

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10th July 2023 at 7.30 pm at Longborough Village Hall.

Councillors Present: Cllrs T Howse (Chair), A Driver (Vice Chair), B Prior (Vice Chair), R Green, F Regan and R Eddolls. and.

Also present: District Councillor David Cunningham, Clerk to the Council, Jenny Walsh. There were 8 members of the public present.

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking all present for joining with the Council at an informal 'meet your Councillors' event held earlier the same evening. It was hoped that more similar events could be held in the future.

- 1. Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from Cllr Huttenan.
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – Item PT2.1 – Community Grants – Cllrs Eddolls and Regan declared interests relating to the village shop and Longborough school respectively.
- 3. Public Participation** The meeting was temporarily suspended to hear representations from the public.

Ms Hayes – Asked for road signs for Banks Fee and Charlesway.

Mrs Wright – Queried a) the redbrick colour which was used for work to Quarry House. It was explained that this colour would not be the final finish when building was completed. b) Suggested some screening for the area fronting onto the industrial estate should be considered.

The meeting then resumed.

- 4. Approval of minutes** - Minutes of the Annual and Ordinary meetings held 15th May 2023 were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.
- 5. Matters arising from the meeting held on the above date.**
 - i. All items were included on the agenda.
- 6. County Councillor's Report** - Cllr Stowe was unable to attend.
- 7. Ward Councillor's Report** - Cllr Cunningham reported on the following:
 - Changes to the Rates Relief Policy and use of funds had been approved.
 - Information on opportunities via the Rural England Prosperity Fund were imminent and bids for Community Ownership Fund would close on 12 July.
 - A summary of the outcomes following the Development Management Improvement Plan for the Planning Department was provided. Cllr Cunningham expressed his concerns regarding a tighter timeline for 'Call-In' which could have a detrimental effect on liaison between Parish Councils and their Ward Members in the planning process.
 - Residents were urged to report any problems with their local refuse/recycling bin collections to CDC. Any persistent problems to be reported directly to Cllr Cunningham.

8. Correspondence

i. Emails from resident regarding general maintenance in Longborough

The Chairman reported that 2 emails had been received from a resident. A response had been issued and the matter relating to trees on The Ashwell had been included on this agenda under Item 11.

9. Finance

i. **Monthly finance reports for June and July 2023**

The reports were duly noted.

ii. **Approval of payments for June and July 2023**

The following payments were approved unanimously:

June

- Mrs J Walsh – Salary and expenses – (DP)
- HMRC- PAYE- (DP)
- CT Landscapes – Grass and Grounds maintenance - £1,099.99
- Microsoft UK- Annual licence for software - £59.99

July

- Mrs J Walsh- Salary and expenses – (DP)
- HMRC- PAYE- (DP)
- Grants for local organisations- £3,000 -see summary of awards in private session- Part Two Minutes.

iii. **Quotation for work to cut back shrubbery between the school and pub**

Discussed in private session- see Part Two Minutes.

iv. **Build Back Better grant award**

The Chairman was pleased to report that £500 had been awarded to the Parish Council towards costs of the refreshments provided by the village shop for the Kings Coronation village party held in May.

v. **Community grant applications 2023** -Discussed in private session- see Part Two Minutes.

10. Planning/Licensing

- i. **Planning/Licensing Applications received: 23/01517/FUL-Eastgate House, Moreton Rd – Change of land use for open storage of agricultural/farming supplies – No objections. 23/01854/TCNR- 1, The Old Rectory, Old Rectory Gardens – Reduce height and spread of Yew tree -PC concur with recommendations of CDC Tree Officer. 23/01602/FUL- Quarry House, Ganborough Rd – Erection of gym, 2 glasshouses; new driveway and associated works -No objections. 23/01634/FUL-Windy Ridge, The Crook – Change use of existing buildings- new dwellings x2 extensions to x2 existing dwellings; storage building; alteration of design to x2 extant dwellings; associated landscaping including orchard, parking etc. The Council concurs with the recommendations of the CDC Case Officer and provided the applicants follow the above recommendations, the Parish Council has no further comments. 23/01965/TCNR – Luckett Cottage, High St - Removal of sycamore tree under urgent safety needs. Council will concur with the recommendations of the CDC Tree Officer.**

- ii. **Planning Decisions** – None recorded at the meeting.

11. Highways

- i. **Update on Speedwatch project** - Cllr Driver reported that Steve Mathers, who will step down at the end of this year, was thanked for his work during his time as Co Ordinator for the project. The traffic monitoring sessions were continuing and now included Saturday checks. Cllr Howse, who had joined the group, added that there was clear evidence of the continued need for monitoring and for efforts to enhance traffic calming in Longborough. Despite repeated emails to the relevant parties, information on the position regarding the Council's grant application towards vehicle activated signs was still unclear and the Clerk agreed to send Cllr Cunningham a brief synopsis of the process to date with the intention of him contacting Cllr Stowe directly to get a definitive answer on this matter.
- ii. **Potholes in Longborough**– The Chairman extended a reminder to all residents who had detected potholes on Highways land in Longborough, to report this online using the GCC website. This was the quickest and most productive way to get attention for much needed repairs to be carried out. It was noted that many pothole repairs had been undertaken but there were still many more in need of filling.
- iii. **General update on Highways roadworks** - The Chairman reported the Council had received advance notice from GCC of three Highways roadwork schemes that were pending in 2023. Once specific dates were received, these would be published on the Parish Council website. It was also reported that some of the 50mph signs on the A424 had now been replaced and were visible.

iv. **Trees on The Ashwell** - Discussed in private session- see Part Two Minutes.

12. Repairs and Maintenance

- i. **Playground repairs and maintenance** – Discussed in private session- see Part Two Minutes.
- ii. **Re-seeding of the area around new kerbing on the Memorial Green** -This work had now been completed.
- iii. **Update on Flooding issues at Lime Cottage** – The portaloo had now been removed but Highways signs were yet to be taken away. The Clerk would send a reminder to GCC to remove the extraneous items.
- iv. **Request for litter/dog poo bin at The Crook** -No action deemed necessary at the present time but the Council would monitor and report again if the situation changed.

13. Community Infrastructure Levy – suggested uses for the funds received:

- Repairs and maintenance of playground equipment
- Signage for the white gates around the village
- Repairs to the kissing gate on the public footpath running by the boundary to Upper Town House

Regarding the playground, Council agreed that the CIL award should not be used for general repairs and maintenance but to offer enhanced/improved play provision, in particular with a focus on older primary school age children. Cllrs Regan and Driver would liaise with local children and Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association, who offered a free advisory service for Member Councils, and report back in due course. The Chairman agreed to obtain quotations for the proposed signage and artwork for the white gates in the village and meanwhile, Councillors would undertake a joint re-painting programme in the near future. The Clerk would contact the Gloucestershire Footpaths Volunteer Wardens for their input and Cllrs Driver and Green would look into ways to repair the kissing gate without having to use CIL money to fund this.

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

- Cllr Regan asked if an investigation as to who owned the step at the entrance to the allotments on Ganborough Rd could be carried out as it was damaged and becoming dangerous.
- Cllr Howse expressed a wish to extend the subscriber list for the Council's website and for ideas for enhancing provision to be brought to the September Council meeting.
- Cllr Howse suggested that a general 'tidy-up' (not specifically aimed at litter picking) could be scheduled so that a more pro-active approach could be adopted on identifying areas within Longborough that were in need of consideration for repairs/changes etc.
- It was noted that damage to the school entrance steps had been caused by regular delivery vehicles and investigation into any ways this could be alleviated would be considered.

The above matters would be added to the agenda for the September Council meeting.

The open meeting closed at 8.40pm.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on 11th September 2023

The public left the meeting for the Private Session (see below)

PART TWO

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION MINUTES

Council resolved unanimously to move into private session for the following items as they related to award of contracts/grants.

Pt. 2 item 1:

Consideration of community grant awards for 2023

The following grants were awarded by unanimous decision:

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT AWARDED (£)
Longborough Village School	1,000
Longborough Link magazine	300
Longborough Village Shop	500
Glos Playing Fields Association	50
Longborough Cricket Club	200
Cotswold Friends	300
Longborough Village Hall	650
TOTAL	3,000

Pt.2 item 2:

Consideration of quotations for work at the Playground and in Longborough village

- a) Approval of quotation from preferred supplier for tree work on The Ashwell - £585.
- b) Approval of quotations from preferred supplier for repairs to playground equipment - £1,722. A separate urgent repair to replace a broken swing seat was agreed with a preferred supplier at the price of £273.

Private session concluded at 9.35pm