

LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL
1900 MONDAY 12th OCTOBER 2020 – VIRTUAL MEETING BY ZOOM

Present: Cllr Sophie Walters (SW) - Chairman
Cllr Angie Filippa (AF) – Vice Chairman
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)
Cllr Selina Musters (SM)
Cllr David Burnfield (DB)
Cllr John Eastwood (JE)
Cllr Ivan Gibson (IG)
In attendance: Clerk Mark Flewitt (MF), Colin McIntyre (CM) of Leckford Estate, Andrew Gibson (AG) HCC Councillor (for 40 minutes during meeting), and Tony Ward (TW) TVBC Councillor

1. **Apologies:** Andrew Gibson for partial absence due to other PC commitments
2. **Minutes of Meeting of 14th September.**
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. CM will ensure the work is scheduled. **ACTION:** CM
 - **Recreation Ground car park** – CM confirmed that the fencing has been renewed. **ACTION:** Closed
 - **Empty grit bin** – MF advised that the filling of grit bins at Longstock Park/Garage Cottages is still pending. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
 - **Dog Walkers** – post-Covid-19 the TVBC dog warden will re-engage on this – still pending. **ACTION:** SW
 - **HCC Mowing Damage** – AG to advise HCC contractor not to mow wild flower area. **ACTION:** AG
 - **Salisbury Hill Trees** – MF has confirmed to AG that the trees to be cut back are mostly sycamores. AG will advise HCC Highways team, although there have been significant changes to staff and to the county map work distribution in HCC Highways. **ACTION:** AG
 - **BT Pole Objection** – MF advised that BT have now confirmed that they are not willing to move the poles, as in their opinion they do not spoil the view from any property, and are only visible to drivers on the road. The PC would have to cover the cost of any survey and work related to removing the poles, or can challenge the decision via the County Court appeals procedure. Councillors unanimously agreed that we have tried, but that no further action be taken. **ACTION:** MF
 - **Bottle Bank Location** - CM advised that follow-up meeting with AF to discuss is pending. Vanessa Cheung of TVBC will also be kept in the loop. **ACTION:** CM/AF
 - **Traffic Speed on Bunny** - MF advised that the person who led the project to get a 20 mph speed limit in Chilbolton is willing

to provide guidance on the process. SW will join MF in this contact. MF confirmed that the PC will be seeking a 30 mph limit on the Bunny. **ACTION:** MF/SW

- **Barn Cottage Issues** – DB will follow up on a complaint from a neighbour about piping and weeds. SW advised that the owners have acknowledged that the original windows in the old property should not have been replaced, and will need to be changed. TW will check on planning rules re the temporary access. MF to provide the planning permission reference. **ACTION:** DB/MF/TW
- **Vice Chair** – MF confirmed that AF is now the Vice-Chairman of the PC having signed the formal Declaration of Acceptance of Office document

4. **Planning Applications.**

- 1 Church Cottages – Councillors confirmed PC SUPPORT for the application for internal and external alterations. Councillors also wish to express a view in favour of allowing some sort of double-glazing (eg. Micro double glazing) for environmental reasons despite the current listed buildings regulations

5. **Finance.**

- MF advised the renewal of the PC insurance is due – premium of £1,140.04 for a 1-year renewal, or £1,085.00 for a 3-year commitment. Councillors unanimously agree to maintain flexibility and renew for 1 year. **ACTION:** MF
- Councillors unanimously agreed to make a £100 donation to the Royal British Legion. RBL will provide the PC wreath for Remembrance Sunday. **ACTION:** MF
- MF advised that he is preparing the papers for the half-year audit and bank reconciliation. **ACTION:** MF
- The TVBC remittance advice for the £4k half-year precept payment has been received.
- MF advised that an invoice for £360.00 has been received from Plan-ET for work on the NHP. AF confirmed that this amount is correct, and Councillors unanimously authorised the payment. **ACTION:** MF

6. **Police Crime Update**

- MF advised that he had been in contact with PC Tim Allen, who is based in Stockbridge, but is not allowed to connect via Zoom due to Police regulations.
- PC Allen covers 55 villages in a 200 sq. mile area on his own, and at present due to a Covid-19 absence and holidays is temporarily covering 77 villages over 400 sq. miles.
- For the Police, Longstock and the surrounding area are considered a “safe low-crime area”, and so resources are allocated elsewhere where priorities are higher.
- Although there was a spate of 8 break-ins to garages and sheds on a single night in the previous week in the Stockbridge area, it is felt that the criminals will hit a local area and then move on.
- Poaching can be an occasional problem locally, both for fish and for livestock (deer etc), but a separate Country Watch police unit covers these issues.

- PC Allen emphasised the importance of reporting any incidents on 101 as they will be reviewed to get an overall picture of crime activity. He also recommended 2 effective security methods: have a dog and CCTV with visible warning signs
- The Andover Police Station provides response units for local 999 calls.
- Councillors were dismayed to learn about the thin police coverage for our area, and want to write to our MP and the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner to strongly express our concern. **ACTION:** MF to draft
- MF will ask PC Allen to contribute an article/update on crime and Police issues to the Longstock Newsletter. He will probably need to seek approval from Hampshire Police HQ who may be able to provide a framework text template. **ACTION:** MF

7. Councillors' Reports.

a. Affordable Housing. (DB). – NTR

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

- IG advised that the cemetery has been mowed.
- The allotments are fully occupied and in good shape for winter
- MF advised that Spire Memorials are intending to install two cremation memorials (Ian Reid and Walter (Jo) Goddard) and one burial memorial (Arthur and Edith Goddard). MF will update in due course. **ACTION:** MF

c. Footpaths and Lengthsman. (CG).

- 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
- CG will remind the Lengthsman to cut back any undergrowth/ivy on lamp-posts. **ACTION:** CG
- MF mentioned that Mr Armitage, the new owner of Charity Down Farm, had advised of his intention to carry out various improvement works on the adjacent byways. SW and CG expressed their appreciation of the positive engagement of Mr Armitage with the PC.
- SW offered the PC's congratulations and thanks to CG for the excellent condition of the footpaths and rights of way.

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

- AF advised that the new fencing around the school grounds is almost complete.
- This was carried out to comply with safeguarding regulations.
- AF advised that the school Senior Leadership Team had not been aware of the potential planning issues on the adjoining land.
- The school pool is being prepared for the winter. It is unfortunate that it has not been used since March due to Covid-19 restrictions
- The availability of the Sports Hall for community use was again discussed. TW mentioned that the Mountbatten School in Romsey generates income from the rental of its facilities. AF to check with the school. **ACTION:** AF

- Re NHP - AF confirmed that a £7.2k grant has been approved to cover the period to March 2021. As per last year, any unused grant funds must be returned at the end of the period.
- AF will forward NHP minutes to JE for the website. **ACTION:** AF/JE
- Grant funding will include a housing needs assessment, which will be in addition to the housing needs survey. The housing needs assessment will be conducted remotely via a desktop review. The housing needs survey will be distributed and collected by hand to residents with a view to generating a maximum response level. **ACTION:** AF and NHP SG.
- The housing needs assessment will be managed with AECOM Consultants.
- The housing needs survey will be managed by TVBC
- Sarah Hughes of TVBC will support the NHP SG by providing detailed mapping information re SSSI/Flood Plan etc, and will also support the proposed video about the reasons for and benefits of the NHP.

e. Environment, Website and Phone Box. (JE).

- JE has worked on the website accessibility requirements that came into effect in September.
- The appropriate accessibility statement has been finalised to be uploaded on to the website. **ACTION:** JE
- A Hugo Fox audit tool has been used to check, and JE is carrying out final tests. **ACTION:** JE
- Any Accessibility queries will be directed to MF via the website, to be dealt with within 10 days
- JE will share log-in details with MF for the website. **ACTION:** JE/MF
- Re Phone Box - CG will re-send to JE the quote from Shane Ling for the refurbishment. **ACTION:** CG/JE

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

- SM advised that village hall has opened up for events of up to 20 people, subject to complying with social distancing rules.
- The VH has been used for flu vaccinations and for school jobs. The Surgery arranged temporary BT Openreach internet access for a £10 pm charge.
- Volunteers have to do cleaning between VH bookings.
- On street lighting, SM confirmed that the lights are expected to be delivered to the installers within the next week.

g. Playground and Henry Smith Charity. (SW)

- The TVBC inspection of the Recreation Ground and the equipment is still awaited. **ACTION:** SW
- DB agreed to help remove the cycle ramps, which are now unsafe. **ACTION:** DB
- The bridge and the “bandstand” also need to be checked. **ACTION:** SW/DB
- AF and DB will coordinate the replacement of the basketball equipment. **ACTION:** AF/DB
- Re Henry Smith – SW reminded Councillors to look out for any residents where financial help might be needed. **ACTION:** ALL

h. Leckford Estate. (CM).

- CM advised that the John Lewis Partnership is undertaking an overall strategic review, with recommendations due to be released within a couple of weeks. Implementation will be phased over an initial 12 month period
- On the farming side, the fruit harvest, including the vineyard, are considered average, whereas the wheat harvest was good.
- Leckford Farm Shop is being prepared for the Christmas season, and the local delivery service will also be available again.

i. HCC. (AG)

- AG advised that parking in Stockbridge has created a lot of problems and negative comments.
- Stockbridge PC has complained about cars parking on the pavement between the main bridge and the dentist surgery. AG understands that some fines have been issued for pavement parking.
- AG confirmed that Stockbridge Primary School had been closed due to a Covid-10 outbreak, but that it was re-opening with extra supply staff.

j. TVBC. (TW)

- TW advised that the initial redevelopment plans for Andover town centre have been published. It is an exciting project, and has the additional advantage that it can be financed via residential developments on land owned by TVBC.
- The new Government White Paper will lead to substantial changes to the planning regime. Parish Councils are asked to provide feedback. **ACTION:** MF and All
- The local MP, Caroline Nokes, made a speech in Parliament criticising the White Paper as dangerous to this part of Hampshire.

8. **Remembrance Sunday**

- CG confirmed that it is still planned to hold the traditional service at the war memorial on Sunday 8th November,
- If necessary a formal Risk Assessment will be carried out, and the “rule of 6” will be implemented
- SM confirmed that Orlando Richardson will be available to recite “In Flanders Fields”.
- DB confirmed that Daisy Burnfield, currently serving with the RA, will be available to lay the PC wreath.
- CG advised that Maddie Hedley will take the service, and that the Peat Spade will provide outside refreshments if the weather allows.

9. **Correspondence**

- MF advised that the TVAPTC Conference on 3rd Oct focused on 3 areas: i) the climate emergency and local actions; ii) Covid recovery and how to revitalise town centres and economic activity ; and iii) community resilience, and lessons to be learnt from the excellent local response in the Test Valley which has stood out in both regional and national comparisons
 - MF to circulate TVAPTC notes. **ACTION:** MF
- MF advised that in the HALC AGM the new planning white paper was also highlighted, including increased targets for new homes above current levels - in HCC (+18%) and in TVBC (+48%)

- MF to circulate HALC AGM notes. **ACTION:** MF
- MF advised that Unity have distributed a survey on the impact of Covid-19.
 - MF suggested that the PC survey response might be shared with the Village Hall committee. SM agreed. **ACTION:** MF/SM

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

13. **Date of Next Meeting.** Monday 9th November at 7.00 pm – by Zoom

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 pm.