC was on-going until 9<sup>th</sup> December. Main elements of the budget plan were set out by Cllr Cunningham.
  - Major works on the main village car/coach park in Bourton-on-the-Water had commenced. The car park would remain closed until Spring 2023.
  - A Prosperity Fund had been launched and details had been circulated to the Clerk and were also available on the CDC website.
8. **Correspondence**
  - i. **Request from North Cotswolds Schools Federation** – *this item was discussed under Item 9.iv-Finance.*
9. **Finance**
  - i. **Grass cutting and grounds contract for 2023** – It was reported that Hillscapes had given notice on the contract for grass and grounds for the village. Cllr Driver was assisting the Chairman in meeting with potential new contractors who had expressed an interest and it was hoped that a decision could be made by the new year.

- ii. **Budget monitoring reports to end October 2022** – The reports were discussed and duly noted.
- iii. **Budget and Precept for 2023/24** – Discussion on the details of the budget for next year had been conducted in Private Session. The Council resolved to set at budget of £19,795. A subsidy from Reserves of £1,800 would be applied and the Precept would therefore be £17,995.
- iv. **Consideration of request from North Cotswolds Schools Federation for financial help towards costs relating to repairs of bell tower at Longborough Primary School**- Cllr Driver had received an email from one of the Governors of the North Cotswold Schools Federation for financial assistance of approx. £5,000 towards costs of making safe and/or restoring the bell tower located at Longborough Primary School. Following discussion, it was agreed that whilst the Council had no powers to provide funds for repairs and maintenance of privately-owned facilities, if the school or Federation were engaging in other fund-raising activities, then the Council would be willing to show our support in other ways to assist in achieving a satisfactory outcome.
- v. **To consider projects for use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment**– The Council had received a CIL payment of £303 regarding the recent development at The Crook. Council noted the receipt and would ring-fence the donation until a suitable proposal for its use was put forward.
- vi. **Payments lists for October & November 2022** -The following payments were approved unanimously.
  - October-Mrs J Walsh – salary and expenses – DP
  - October- HMRC – PAYE - DP
  - October – Netwise web hosting fee- £72
  - Hillscapes- grounds maintenance- £1,632
  - November- Mrs J Walsh- salary and expenses- DP
  - November- HMRC- PAYE- DP
  - Allium Florist- Remembrance Day wreath -£50
  - Amazon- Stationery- £27

## 10. Planning/Licencing

- i. **Planning/Licencing Applications received**  
**22/03243/FUL- Longborough CE Primary School** – creation of modular unit- Longborough Parish Council **support this proposal** as the new facility would enhance the overall provision of learning and job opportunities at the school and in doing so, add to the sustainability of a much-valued resource for the local community of Longborough. **22/03135/FUL -South Orchard House, Banks Fee Lane**- demolition of existing extension and proposed erection of rear 2 storey extension. Also 2-storey garage extension. **No objections to proposed works but request for a construction access plan to be considered as Banks Fee Lane is a narrow cul de sac.** **22/03678/FUL – Batsford Meadows, land south of Moreton Road**, Longborough- construction of permanent farm managers dwelling. **No objections to proposed work but request that construction traffic be routed via the A429 and not through the village.**
- ii. **Planning Decisions** – none for report at present time.
- iii. **Correspondence regarding development at South Orchard House (22/03135/FUL)** - a resident, who had asked how they should object to the above application, was advised by the Chairman to submit a personal objection to CDC Planning Dept. using the online facility. The Council anticipated there being some amendments to the original application and would monitor any changes as they occurred.

## 11. Highways

- i. **Update on Speedwatch grant**- Cllr Stowe had referred to this matter under Item 6 on these Minutes.
- ii. **Grit bin on Ganborough Rd**– Concerns were expressed about recent evidence of mis-use of the grit bin on Ganborough Rd for garden waste/soil. The situation would be monitored and an update provided at the next meeting.

## 12. Repairs and Maintenance

- i. **Progress on refurbishment of memorial bench** – Cllr Prior reported that the bench would be back in situ before Xmas.

### **13. Calendar of dates for LPC meetings in 2023**

A draft calendar which had been previously circulated to Councillors was approved unanimously. The Clerk added that in addition to the usual May Day bank holiday on 1<sup>st</sup> May, an extra public holiday had been confirmed for the following Monday – ie 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III. The local elections would be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

### **14. Any other Business and Councillors' requests for items for consideration at the next meeting**

- i. Cllr Driver reported that the annual Remembrance Day service held Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November had gone well. Cllr Driver was thanked for organising the memorial wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.
- ii. Following a question from Cllr Howse, Cllr Marley confirmed that synchronisation of the clock chimes with the actual time at St James church was being looked into and a visit from a chronologist was expected in the near future.

## **PRIVATE SESSION – PART TWO MINUTES**

*The Council resolved unanimously to move into private session for discussion of the forthcoming budget and renewal of the grounds maintenance contract for the Council for reasons that discussion would include matters concerning appointment of contractors and staff salaries.*

### **Item PT:1 Budget and Precept for financial year 2023/24**

The Council resolved unanimously to set a budget of £19,795 and a Precept of £17,995.

### **Item PT:2 Grounds Maintenance Contract**

No decision was made at the present time.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

