

**LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**1930 WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JULY 2016 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Cllr Sophie Walters (SW) – chairman.  
Cllrs David Burnfield (DB)  
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.** Cllr Ivan Gibson (IG)
2. **Minutes of Meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> June.** Agreed for adoption and signed.
3. **Matters Arising:**
  - a. **Highways and Lengthsman.** (1) **Drains** – clerk had e-mailed the houseowner of Ivy Cottage about the blocked soakaway and awaited a reply. (2) **Signs** – in his absence, IG had left a comment about a new sign on the A3057 just north of Whiteshape bridge that apparently obscured the view of any driver coming off The Bunny. (3) **Lengthsman** – he had done a good job clearing overgrowth round footpath marker posts and stiles. In July he would do a litter pick throughout the village again; and in August be tasked to clear the path from Whiteshape bridge down to the Test Way, and clear overgrowth round the north side of the school bus bay.

**ACTION:** Clerk
  - b. **HM The Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday event.** Final figures were in; Stockbridge had spent £204.75 and Longstock £381.55. With the Waitrose grant of £400, and £147.15 collected from collection/donations on the day, the net cost of the day was a mere £39.15. Clerk would settle up with Stockbridge PC such that both parish councils paid the same. Chairman expressed the warm thanks of both parish councils to CM for Waitrose’s generous support of the event from their monthly charity collection at the farm shop.

**ACTION:** Clerk
4. **Correspondence.** In addition to regular e-updates from HALC we had heard from: (a) Stockbridge PC, seeking a meeting with us on the possibility of working with Virgin Media to bring Superfast Broadband here and to other local villages (PMN meeting arranged for 27<sup>th</sup> July); (b) HALC, re small grants scheme help for Countryside Access – passed to CG; (c) HALC, with date of AGM – Hartley Wintney on 22<sup>nd</sup> October; (d) TVBC, with notes from Responsible Dog Ownership project meeting 14<sup>th</sup> June – passed to SW; next workshop would be in Longstock on 5<sup>th</sup> November; (e) TVBC, with Broughton and Stockbridge Ward village ‘information profiles’ – passed to councillors.
5. **Finance.** The audit return for 2015/16 had been sent for external audit, and accounts remained available for public scrutiny until 14<sup>th</sup> July. Clerk reported a steady state after the first quarter of the new financial year and presented the quarterly

bank reconciliation, which was countersigned by RG. Henry Smith grants were discussed briefly, with one grant payment this month of £500 towards funeral expenses. Councillors would consider any other grants to be made in this grant year up to 30<sup>th</sup> September. The balance remaining in the HS fund was £634.53. (Note for the record: clerk advised against the single grant of £500, suggesting instead £250, with a later top-up if agreed and balanced against competing needs; but the majority view of councillors prevailed that the payment should be made once and in full).

**ACTION:** All

## 6. **Councillors' Reports.**

a. Affordable Housing. (DB). DB would attend HARAHA's presentation at Micheldever on 14<sup>th</sup> July as part of their Rural Housing Week, and report back.

**ACTION:** Cllr Burnfield

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

**ACTION:** Cllr Burnfield

c. Footpaths and Transport. (CG). CG was pursuing supply of new markers for finger posts. Footpath 6 had been cut at one end, but not completed. CG would talk to IG to see if it was his task or another's.

**ACTION:** Cllr Grieve

d. Test Valley School. (RG). NTR.

e. Environment. (JM). JM noted that dog mess seemed to be returning to Church Road. He asked CM if the Estate could tackle the proliferating thistles in their field above the cemetery.

**ACTION:** Mr McIntyre

f. Village Hall. (SM). SM said that we had almost certainly come to the end of the road with current arrangements for periodic deep cleans and reseals of the hall floor, since our contact had gone to ground again and nothing had been heard or seen of him for at least a year. Future maintenance would be discussed within the hall management committee.

g. Playground and Website. (SW). The grass on the recreation ground had got out of hand, and IG had taken his mower over it once to get it to a state where it could be more easily maintained, and to allow strimming around standing equipment. Clerk would discuss with IG on his return whether he would be interested in expanding his contract to include a regular cut of the recreation ground. On the website, clerk emphasized how delighted he was with the parish council section and said he had complimented Jan Greep our web manager. He recommended councillors all took time to read the contents of the PC pages.

**ACTION:** Clerk, All

7. **Leckford Estate.** In his brief update, CM said there was to be a change at the top with the retirement of the incumbent chairman. He said that safety compliance checks on all Estate properties had been completed and they would be subject in

future to a rolling maintenance programme. He was pleased to have been able to arrange for Longstock garden club to have their annual visit to the water gardens renewed in 2017 after a lapse of some years.

8. **Planning Applications. 20 Roman Road** (convert one house into two) – still with TVBC for decision whilst S106 issues are resolved. **Poplars Farm** (erect farm manager’s house) – TVBC refused. **Sindle Cottage** (retrospective internal works) – with TVBC for decision. **Langtry House** (fell willow) – TVBC no objection. **Longstock Mill** (fell blue cedar and macrocarpa; reduce acacia) – TVBC no objection. **Hunters Lodge**, Stockbridge (demolish existing and rebuild) – TVBC permission with many conditions, after consideration by the Northern Area Planning Committee.

Following the decision to allow the Hunters Lodge application to pass, there was a feeling that it could ease the way in the future for other controversial applications to succeed. Chairman felt there was mileage in considering a Neighbourhood Plan for Longstock and we would get more information from Liz Bourne. (PMN: Liz Bourne has sent some background, passed to councillors, and has been invited to brief councillors at the 14<sup>th</sup> September PC meeting).

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

10. **Date of Next Meeting.** Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

Cheques Signed:

993	SSE Contracting Ltd	Street lights maintenance	£ 123.58
994	IR Gibson	Mowing recreation ground	£ 80.00
995	SSE	Street lights supply	£ 76.33

The Chairman closed the meeting at 2100.