

LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL
1900 MONDAY 11th MAY 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), Andrew Gibson (AG) HCC
Councillor, and Tony Ward (TW) TVBC Councillor

1. **Apologies:** None received
2. **Minutes of Meeting of 20th April.**
The minutes were unanimously agreed for adoption and signed.
3. **Matters Arising:**
Highways & Traffic.
 - **LOYO Holes** - At the bottom of the drive to the old dairy now LOYO. **ACTION:** CM – still in hand with Leckford Estate
 - **Recreation Ground car park** – Leckford work subject to current Covid-19 re timing. HCC Archaeological Dept to be advised in advance. **ACTION:** CM /MF
 - **Empty grit bin** at Longstock Park/Garage Cottages reported. Chaser acknowledged **ACTION:** MF
 - **21489041** – Potholes on Church Road. Work done, but damage to the churchyard wall. AG has chased, and HCC provided photo evidence of work completed before wall damage. Aly Cox is recovering material for re-use. Leckford Estate have repaired a water leak in the same location. **ACTION:** Closed
 - **21481978** – Bridge and Rails on Bunny demolished. Work completed 22-23 April. **ACTION:** Closed
 - **21489579** - 2 new potholes outside Windover Farm, reported and acknowledged on Hantsweb and passed to contractor. **ACTION:** MF to follow up
 - **21496438** – new pothole outside 20 Roman Road. Work completed. **ACTION:** Closed
 - **HCC Additional £500 Grant** – Repair and re-paint Phone Box. AG confirms availability of new grant pot. MF to request grant. **ACTION:** CG/MF
 - **Bottle Bank** – Possible move back to White Hart. AF to coordinate with Stockbridge PC. **ACTION:** AF
 - **Dog Walkers** – post-Covid-19 the TVBC dog warden will re-engage on this. **ACTION:** SW
4. **2020 AGM Cancellation**

- MF reported that the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council cannot be held remotely. In the current Covid-19 situation, recent changes in legislation allow Parish Councils to cancel their 2020 AGM, and continue with current arrangements until 2021. In the case of Longstock PC, this would mean that Cllr Walters would continue as Chairman for a further year, and she confirmed her willingness to do so.
 - This was agreed unanimously by Councillors. **ACTION:** MF
5. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interests - Review**
- MF advised that all Councillors should annually review their Declarations of Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) and advise of any amendments to be made.
 - All Councillors have confirmed that no amendments need to be made to their DPIs. Proposed by SW and seconded by AF.
 - MF will report back to TVBC to confirm. **ACTION:** MF
6. **Coronavirus Update**
- SW reported that the system of dividing Longstock into 14 patches, with a “key person” appointed in each one to maintain contact with residents is working very well, with a very positive reaction in terms of general community engagement
 - SW advised of a positive response from residents to the extra issue of the Newsletter, with useful website information and a village quiz.
 - 2 confirmed cases of Covid-19 have been reported in the village, but fortunately no deaths. Sadly 2 people have died recently in Leckford.
 - SW congratulated TVBC on the speed and efficiency of their reaction to requests for a Covid-19 grant and letters of authority. AF highlighted the continuation of the waste collection services. TW was asked to pass on thanks and congratulations to the TVBC team. **ACTION:** TW
 - SM noted that TVBC can refund costs/expenses incurred by volunteers to TVBC-linked initiatives
 - IG mentioned that the access road to Danebury Ring is now open to vehicles again, but the parking areas for Stockbridge Down and Marsh are still closed. *(n.b. CG advised that the Marsh car park was opened the following day)*
7. **Planning Applications.**
- No Planning Applications received since the last meeting
8. **Finance.**
- MF advised that the 2019/20 accounts will be passed on to the auditor this week. **ACTION:** MF
 - MF advised of developments on the finances of the village newsletter.
 - In the past year income reduced by approx £100 and printing costs increased by approx £400, although taking into account the reduced number of issues in the previous year (5 rather than 6), the actual printing costs increase was nearer £150.
 - Advertising renewals from local small businesses are proving challenging in the current Covid-19 crisis. **ACTION:** MF
 - Councillors discussed possible mitigation actions, including seeking sponsorship for the colour printing, charging residents, requesting

- donations etc.
 - MF will ask the editors to aim to reduce the number of colour pages in the next issues to manage costs, and will report back in future meetings on progress on income and expenses. **ACTION:** MF
 - We have received a £500 TVBC grant for Covid-19 community support and communication actions, which clearly includes the village newsletter.
 - For the special extra Covid-19 issue SW personally incurred costs of £183.30. Councillors unanimously agreed for this to be reimbursed to SW. **ACTION:** MF
- MF advised that an additional VAT refund claim for £410 is to be submitted **ACTION:** MF
- MF advised that the annual HALC membership renewal fee of £240.66 is now due for payment. Unanimously agreed. **ACTION:** MF

9. Councillors' Reports.

a. Affordable Housing. (DB).

- NTR in Longstock.
- CG mentioned that TVBC had once again surpassed their annual target of affordable housing – 283 built against a target of 200.

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

- IG confirmed that the allotments are now fully occupied
- SW confirmed that all the cemetery benches have now been cleaned and oiled. SW personally incurred costs of £25.90 on teak oil for the benches - Councillors unanimously agreed for this to be reimbursed to SW. **ACTION:** MF
- CG and DB congratulated and thanked SW for the cemetery benches. Unanimously supported.

c. Footpaths and Lengthsman. (CG).

- CG advised that the Lengthsman's work this month will include: repainting the footpath signs, cleaning the noticeboards, and tidying the Bunny.
- Next month the Lengthsman will clear all the grips on the road from Bottom Road to Longstock Mill
- CG asked Councillors to advise of any other work needed from the Lengthsman in the village. SW advised that the Recreation Ground will need attention once it is re-opened. **ACTION:** SW/CG
- CG reported that all the footpaths are in good condition

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

- The school is closed, but still providing "child care" for children of key workers and vulnerable children
- AF advised that the request to the school to deal with the spindly trees next to the playing fields, which are unsafe and are close to electricity cables, should come formally from the Parish Council. MF to get contact details from AF. **ACTION:** MF/AF

- Councillors discussed the future of the swimming pool at the school.
 - TW advised that large grant funds are available to support the project within the Test Valley area, with the pool as a community asset, but that this must be championed by the school, not just by the PTA.
 - The new Head will hopefully be in post by Sep/Oct, so there will be no progress on this until then.
 - Councillors recalled that the original construction of the pool in the 1950s was supported by local fund-raising on the promise of community access.
 - TW advised that the economic cost of refurbishing the existing pool will be much lower than a new-build pool. A covered pool would also have enormous additional costs
- AF advised that work on the NDP is currently suspended, but that the Steering Group will have an update Zoom meeting. MF to provide PC Zoom Pro details. **ACTION:** MF/AF

- e. Environment and Website. (JE).
 - JE advised that new photos have been uploaded onto the website. Councillors agreed they are very good
 - JE proposed a new tab on the website for Nature issues. **ACTION:** JE
 - AF to provide Test Valley School contact details for the Resilience Plan **ACTION:** AF/JE

- f. Village Hall and Street Lights. (SM).
 - SM advised that the Village Hall remains closed with no income, with weekly checks as required by the insurance company
 - The Village Hall receives a £3k rates bill, but also an equivalent rate relief
 - TW advised that TVBC grants are available to cover “lost business”, and that the Kings Somborne village hall has received £10k.
 - SM will coordinate with TW to contact the Kings Somborne Clerk and investigate a similar grant for Longstock Village Hall. **ACTION:** SM/TW
 - Southside Cottages residents do not want the streetlight model currently installed in Houghton Road. SM will contact manufacturers about alternative models and prices. **ACTION:** SM

- g. Playground and Henry Smith Charity (SW)
 - SW confirmed that the Recreation Ground remains closed.
 - SW awaits response from TVBC (Lyndon) about a review of the Rec once the lockdown is lifted. **ACTION:** SW
 - SW advised that a further £1.8k Covid-19 grant has been agreed from Henry Smith Charity.
 - Messages of thanks have been received for the 4 cheques already sent to local residents in difficult circumstances (furlough/zero hours etc)
 - SW asked Councillors to advise her of other cases that would justify support. **ACTION:** All
 - Henry Smith will request a report in due course on how the funds have been used. **ACTION:** SW

- h. Leckford Estate. (CM). NTR
- i. HCC (AG)
 - AG advised that the HCC recycling centres were open as from today, and that garden centres would be open on Wednesday
 - The Andover Cycle Festival has been re-scheduled for Sat 3rd October
- j. TVBC (TW)
 - TW confirmed that he has circulated the latest Mid-Test Matters
 - TVBC has extended the suspension of parking charges to June
 - TVBC is incurring £600k per month in lost income due to the shutdown.
 - Only 5 shops are operating in the Chantry Centre.
 - TVBC only received £48k from the original £1.6bn Government support to Local Government, but received £1.6m from the next tranche.
 - TW will pass on the Councillors’ thanks to TVBC for their efforts in the current crisis. **ACTION:** TW

10. **Correspondence**

- Following the latest Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) showing 20 dwellings on the Longstock Allotments plot:
 - TW advised that the site is outside the settlement boundary, and that the planners would probably not recommend.
 - The need to provide a suitable equivalent alternative site would be an additional obstacle.

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

- DB advised that he has worked on the water run-off on the Fullerton Road
- DB and IG mentioned the damage done by HCC to the wildflower areas on the dual carriageway on the Salisbury Road. **ACTION:** AG
- AF mentioned that the Roman Road community had enjoyed a VE-Day celebration “party” with social distancing from each family’s garden.
- DB has a VHS video of the 50th VE-Day village celebrations, and he will try to convert the video format. **ACTION:** DB
- SW asked Councillors for any items/articles for the next Newsletter. **ACTION:** ALL

12. **Date of Next Meeting.** Monday 8th June – via Zoom at 7.00pm

Cheques Signed:

1137	SSE re Electricity	£33.59
1138	HALC re annual renewal	£240.66
1139	SW re Newsletter/Cemetery Benches	£209.20

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.50.