

**LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
1930 WEDNESDAY 15th JUNE 2016 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Sophie Walters (SW) – chairman.
Cllrs David Burnfield (DB)
Cllr Ivan Gibson (IG)
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)
Cllr Rebecca Griffiths (RG)
Cllr John Milne (JM)
Cllr Selina Musters (SM)

Clerk John Musters and Mr Colin McIntyre (Leckford Estate) (CM).

1. **Apologies.** Nil, all present.
2. **Minutes of Meeting of 18th May.** Agreed for adoption and signed.
3. **Matters Arising:**

a. **Highways and Lengthsman.** (1) **Drains** - the blocked soakaway by Ivy Cottage was still causing problems after heavy rain, despite HCC being alerted to the problem. Clerk would speak to the houseowner whose land the drain should empty onto. CM was confident that HCC would rectify the problem with the culverts in Church Road. (2) **Speed limit** - clerk had told County Councillor Andrew Gibson (AG) about the lack of progress to re-fix the bent 30 mph limit sign on The Bunny, which HCC had acknowledged in April needed doing. AG would investigate delay. On the subject of extending the 30 limit along the whole of The Bunny to Whiteshape bridge, AG said that Highways would not change speed levels unless there were evidence of incidents and risk. He felt The Bunny did not meet those requirements and said that, while agreeing our observation that it made no sense to have no limit on a single track road with blind bends, the issue would not even be debated in the current austerity. (3) Lengthsman – the coordinator had confirmed that funding would continue for at least another year. June tasks would include strimming round the Bunny bench, and clearing vegetation where it obscured road signs through the village, and overgrowth round footpath marker posts and stiles.

ACTION: Clerk

b. **HM The Queen's 90th Birthday event.** Chairman said that over 280 had registered from the three villages to attend, although with the uncertain weather not all turned up on the day. Those who did go enjoyed an excellent occasion. Councillors congratulated the chairman for her prolonged and strenuous efforts in making the event the success that it undoubtedly was, ably supported by the contributions of CM, representing Leckford, and Micki Nadal for Stockbridge. CM said that Waitrose Ltd was putting up £300 from its monthly charity donations at the Leckford Farmshop towards the cost of the day; councillors thanked CM for the company's generosity. Clerk would collate all expenses, then attribute costs equally across the parishes. £ 147.15 had been collected as donations in the refreshments tent for beer and cakes, which would help defray the overall cost of the day.

ACTION: Clerk

c. **Future of Newsletter.** Chairman said that Jan Greep was willing to take over running the Newsletter, and was ready to receive all material as and when SM passed it over. Chairman thanked Cllr Musters for her 10 years of superb work as editor, achieving a consistent standard of production of a hugely important feature of village life. This was warmly endorsed by councillors. (PMN: Chairman and clerk (as treasurer of the Newsletter) would meet with Jan Greep on 21st June to discuss the way ahead in detail).

ACTION: Chairman, Cllr Musters, Clerk

4. **Correspondence.** In addition to regular e-updates from HALC we had heard from: (a) HCC, with Minerals and Waste newsletter – passed to JM; (b) HCC, with Access Hampshire newsletter – passed to CG; (c) TVBC re Rural Housing Week open days 11-15 July – DB expected to attend the presentation in Braishfield on 15th; (d) Pensions Regulator, with confirmation of us successfully enrolling our one employee and making our declaration; (e) HALC, re launch of Councillor Commission, tasked to look at the role and work of England’s 80,000 town and parish councillors; (f) TVBC, re follow-up meeting on Responsible Dog Ownership project; (g) HCC’s May Newsletter – sent to all councillors; (h) TVBC, re recruitment of three ‘independent persons’ to assist in alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct by parish councillors; and (i) TVAPTC, with minutes of 26th May meeting – passed to chairman, DB and IG. Clerk confirmed he had completed TVBC’s Public Open Space audit and the Community Facilities questionnaire.

5. **Annual Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.** This being a non-election year, new forms were not required, but Councillors Burnfield, Gibson, Grieve, Griffiths, Milne, Musters and Walters all reviewed their returns from last year and all confirmed there were no changes. Clerk to report result to TVBC.

ACTION: Clerk

6. **Finance.** The annual return would be despatched this week for external audit. On the fee for the internal audit, RG proposed and CG seconded that Patrick Coates be paid £45 as last year. This was agreed unanimously. Henry Smith charity – clerk confirmed payment of a grant of £299.36 to the primary school to support two Longstock pupils. The balance remaining in the HS fund was £1134.53.

ACTION: Clerk

7. **Councillors’ Reports.**

a. Affordable Housing. (DB). NTR.

b. Allotments, Cemetery, Trees. (IG). **Allotments** –DB would chase Gus Penfound for a quotation for the work required on the allotments trees.

ACTION: Cllr Burnfield

c. Footpaths and Transport. (CG). NTR

d. Test Valley School. (RG). NTR. RG would represent the parish council again at the annual Presentation Evening on 24th November.

e. Environment. (JM). JM said that a close eye needed to be kept on the

'recycling' site on the Leckford road, which had until August to be cleared. He referred to the Local Access Forum newsletter, and its aim to ensure co-existence between farmers and ramblers.

ACTION: Cllr Milne

f. Newsletter and Village Hall. (SM). Leckford Estate would look at the state of their land surrounding the hall and put work in hand to clear encroachments. Clerk would copy CM on the recent exchange he had had with Head of Leckford Estate.

ACTION: Clerk

g. Playground and Website. (SW). James McConnochie had again organized a rota of strimmers for the awkward corners round playground equipment; councillors felt it needed doing more than once a month in summer. On the equipment, SW said that the steps up to the slide needed some repairs.

8. **Planning Applications. 20 Roman Road** (convert one house into two) – still with TVBC for decision until S106 issues are resolved. **Poplars Farm** (erect farm manager's house) – still with TVBC for decision. **Yew Tree Cottage** (replace existing rotted windows; repair and re-render cob walls) – TVBC consent. **Sindle Cottage** (retrospective internal works) – PC no objection. **Langtry House** (fell willow) – PC no objection. **Longstock Mill** (1) (fell macrocarpa; reduce willow) – TVBC no objection. (2) (fell blue cedar and macrocarpa; reduce acacia) – PC no objection. **Hunters Lodge, Stockbridge** (demolish existing and rebuild) – going to Northern Area Planning Committee 21st June, with case officer's recommendation to approve. (PMN: chairman spoke to her opposite number on Stockbridge PC about Stockbridge taking the lead; however he said that Stockbridge residents did not have strong views about it, and their PC had objected only on policy that part of the proposed development was outside the Settlement Boundary. He would leave it to Longstock to take the lead if the feeling here was stronger).

9. **Any Other Business/public comment.** Nil.

10. **Date of Next Meeting.** Monday 11th July.

Cheques Signed:

990	Sarsen Press	Newsletter printing	£ 156.34
991	IR Gibson	Cemetery maintenance (1 st qtr)	£ 325.00
992	APR Coates	Internal audit fee	£ 45.00

The Chairman closed the meeting at 2050.