Ardington and Lockinge Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting for Ardington and Lockinge Parish Council Held Tuesday 13 September 2022, 8:00pm at the Loyd-Lindsay Rooms

Present	Apologies
Hugh Roberts (HR) Councillor/Chairman	Ron East Councillor
Derek Morrow (DM) Councillor	
Nicky Hancock (NH) Councillor	
Paul Gibbs (PG) Councillor	
John Hedgecock (JH) Councillor	

1.	Before the commencement of the Meeting, Councillors stood in silent remembrance of Her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Apologies
	Apologies were received from Ron East.
2.	Declarations of Interests There were no declarations of interests.
3.	Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12 July These were approved by Councillors and signed by the Chairman.
4.	 Matters arising from the Minutes of 12 July Meeting It was agreed that the points raised by the independent auditor will best be dealt with once a new Parish Clerk is appointed. The recruitment process for a new Clerk has elicited two applicants to date. Interviews will take place as soon after 30 September as can be managed. An interview panel, probably of no more than four, will be deputed by Councillors to undertake the interviews. NH will put a reminder about the closing date for applications on Facebook and will request a further reminder on the Trumpeter website. DM has been regularly monitoring the Playground and has carried out a number of repairs, for which Councillors expressed their appreciation. DM will contact a suitable RoSPA-approved contractor to carry out a full inspection as soon as possible. DM updated the Council on street light maintenance and repairs and on the updating and checking of the defibrillators in Ardington and Lockinge. The latter task is still ongoing. Councillors again expressed their appreciation to DM for undertaking this work JH has continued to house the Parish laptop. No messages of significance have been received. The Parish website update will be one of the most essential tasks for a new Clerk once appointed. The updated password for accessing the Parish website is now with JH.

5.	 Finance Payments already made and signed off by two authorised signatories were noted and approved by Councillors Two further invoices were approved by Councillors and cheques will be made out. The most recent bank statement from NatWest Bank (to 5 September) was examined and reconciled with payments made. The account is still well in funds. It was noted that the second tranche of the precept is due this month. At the next Meeting, a budget for the year ahead will need to be discussed. 	
6.	 Matters arising from comments by Councillors at this Meeting NH raised the continuing problem of the danger to any pedestrian attempting to cross the A417 at the Ardington bus stop, the lack of lighting and footpath on the way to the bus stop, and the difficulty and danger experienced by motorists emerging from East Lockinge onto the A417. NH will write on these matters to the County Councillor to request her help and influence in remedying these ongoing serious issues. PG referred to issues concerning dog-fouling, lighting and a fallen tree raised by a parishioner with him. Advice was given on the response to the parishioner. Councillors agreed that once a new Clerk is appointed, thought should be given to future projects to benefit the villages Councillors noted the need for a new notice-board at Ardington and for a refurbishment of the existing noticeboard at West Lockinge. HR will write to the Chairman of CBPT to see whether CBPT would fund this work as they had for the new notice-board in East Lockinge. 	
7.	Items for Trumpeter and Facebook Beyond the points noted above, no further suggestions were made.	
8.	Date of next meeting Confirmed for 8 November 2022 at 8pm in the Loyd-Lindsay Rooms	