

LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL
1900 MONDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2020 – VIRTUAL MEETING BY ZOOM

Present: Cllr Sophie Walters (SW) - Chairman
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)
Cllr Selina Musters (SM)
Cllr Angie Filippa (AF)
Cllr David Burnfield (DB)
Cllr John Eastwood (JE)
Cllr Ivan Gibson (IG)
In attendance: Clerk Mark Flewitt (MF), Colin McIntyre (CM) of Leckford Estate, and Andrew Gibson (AG) HCC Councillor (for first 45 minutes)

1. **Apologies:** Tony Ward (TW) TVBC Councillor.

2. **Minutes of Meeting of 20th July.**

The minutes were unanimously agreed for adoption and signed.

(Before the next Agenda item AG asked for permission to make his submission and report scheduled under item 9. The minutes are recorded under item 9 below.)

3. **Matters Arising:**

Highways & Traffic.

- **LOYO Holes** - At the bottom of the drive to the old dairy now LOYO. CM confirmed he will ensure the work is scheduled in. **ACTION:** CM
- **Recreation Ground car park** – MF advised that the planning permission which was scheduled to expire in December 2020 has now been extended until May 2021 under Covid regulations. SW proposed, and it was agreed, that the additional parking be shelved in view of the positive attitude of the current neighbours, and that the fencing be renewed instead. CM will follow up at Leckford Estate. **ACTION:** CM
- **Empty grit bin** at Longstock Park/Garage Cottages reported and still pending. HCC work is scheduled for Autumn. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
- **21503360** – potholes at Southside Cottages. Work completed and confirmed by HC despite complaint from SW/MF. **ACTION:** Closed
- **Dog Walkers** – post-Covid-19 the TVBC dog warden will re-engage on this – still pending. **ACTION:** SW
- **HCC Mowing Damage** – dual-carriageway wild flowers mowed down again. Pending AG update. **ACTION:** AG
- **BT Pole Objection** – MF advised of correspondence with BT, who initially advised that their action were legal, but have subsequently agreed to review the possibility of laying the cabling underground. **ACTION:** MF follow up

- **Local Police:** MF advised that the invitation to attend the PC to provide an update on local crime issues has been deferred to the next meeting. **ACTION:** MF
- **Church Road Culvert:** SM and SW had highlighted the blockage of a culvert in Church Road which caused debris to flow on to the main road. Leckford Estate will clear. **ACTION:** CM

4. **Election of Vice-Chair**

- SW advised that due to her personal circumstances it would be advisable to elect a Vice Chair to cover in the event that SW is occasionally not able to attend PC meetings
- SW proposed the election of AF, which was seconded by IG, and unanimously agreed
- CM voiced his strong support for SW's continuing involvement in the PC, which was also unanimously agreed.
- MF will check with TVBC on the formal procedure for registering the election of a Vice Chair. **ACTION:** MF

5. **Planning Applications.**

- Fulwood House – MF confirmed that the application had been re-submitted with a Bat Survey, and that everything else is unchanged. Councillors re-confirmed their support for the application, with observations about some of the building materials proposed. **ACTION:** MF to confirm PC SUPPORT with comments
- Tamlyn – Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of a 4-bedroom house. Councillors agreed that this is a large plot and is well screened from view. It was unanimously agreed to provide PC SUPPORT. **ACTION:** MF
- Old School House – Tree works to yews and sycamores. SW explained the background to this request, and then withdrew from the discussions. Councillors agreed that the proposed works were full justified and unanimously agreed to provide PC SUPPORT. **ACTION:** MF
- Garage Cottages – application withdrawn. CM advised that Leckford Estate decided to withdraw this application as they felt they were unable to overcome problems with TVBC Planning.

6. **Finance.**

- MF advised that the publication of the required PC financial information on the website and on notice boards has been done in full compliance with the regulations. The website contains the full financial information, and the relevant pages are displayed on the notice boards from 7th August to 18th September as required. **ACTION:** MF
- MF proposed that a payment of £45 be made to Patrick Coates for his work as internal auditor of the PC financial accounts. Unanimously agreed. **ACTION:** MF

7. **Bottle Bank Location**

- MF and SW advised of correspondence with the Chair of Stockbridge PC about the removal of the bottle bank from Roman Road. The Village Hall car

park was proposed as a suitable location by Stockbridge PC. TVBC had contacted the VH committee, who pointed out that the car park is often full for events, and it was accepted that this would not be a practical option.

- SW and AF advised that the matter had been discussed at a NHP SG meeting, and Longstock Park Farm Shop had been suggested as a potential location for a bottle bank and recycling site .
- CM confirmed that Leckford Estate may well be open to the idea, idea but he would need further details. CM to discuss offline with AF. **ACTION:** CM/AF

8. **Traffic Speed on the Bunny**

- SW advised that a number of local residents had expressed serious concern about the speed and volume of traffic along the Bunny. This has become particularly relevant in view of the number of young families with small children that are now living in the village, and who walk on the Bunny with toddlers and pushchairs etc
- Although the current speed limit from the A3057 to the Willows is 60mph, JE questioned whether anyone actually drives at 60. Nevertheless, all agreed that they have seen examples of excessive speed and inconsiderate driving on the Bunny, and that we should seek to have a reduced speed limit.
- SM mentioned that the process to get a 40mph speed limit on the road from the Heron Cottage to Bottom Road had been a long and arduous one, but there was general concern that we should not wait until a serious incident has happened before taking action.
- Various opinions were expressed on whether we should seek a reduced limit of 20 or 30mph, but Councillors were unanimous in their support for starting the process.
- MF was asked to contact AG for guidance on the process to get a speed limit reduction on the Bunny. **ACTION:** MF/AG
- Subsequent Note: as background the ex-clerk Mr Musters has provided some copy correspondence about a previous 2012-16 unsuccessful attempt to get a 30 mph limit for the Bunny.

9. **Councillors' Reports.**

a. Affordable Housing. (DB). – NTR

b. Allotments, Cemetery, Trees. (IG).

- IG advised that everything is in order

c. Footpaths and Lengthsman. (CG).

- CG said that a resident of Goodworth Clatford had called to advise of signs of a party/rave on the footpath west of Rats Lodge at the location of a previous traveller settlement. CG advised the new local landowner, who cleared up the mess. He also inquired about blocking off the entrance for vehicle access. This is not legally possible, although larger signs will be installed.
- CG advised that the Lengthsman has worked on footpaths 3 and 7, and done a litter pick.
- This month the Lengthsman will clear the grips from Southside Cottages to Bottom Road, and will clear around the Bunny bench

- SM advised of a broken stile on the footpath above Roman Road, and asked that the undergrowth on the streetlights be cut back. CG advised that the stile is in Houghton Parish. CG will ask the Lengthsman to cut back any undergrowth at ground level, but he cannot work on anything higher. **ACTION:** CG
- CG will ask Daniel Busk to cut back Footpath 12 to the required 2 metre width. **ACTION:** CG
- CG advised that the Romsey Ramblers had inspected our footpaths and rights of way on behalf of HCC. They have already made a comment about a farm building which appears to have been built across FP2. SM and DB confirmed that the FP was moved slightly some time ago after the appropriate process, but we will await the full report. **ACTION:** CG

d. Test Valley School and Neighbourhood Plan. (AF).

- AF is looking forward to meeting with the new school Head and Deputy as soon as they are available. AF will ensure that they are made aware of the potential planning issues on the land adjacent to the school. **ACTION:** AF
 - AF advised that new fencing and a general refurbishment of the school had been completed over the summer, and that new school uniforms had been introduced as part of the “re-launch”.
 - SM mentioned rumours that the new year 7 intake had been very low.
- AF provided an update on the NHP process, and the Steering Group minutes will be circulated and uploaded to the website once they are approved. **ACTION:** AF
 - As it will now not be possible to run the community engagement events in person, the SG are looking at creating a film to update the community on the NHP. This would be available on the PC website. TVBC have congratulated the SG team on their positive and innovative thinking. **ACTION:** AF
 - AF has submitted the applications for new grants for 2020/21, including for a Housing Needs Survey. **ACTION:** AF

e. Environment and Website. (JE).

- JE is working on the website accessibility requirements that come into effect on 23.9.20, including the publication of an accessibility statement. **ACTION:** JE
- JE will review the quotes for the refurbishment of the phone box from Aly Cox and Shane Ling. **ACTION:** JE

f. Village Hall and Street Lights. (SM).

- SM advised that the “rule of 6” has created another layer of problems for the Village Hall, but that some events are still going ahead.
- On street lighting, SM confirmed that she has placed a firm order for 9 LED lamps, including Southside Cottages. The Houghton Road lamp will be replaced free of charge, so the total cost will be £305 x 8 = £2440 + VAT. Delivery is expected within 12 weeks.
 - SW proposed a vote of thanks to SM for all the work and effort she has put in on the street lights over the past couple of years. This was unanimously supported.

- g. Playground and Henry Smith Charity (SW)
 - SW has contacted TVBC about repairs and maintenance work due on the Recreation Ground equipment. **ACTION:** SW
 - IG mentioned that a broken ladder should also be repaired.
 - SW mentioned that the village picnic on 5th September was an excellent event, and offered a hint of a return to normality. More than £1.5k was generated for the church wall repairs. JE expressed concern at the high cost of the repairs, but this is in the hands of the church.
 - Re Henry Smith – SW advised that a £39 donation via Test Valley School for a young resident to go on a school trip will be returned as the outing was cancelled.
 - A number of thank you letters have been received from the recipients of HS donations.
 - SW asked Councillors once again to look out for any residents where financial help might be needed. **ACTION:** ALL
 - SW confirmed that any decisions on whether to hold a HS lunch in 2021 will have to be deferred for the time being. **ACTION:** SW

 - h. Leckford Estate. (CM).
 - CM advised of the sad news that Rod Smith had just died of cancer. Rod was a highly regarded village resident, and had retired a year ago. His family has had to cope with tragedy in the past, and SW will send them a message of sympathy on behalf of the PC and the whole village. **ACTION:** SW

 - i. HCC
 - AG had sent his update HCC report to be circulated to the PC. **ACTION:** MF
 - With the Covid lockdown the HCC offices are still almost entirely empty, which is causing some practical challenges to get things done.
 - SW questioned the need for appointments at the recycling centres, with Andover proving especially difficult. AG advised that HCC are still being very strict on this
 - DB thanked AG for HCC's support for the proposed UTVVC working weekend rally
 - AG advised that he is planning to leave HCC at the end of his term in April 2021
 - SW and AF advised AG of serious concerns about the Stockbridge community social media Facebook site, where it appears that vulnerable local residents may have been subjected to unacceptable, inappropriate and vitriolic treatment from people connected with the local parish council. SW and AF will provide AG with the link. **ACTION:** SW/AF/AG
 - AF said she had been subjected to aggressive behaviour from a horse owner and an HCC warden in the Danebury Ring area. AG will investigate. **ACTION:** AG

 - j. TVBC – NTR in TW's absence
10. **Remembrance Sunday**
- CG confirmed that it is still the intention to hold the traditional service at the war memorial on Sunday 8th November, unless new government guidelines

prohibit it.

- It will not be appropriate to hold the usual coffee and cakes in the Peat Spade, but CG will investigate with the pub team the possibility of an outside event. **ACTION:** CG
- SM asked whether her grandson might be invited to speak the poem “In Flanders Fields”. SW suggested this would be a very appropriate symbol of a spirit of community connection, and received unanimous support. **ACTION:** CG/SM
- DB was asked to invite his daughter, who is serving with the Royal Artillery, to lay the wreath on behalf of the PC. **ACTION:** DB

11. **Correspondence**

- MF has circulated the Parish Profile from TVBC, and has asked for comments from the PC. **ACTION:** ALL
- MF has circulated the TVAPTC consultation process on the proposed reforms to the planning system. We are asked to respond with feedback by 1st October. **ACTION:** ALL
- The TVAPTC virtual conference will be held on 3rd October. MF will attend, and PC is asked to advise MF if they want to join also. **ACTION:** ALL
- The owners of Church Farm have advised that they are “pausing” the process of creating an “agricultural access” to their paddock off the Bunny. They will advise the PC of their plans in due course.
- The Village Fete Committee has written to the PC expressing thanks for their support and co-operation in organising the village picnic on 5th September
- The HALC AGM will be held via Zoom on 24th September 7-9 pm. MF will attend, and PC is asked to advise MF if they want to join also. **ACTION:** ALL

12. **Any Other Business/public comment.**

- DB advised that a neighbour to Barn Cottage has advised of weeds and pipes intruding into his land from Barn Cottage. DB will investigate. **ACTION:** DB
- SW advised that TVBC Planning are still pending a visit from their Enforcement team to review the removal of the original windows from Barn Cottage. **ACTION:** SW
- CG expressed the thanks of the PC to SW for her decision to stay on as Chairman despite the complications of her personal circumstances. Unanimously supported.

13. **Date of Next Meeting.** Monday 12th October at 7.00 pm – by Zoom

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 pm.