

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th June 2023 at 7.00pm at Longford Village Hall

1. Attendance noted as

Cllrs J Ford (Chair), C Byers (Vice-Chair), L Gough, K Doherty, R Harris,
Also present: Mrs J Shirley (Clerk), County Cllr P McLain, Borough Cllr S Hands.

Members of public present: One.

Apologies: Cllrs R Meeks, C Young.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None.

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May 2023

Council resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May 2023. Proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Gough, all in favour.

4. To consider applications to fill councillor vacancies by Co-option (2 vacancies)

No applications received.

5. Public Participation

To receive a report from County Councillor Paul McLain; resurfacing of Longford Lane is scheduled for July. Costs for looked-after children in the county has been escalating and there is a high number of agency contract staff so the Council is working with University of Gloucestershire to increase opportunities for social work degrees. Highways: County Council has been discussing an improvement programme. 80% of roadworks in the county are through utility companies. Council plans to trial jet-patching for potholes. Tree planting: 130,006 trees planted by the County Council last year; County has more trees available to replace damaged trees or local initiatives. Cllr Gough noted that there is a tree on Longford Lane that is at risk of falling into the carriageway, this has been reported to Highways.

To receive a report from the Borough Councillor Sarah Hands; Tewkesbury Borough Council are working on a campaign "Our Borough" which will trickle down to "Our Parish", "Our Street" etc to create volunteering opportunities locally to look after neighbourhoods. Stories and photos from parish projects need to be submitted to Tewkesbury BC by 19th June. Cllr Hands is the lead for Clean and Green at the borough council.

A member of public mentioned that the field had been used by two Police dog handlers for dog training and it was suggested that they be invited to regularly use the field if they wished. **Action: Clerk to contact the Police Dog Unit.**

6. Finance / Procedures

- a) Council received the latest bank reconciliations for the 2023/24 accounts.
- b) Council received an update on the proposed notice board for Horsbere Drive – Highways will remove the sign and an application has been made to Highways for permission to install a notice board.
- c) Council received an update on the planned vehicle access barriers to the playing field. It was agreed to leave the existing vehicle access barrier on the driveway in its current location and repair the post, install a 2.1m barrier at the top end of the driveway full width without a lower gate, and drop (or retractable) bollards on the field instead of relocating the old barrier. The Council will purchase padlocks with matching keys for all the new gates. **Action: Clerk** to request the contractor to re-quote and proceed providing the price remains as or below previous quote.
- d) Council approved payment of 4 invoices:

Invoice Date	Payee	Gross	Budget
30/06/23	Salaries June 2023	Tbc	Admin
23/05/23	Stuart Shackell Ltd	£63.00	P&OS
21/05/23	SWARD	£230.00	P&OS
31/05/23	Glebe Contractors	£630.79	P&OS

7. Parks, Open Spaces & Allotments

- a) A report was received from Cllr Byers regarding the community orchard and wildflower areas on the playing field and Sivell Close. A mown path is needed to the bench in front of the oak tree in the orchard. **Action: Clerk** to contact the contractor. The trees need to be watered daily during the dry weather. It was agreed to purchase a long hosepipe. **Action: Cllr Ford.** Storage facilities will be needed in the orchard area to store the hosepipe etc, **Action: Clerk** to find out about bespoke wooden box. The walnut tree appears to have died and will be replaced. The horse chestnut has been vandalised again. The Clerk was reminded that a plaque is needed for the tree to mark the passing of the Queen Elizabeth II. **Action: Clerk.**
 Cllr Byers and Cllr Meeks carried out an inspection of the play park and noted that repairs are required to the safety surfacing under both sets of swings, they were last repaired in Spring 2022. **Action: Clerk** to contact Greenfields for the repair. Two dog waste bins need replacing, to be funded from Reserves. **Action: Clerk.**
- b) Council discussed options for the installation of the Queen’s Canopy plaque. **Action: Clerk** to obtain prices for Cotswold stone and to follow-up the previous request for quotes for the Remembrance Stone to go on Sivell Close.
- c) To agree next working party dates: It was agreed to meet at 6.30pm on Tuesday 4th July prior to the next council meeting to walk around the playing field to identify any issues. **Action: All Councillors.**

8. To consider planning applications. None.

It was noted that the public right of way off Black Ash Lane is closed until December but there is no closure notice on site.

9. Highways

- a) There was no update from the Road Safety Working Group.
- b) There was no update from Highways on the request to install a barrier across Sandhurst Lane to be used when the road is flooded. **Action: Clerk to follow-up.**

10. To receive reports from representatives for information only:

- Allotments: taps have been repaired.
- Environment: all covered during the meeting.
- Finance: no update.
- Personnel: no update.
- Play Park & Playing Field: all covered during the meeting.
- Village Hall: Cllr Young forwarded an update via email. There was a brief discussion about the parish council availability to have a stall at the fete on 1st July. It was decided that it wouldn’t have a stall but if councillors were available could attend and do something informal.

Next Meeting to be held on 4th July 2023 at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm.