

**LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL**  
**1900 MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022 IN THE VILAGE HALL**

**Present:** Cllr Sophie Walters - Chairman  
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)  
Cllr Selina Musters (SM)  
Cllr Ivan Gibson (IG)  
Cllr Alice Foster (AFo)

In attendance: Clerk Mark Flewitt (MF), Ian Jeffrey (IJ) TVBC Councillor,  
and Colin McIntyre (CM) of Leckford Estate

1. **Apologies:** Angie Filippa (AF), for health reasons; David Burnfield (DB), due to work commitments; David Drew (DD) HCC Councillor, for personal reasons; Tony Ward (TW) TVBC Councillor, for health reasons; and David Hall (DH) Test Valley School Governor, due to commitment at another local PC meeting.
2. **Minutes of PC Meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> February.**  
Unanimously agreed for adoption and signed by SW.
3. **Matters Arising:**
  - **Highways & Traffic.**
    - **21560535** – Road Drainage problems at The Grange. With HCC. No progress. **ACTION:** AFo to monitor
    - **21562764** – Road signs and markings at Bottom Road. Road markings done. HCC advise low priority due to no casualties. HCC review subject to resources. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
    - **24214172 - Dual Carriageway Mowing** – DB update pending. **ACTION:** DB
    - **21590392 Pothole at Suicide Corner** – Work done **ACTION:** Closed
    - **21590244 Damaged bridge on Bunny** – Work now with HCC contractor. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
    - **Road speed signs at Heron Cottage** – following storm damage road signs demolished by fallen tree. HCC Highways to be advised. **ACTION:** MF
  - **20's Plenty** – MF awaiting information from Barton Stacey/Longparish on their shared speed display units. Goodworth Clatford advised that £2.5k spent on speed display and laptop. Volunteers move unit between 4 locations, with a temporary effect on vehicle speeds. **ACTION:** MF to follow up
    - MF awaiting response from Police on guidance. **ACTION:** MF to follow up
    - Re white lines for pedestrians, AFo has contacted Chilbolton and will follow up for info. **ACTION:** AFo
  - **New Model Code of Conduct for Councillors** – Still awaiting guidance from TVBC Legal Services. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
  - **Platinum Jubilee – June 2022** –
    - Re Beacons - MF advised that the Court Leet & Baron in Stockbridge will discuss Stockbridge Down location. **ACTION:** MF to monitor
    - Re Trees – extensive discussion on tree varieties, with a final majority decision for Kanzan Cherry Trees with pink blossoms. Locations through village to be decided in due

course. CM will check on prices with Longstock Nursery.

**ACTION:** CM

- Potential locations for a village celebration event were discussed, with unanimous preference for Terstan. **ACTION:** SW to consult landowners
- SW will seek to create an organising committee with the Playground volunteer team, with Sunday 5th June as the preferred date option. **ACTION:** SW
- Discussions about various initiatives:
  - A “competition” to design a logo for the PC,
  - Uplighting to illuminate an iconic village building such as the church
  - Presents for villagers to commemorate the Jubilee, eg, mugs, spoons, keyrings, potentially with designs from children.
- IJ confirmed that TVBC Community Grants are still available. MF to apply for £1k grant. **ACTION:** MF
- **Bottom Road Verges** – chalk passing places to be created at the end of the winter. **ACTION:** DB
- **Recording of Births, Deaths, Arrivals and Departures** – in hand with CG. **ACTION:** CG

#### 4. **Planning Applications.**

- Mulberry Lodge – changes to front and side elevations. Amended application without roof works in view of need for bat survey. Unanimous PC SUPPORT. **ACTION:** MF
- 1 Church Cottages – Appeal Outcome. MF advised that the householders’ appeal about the replacement windows was dismissed.
- Highfield – Tree works. MF advised that this application was received after the publication of the Agenda, with a response cut-off date before the scheduled April PC meeting, so the PC agreed to consider it at this meeting. Unanimous agreement for PC NO OBJECTION. **ACTION:** MF

#### 5. **Finance.**

- Quarterly bank reconciliation - MF confirmed reconciled balance of £13,198.47 as at 31.12.21 including £4.7k of unused NHP Grant funds. **ACTION:** MF
- PC Refresher Training – MF advised that Plan-ET have quoted £250 for the training. HALC’s quote is awaited. Unanimous approval of £250 expenditure. **ACTION:** MF to chase HALC and advise PC
- VAT Refund – MF confirmed a £740 VAT refund claim was submitted in February.
- HCC Jubilee Grant – MF advised that a £200 grant application has been submitted.
- Unused NHP Grant Funds – MF advised an NHP Grant of £4,970 was received, with £3k currently used. Any unused balance as at 31.3.22 must be repaid. **ACTION:** MF/AF to monitor
- Year-end Projection – MF advised that with a number of minor variations in income and expenditure items in relation to the budget, the projected year-end cash position is likely to be in the region of £4.7k, compared to the budgeted £4.9k figure. This figure does not include any unused NHP Grant funds that will have to be repaid.

#### 6. **Councillors’ Reports.**

##### a. Affordable Housing and NHP. (AF)

- Affordable Housing – in AF’s absence SW confirmed there was no news to report.
- Re NHP – SW advised that responses to the survey among residents (including over 8-years old) are being collated, with over 80 received.

- b. Allotments, Cemetery, and Trees. (IG).
    - Cemetery – IG advised that the grass will be ready to be cut shortly
    - Allotments – all occupied and ready for the growing season
    - Trees – Some trees were badly damaged in the recent storms. CM confirmed that 35 trees came down on Longstock Park alone, together with many fallen trees on the river.
      - IG felt that the tall Poplars next to the Village Hall are now dangerous in high winds. Previously TVBC had blocked attempts to remove them, but IJ confirmed that safety issues must take precedence. **ACTION:** IG/CM
  - c. Footpaths and Lengthsman. (CG).
    - Lengthsman - In February grips cleared between Bottom Road and Southside, notice boards cleaned and work continued on our benches. March has programmed another litter pick and more time on the benches. April is programmed for a tidy up around the Bunny Bench, cutting back and disposing of all foliage around road signs, as well as cleaning all the signs. **ACTION:** CG
    - Footpaths - We are still waiting for 4 footpath signs to be replaced. IG was asked to arrange with landowner for access to FP 6 (Church Road to South). **ACTION:** IG
  - d. Test Valley School and Website. (AFo).
    - TVS – AFo advised that DH had emailed details of a design initiative for a proposed multipurpose performance space when the pool is filled in. PC Members suggested various local landscape and garden designers including Leckford Estate, Sparsholt College, and Sarah Ebberley. **ACTION** AFo to feedback to TVS/DH
    - Website – AFo working on Google Analytics data. **ACTION:** AFo
  - e. Environment. (DB) – not present
  - f. Village Hall and Streetlights. (SM).
    - SM advised that cost of the electricity supply is going to increase enormously when the current contract expires soon.
    - Streetlights – NTR
  - g. Playground and Henry Smith Charity. (SW)
    - Playground - SW advised that the new team of volunteers is working with great enthusiasm, with a new “digitised” inspection system being tested.
      - A new basketball net has been stolen.
    - HSC – SW is preparing the new grant application online.
      - Extra funding will be requested in view of the large utility price increases, which will create greater need for HS support
  - h. Leckford Estate. (CM).
    - CM advised that it is intended that the Abbots Manor dairy, which has been closed as the business moves to beef production, will be converted into a farming education centre.
      - The Estate will be recruiting a conservation officer to manage the area of land not under cultivation. CM to provide Estate news for the Newsletter. **ACTION:** CM
  - i. HCC. (DD) – Not present
  - j. TVBC. (IJ)
    - IJ had distributed his Mid-Test Matters report in advance.
      - TVBC are looking for feedback on the local experience of power cuts after

- the recent storms
- PC agreed that the draft Community Resilience Plan should be updated to include power cut issues as well as flood risks. DB is asked to take this on. Discussions about the possible locations for an emergency generator. **ACTION: DB**
- IJ advised that Council Tax rebates will be available for properties in bands A-D, and for low income households.

7. **Review of Cemetery Regulations**

- MF had circulated in advance the current regulations, and advised that in local village cemeteries the regulations varied from simple 1-page documents to 17-page tomes. PC unanimously agreed to maintain the current regulations, but it should be a requirement for families to acknowledge and sign them in advance of burials. **ACTION: MF**
- MF advised that the tariff of fees have not been updated for at least 12 years, and that they are substantially below other comparable local village cemeteries. In view of the significant upkeep and maintenance costs, it was felt that fees should be updated. MF will undertake a local review, and make a fee proposal in due course. **ACTION: MF**

8. **TVBC Local Plan 2040 – Public Consultation**

- MF explained that TVBC are asking for comments on Stage 1 of the draft Local Plan 2040. MF will circulate details to PC members, and will also publicise on notice boards. **ACTION: MF**

9. **Correspondence**

- TVBC have asked for details of PC events planned in Summer 2022, to encourage local engagement in the Local Plan process. **ACTION: MF**
- Parliamentary Constituencies Review Consultation - MF will circulate details to the PC Members, with small changes to constituency borders South of Romsey and on the outskirts of Andover. **ACTION: MF**
- CPRE are looking for local volunteers to support their efforts. MF will circulate. **ACTION: MF**
- Virgin Media have asked for permission to have a Fibre Broadband Guide on the PC Website. PC felt that this would constitute a commercial advert, and unanimously rejected the request. **ACTION: MF**

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

- SM advised that a cycle race will be passing through the village on 27<sup>th</sup> March, and the village hall is being hired as a refreshment stop. The sponsor is raising funds for the Hampshire & IoW Air Ambulance.
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10. **Date of Next Meeting..**

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7.00 pm – in the Village Hall (Annual Parish Assembly) nb. Original planned date of 11<sup>th</sup> April changed due to non-availability of PC Members.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Cheques and Payments:

1202	Andover Printing re NHP	£85.00
1203	Plan-ET re NHP	£2,520.00
1204	IG re Mowing contract	£500.00
1205	MF – re NHP Zoom Pro Annual Subscription	£172.68

1206	MF – Clerk’s annual salary + expenses	£1,242.72
1207	HMRC – Clerk’s PAYE Tax	£800.00