

**LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
1930 MONDAY 13th MARCH 2017 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, Mr Andrew Ferguson (Leckford Estate)

1. **Apologies.** County Councillor Andrew Gibson, Borough Councillors Peter Boulton and Daniel Busk.

2. **Minutes of Meeting of 13th February.** Agreed for adoption and signed.

3. **Matters Arising:**

a. **Highways.** (1) The pothole near the entrance to the track leading to Charity Down Farm had been repaired. Clerk had been less successful motivating Wherwell PC about holes on the road between Longstock Park and Fullerton Mill which lie within Wherwell parish, so he would report the holes to HCC. (2) With only a small balance remaining this year, Lengthsman's work this month would involve another litter pick. Footpath work would feature in the new contract year.

ACTION: Clerk

b. **Neighbourhood Plan.** Chairman had a note ready for the next Newsletter to encourage interest in and support for drawing up a Plan for the village.

ACTION: Chairman

4. **Correspondence.** In addition to regular e-updates from HALC we had heard from: (a) TVBC, with addendum to the Test Valley Access Plan – passed to CG; (b) TVAPTC, with minutes of the February meeting attended by DB – passed to chairman and DB; (c) HALC, sending links to the housing white paper and consultation. Chairman had sent to the Newsletter editor to encourage wider participation and possible discussion at APA in April.

5. **Finance.** (a) Clerk took councillors through the provisional end-of-year figures. With the 2016/17 VAT refund due on the income side, and final bills for electricity supply, street lights maintenance, newsletter printing and repairs to playground equipment being the payments due, he believed we would end the year in a similar position to where we started, ie income and expenditure this year were in parity. This was good news and would reflect a healthy balance to carry forward. (b) Henry Smith balance was £1,538 following the pensioners' annual lunch costing £696. Councillors unanimously approved an immediate grant of £250 to an elderly resident in need of support.

ACTION: Clerk

6. **Contracts.** (a) Clerk agreed to continue for a further year if councillors so wished; this was supported unanimously, at the same level of remuneration as 2016/17. His Contract of Employment (effective 1st April) was signed by the chairman. (b) Grass cutting contract. Councillors had agreed in December to grant an expanded contract to Mr I R Gibson to include grass cutting on part of the recreation ground. His contract (effective 1st April) was signed by the chairman.

7. **Councillors' Reports.**

a. Affordable Housing. (DB). He was keeping pressure on the RHE to return to the council with planners' updated thoughts on potential sites.

b. Allotments, Cemetery, Trees. (IG). **Allotments** – the deer problem in the allotments appeared to have gone away. Clerk said he had passed the annual rent demand from the Diocese to the allotments treasurer. **Cemetery** – IG had cut round the cemetery hedges, and pointed out that the west hedge (Leckford responsibility) had not been done. He agreed to meet Andrew Ferguson at the cemetery on the coming Friday to see where the problem with badger ingress was.

ACTION: Cllr Gibson

c. Footpaths and Transport. (CG). (1) CG had done a thorough survey of signage on footpaths and took councillors through the comprehensive list of requirements. This work would form some of the Lengthsman's tasks in coming months. He was complimented for his efforts. (2) An amount of fly tipping had been found on Leckford land at Ratz Lodge; the Estate would take action.

ACTION: Leckford Estate, Clerk

d. Test Valley School. (RG). The school had had its Ofsted inspection in February and RG reported a very satisfactory outcome, with another 'Good' report. RG would send the Head Teacher's letter reporting the outcome to the Newsletter.

ACTION: Cllr Griffiths

e. Environment. (JM). The illegal dump site near the A3057 roundabout was still a major concern, with TVBC enforcement action seeming to take an age. JM was monitoring instances of bonfires and other anti-social activities.

ACTION: Cllr Milne

f. Village Hall. (SM). NTR.

g. Playground and Website. (SW). Playsafe Playgrounds had completed their repair work and the bill was awaited.

ACTION: Clerk

h. Leckford Estate. Andrew Ferguson announced dates of certain events at the Estate in the coming summer: Plant Fair on 1st May, Open Farm Sunday 11th June and Leckford Festival on the third weekend in August.

8. **Planning Applications.** **Barn Cottage** (internal works, plus replacement of extension and car port) – PC no objection to application as a whole, but commented on roof material (tile preferred to slate) and removal of front hedge. Land at **Langtry**

House (erect single storey house in grounds – resubmission) – PC support. Application likely to go before Planning Committee, at which chairman would speak. Land at **Little Manor** (demolish existing; erect replacement two storey dwelling) – PC no objection. **Test View Cottage** (part remove internal wall) – PC no objection. **Carnesure House** (fell 10 willows) – with PC for decision.

9. **Dates of monthly meetings.** Councillors agreed to move meetings to Mondays starting with the AGM on 15th May. They would usually be the third Monday of the month, with the exception this year in July, when it would be the fourth Monday. Thus this year meetings would fall on: 15th May, 19th June, 24th July, 18th September, 16th October, 20th November, 18th December. (PMN: common sense would prevail when Easter Monday fell on the third one of the month, and the December meeting would not be held later than 18th). Clerk to inform TVBC and *Andover Advertiser* of the changes.

ACTION: Clerk

10. **Any Other Business/public comment.** In his absence AG had e-mailed an update report of HCC activities; clerk passed on to councillors.

11. **Date of Next Meeting.** Wednesday 19th April at 7.00 pm (Annual Parish Assembly, followed by monthly meeting).

Cheques Signed:

017	IR Gibson	Cemetery maintenance	£ 325.00
018	Longstock village hall	Hire for meetings 2016/17	£ 120.00
019	JBA Musters	Clerk's expenses	£ 75.00
020	HMRC	Clerk's PAYE 2016/17	£ 800.00

The Chairman closed the meeting at 2100.