

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th July 2021 at 7.30pm at Longford Village Hall

1. Attendance noted as

Cllrs K Doherty (Chair), J. Ford, L. Gough (Vice-Chair), M. Wallace. **Also present:** J. Shirley (Clerk), Borough Councillor Bocking, County Councillor Awford

Members of public present: Three

Apologies: Borough Councillor Okleton

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None.

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2021

Council resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2021.

4. Review outstanding actions from previous meeting

All outstanding items are on agenda.

5. Notice of Vacancy

Council noted that the Notice of Vacancy has been displayed for the vacancy left by Cllr P Gough.

6. Co-option (4 vacancies)

There were no applications to fill councillor vacancies by Co-option (4 vacancies).

The meeting was adjourned at this point for members of the Public to speak.

A resident raised the concern about speeding traffic through Longford and inappropriate parking. School transport use Sivell Close as a cut through, and there have been traffic incidents captured on the resident's CCTV. A request was made for speed ramps as they have in Longlevens. Cars are parked on the corners and close to junctions which make turning into the road dangerous. The Chair gave a summary of the work council has carried out to date raising traffic issues and speed calming options explored with Gloucestershire Highways and agreed it was very frustrating. It was felt by the resident that the speed surveys carried out by Highways do not give an accurate picture. County Cllr Awford suggested chicanes for Sivell Close and plans to raise this with the Local Highways Manager.

It was agreed to bring item 10 forward.

10. Highways

10.1 Council discussed the Sivell Close / Fircroft Road "rat-running" of traffic. It was resolved that the Clerk forwards the videos of the traffic incidents to the Local Highways Manager, raise the concerns and arrange a site meeting with the LHM.

10.2 Council discussed the adoption of roads and pavements in the new development off Longford Lane. The roads are currently the responsibility of David Wilson Homes. There is a continuing problem of cars parking on pavements in the development which Highways said they could look to install yellow lines to prevent parking once the roads have been adopted.

To receive a report from County Councillor.

Cllr Awford requested that his thanks be minuted for Cllr P Gough for all he has done for Longford over the years both as a councillor and as former chairman of the council. Sally Godwin has been appointed to replace Chris Riley at Highways who has left Gloucestershire Highways. The annual grass cutting has been brought forward due to the recent rapid growth, visibility splays are cut more often. Cllr Awford has reviewed the highways local funds with the Local Highways Manager and concentrating on drainage issues and also including some major resurfacing works. Improving

the drainage should help prevent potholes by removing the laying water. Local Plan Inspector's report has been published. JCS Review should have been completed swiftly but still needs to be completed after 4 years.

To receive a report from the Borough Councillors.

Cllr Bocking circulated his report prior to the meeting. There had been a successful petition to implement measures to reduce flooding and examine flood risk in detail; the borough council will not allocate any new development sites prior to the completion of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment including a detailed pluvial and fluvial flood risk assessment.

Cllr Gough highlighted some local issues regarding flooding: pumping station, the land adjacent Tewkesbury Road that was used by the roundabout contractors, Longford Lane by the traffic lights.

Cllr Doherty also highlighted that Sandhurst Lane is not coping with the water run-off from the fields, possibly the drains are silted up.

7. Finance / Procedures

- 7.1. Council approved the bank reconciliation and budget versus spend reports for May 2021. Proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Gough, all in favour.
- 7.2. Council approved the payment of expenses for Clerk (£66.00). Proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Ford, all in favour.
- 7.3. Council reviewed the Standing Orders and noted the minor amendments in the model template adopted.
- 7.4. Council reviewed the Financial Regulations and noted the minor amendments in the model template adopted. Cllr Doherty asked if Council has a 3 year budget forecast, this can be addressed in the autumn when the budget is next set.
- 7.5. Council reviewed the Code of Conduct and there were no amendments.
- 7.6. Council reviewed the Risk Management Scheme and noted that pandemic had been added as a risk item.
- 7.7. Council reviewed the direct debits and standing orders
- 7.8. Council reviewed the Council's bankers and agreed the authorised signatories as: Cllr Doherty, Cllr Gough, Cllr Ford and Cllr Wallace. Once the new mandate has been confirmed by Lloyds Bank, any past councillors can be removed as signatories.
- 7.9. Council approved Cllr Wallace and Cllr Ford attendance at councillor training on 7th September 10am-noon (part 1) and 21st September 10am-noon (part 2) at a cost of £25 per councillor per course, both courses delivered online via Zoom. Cllr Ford to confirm his availability.
- 7.10. Council ratified the accounts for payment, proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Ford, all in favour:

Invoice Date	Payee	Net	VAT	Gross	Budget
30/06/21	Salaries June 2021 & HMRC PAYE/NI	£772.19	£0	£772.19	Admin
21/05/21	BHIB Ltd	£472.36	£0	£472.36	Insurance
28/05/21	Glebe Contractors	£393.14	£78.63	£471.77	P&OS
06/07/21	Expenses	£66.00	£0.00	£66.00	Admin
				£1782.32	

8. Parks and Open Spaces

- 8.1. The Clerk requested assistance on producing a tender specification for creating a wildflower area. Cllr Awford suggested that the Clerk contact Maisemore PC who have been through the process already. Cllr Doherty was keen to involve the local school in some way with the memorial garden. **Action: Clerk**

- 8.2. The Council considered supporting a resident request for tree planting along the brook adjacent Fircroft Road and noted that the land is managed by Tewkesbury Borough Council who would require a licence for the parish council to take responsibility for the inspection and maintenance of the trees. It was noted that trees were originally in that location and removed by the Environment Agency as they interfered with the watercourse. Cllr Doherty proposed that the council is supportive in principle but not supportive of additional maintenance costs and liability issues. All in favour to advise Tewkesbury Borough Council. **Action: Clerk.**
- 8.3. Council considered measures to remove rabbits from the allotments; rabbit proof fencing circa £3000, or using a licensed pest controller to shoot the rabbits £800. This is thought to be the first year the allotment has suffered with rabbits and there are no burrows on the allotments site. It was resolved not to implement any rabbit proofing at this stage due to the high cost but the Clerk was instructed to research grants that may help with rabbit proof fencing before next growing season. **Action: Clerk.**

Cllr Awford left the meeting.

9. To consider arrangements for community events with Longford Village Hall

- First Aid / Bike Marking / World War talk, all in conjunction with the village hall:
 - Bike Marking: The Police have been contacted regarding organising a bike marking event in Longford, Churchdown is having a bike marking event later this month. Cllr Doherty proposed, seconded by Cllr Gough, all in favour.
 - First Aid training: Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Wallace, all in favour. It was agreed in principle to arrange a community first aid training event with emphasis on CPR and using the defibrillators.
 - Local connection regarding Gliders in second World War talk, Cllr Doherty, Cllr Ford seconded, all in favour. Date to be arranged in the autumn.
- Car boot 7th August 2021 to raise funds for the village hall refurbishment. Cllr Ford proposed supporting the event, seconded by Cllr Doherty, all in favour.
- 18th September event, thought to be a car boot. Agreed in principle.
- Village fete on Jubilee weekend 2022. Cllr Doherty proposed supporting the event, seconded by Cllr Ford. All in favour.

10. Highways item was discussed at the start of meeting.

11. To consider the Community Governance Review (deadline 15th September)

Cllr Ford spoke to this item and highlighted that a petition on change.org had been signed by a significant number of Horsbere Mews residents believing they had bought a property in Longford and found that there were actually residing within Innsworth parish. It was proposed and agreed that the boundary with Innsworth be moved to A40 and Horbsere Brook. There was a discussion about the Sandhurst boundary, the Longford residents living near to the Sandhurst boundary have expressed a desire to move into Sandhurst parish. **Action: Clerk** to put forward the proposal to Tewkesbury Borough Council, advise Innsworth PC and the Longford Park Academy as a courtesy.

Cllr Bocking left the meeting.

12. To receive reports for information:

- Allotments – 0 plots available but monitoring 6 plots that are not cultivated. Allotment competition is planned for 1pm 20th July.
- Finance – no new update; Clerk and Cllr Ford to arrange a date to check the accounts.

- Personnel – no new update
- Play Park & Playing Field – 2 swing seats to be re-installed before the summer school holidays.
- Village Hall Working Group – there are plans to dig a trench to install a telephone line, it would be sensible to install electricity for lighting the driveway at the same time.

Next meeting Tuesday 7th September 2021 (no August meeting) at the village hall.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.