

# LONGDEN PARISH COUNCIL

It is fully understood that this may not be a suitable or acceptable method of holding a meeting for all Councillors or members of the public but during the implementation of the COVID - 19 restrictions the Government has looked at alternative options of holding a meeting rather than face to face. We are currently not able to meet face to face.

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## **Minutes of a Meeting of Longden Parish Council held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 at 7.30 pm via virtual means as outlined above.**

**Present:** Cllr P. Carter – Chairman  
Cllr. N. Evans  
Cllr. R. Evans  
Cllr. Mrs K Lovegrove  
Cllr. W. Merrick  
Cllr. C. Rigby  
Cllr. Mrs C. Roberts  
Cllr. K. Roberts  
Cllr. M. Whittall

**Also present:** Anne Wilson Parish Clerk

One member of the public for public questions

### **15/2020 Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed Councillors to the meeting.

### **16/2020 Apologies for absence**

**RESOLVED** that there were no apologies of absence for this meeting.

### **17/2020 Declarations of Interest.**

**RESOLVED** that there were no declarations of interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

### **18/2020 Police Report**

Members noted that no report had been received from West Mercia Police.

### **19/2020 Public Question Time and Participation**

The applicant for planning application number 20/02346/FUL Proposed Conversion of Agricultural Building at Moat Hall, Annscroft addressed the council. She explained about how they hoped to convert the redundant barn into a wedding venue to preserve and enhancing the existing and erect a marquee to offer a local wedding venue for in time up to 40 weddings per year. Access via a single track lane with passing places on their land. They hoped to employ all local people.

On behalf of residents Cllr. N. Evans brought to the attention of the Council the mis-signing of the roadworks on the road to Hookagate from Shrewsbury. Because the signage had not been amended residents found that the road had closed earlier than signed meaning that they got a point and then had to turn around and go a long detour. It was agreed that the Council would complain to Shropshire Council about their signage and the fact that the bus could not operate properly as the bus company had not been advised of the changes. The New Inn had difficulties on the same day as staff could not get to their planned training on time and deliveries were delayed. However, it appears that some vehicles were let through during the closure.

Cllr. R. Evans said he had question tabled a question at the cabinet meeting on this subject and is asking whether Shropshire Council officers or Kier manage the contract.

Cllr. C. Roberts asked whether the white the white lines were to be replaced down the middle of the road as they would help with the speed of the traffic but suggested that the work would be carried out overnight so the road did not have to be closed.

## **20/2020 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the e mail remote June Parish Council meeting.

Cllr. N. Evans stated that he felt that some of his comments had not been included in the minutes.

## **21/2020 Planning**

**RESOLVED** that Members considered the following:

i) New planning applications:

- 20/02373/FUL 1 Longden Road, Longden  
Replacement of dying boundary hedge with a smarter brick wall with piers and metal railings

**RESOLVED** that Members would make no comment on this application.

- 20/02346/FUL Proposed Conversion of Agricultural Building at Moat Hall, Annscroft  
Conversion of existing agricultural barn into a wedding ceremony venue along with associated facilities including car park and area for temporary erection of a marquee

Both Cllr. N. Evans and Cllr. K. Roberts stated that they knew the owner of this farm.

**RESOLVED** that Members agreed the following:

- i) That it was concerned that no Business Case had yet to be put together for the proposal
- ii) That it was a good use of the redundant buildings and the proposals for the wedding seems well organised
- iii) Any Wedding Licence granted, should state the maximum number of Events per year & the maximum number of Guests
- iv) The Licence should include Conferences & other Occasions including Birthday Parties. 30th, 40th etc.
- v) That any permissions should have a maximum music noise level agreement with it
- vi) That a curfew time should be included

- vii) That there should be no fireworks after 10 p.m.
- viii) That the access and egress should be improved at the entrance to the site (noting that it was single track with passing places up to the location of the barn and marquee) to prevent queues forming on the roadway
- ix) That no inconvenience should be caused to local residents and their needs are considered

The Clerk was asked to send the response to everyone before it was forwarded to Shropshire Council

- 20/02285/DIS Long Acres Lyth Bank  
Discharge of Condition 3 (Tree Protection Plan and Arboricultural Method Statement) associated with planning application number 19/01457/FUL

**RESOLVED** that Members make no comment on this application.

- 20/02082/DIS Little Vinnals Bungalow, Longden  
Discharge of Conditions 2 (Foul Drainage) 3 (Landscaping) 4 and 5 (Highways Work associated with planning application number 19/04329/FUL

**RESOLVED** that Members make no comment on this application.

- 19/03521/REM The Firs, Exford Green

Members were asked to look at the amended plans and send any comments back to the Clerk by the Monday following this meeting.

ii) **RESOLVED** that Members noted that the following planning applications were granted:

- 20/01635/FUL Oakridge Hook-a-gate  
Erection of single storey extensions and internal alterations
- 20/01502/FUL The Old School House, Longden  
Erection of detached garden room to include shower room following demolition of existing outbuilding
- 20/01833/FUL The Farriers, Annscroft  
Siting of single storey storage unit

## **22/2020 Environmental Maintenance Grant**

**RESOLVED** that Members noted that Longden Parish Council have been awarded £540.00 Environmental Maintenance Grant from Shropshire Council.

Ian Walshaw the Highway Maintenance Manager responsible for the Environmental Maintenance Grants had advised with regards to the grant, it is to be spent on whatever the Parish Council put in their application and they can provide evidence that they have done in April next year.

Cllr. Carter supplied information to Members and they noted the list of proposed projects for which the funding had been applied for.

## **23/2020 Highways Matters.**

Members noted that the Clerk had received the replies list below from Shropshire Highways:

- Redhill Drive was closed as completed - if this is not the case please let them know
- There was another three outstanding on the system two were relating to Hanley cess pit and the other in relation to several signs that needed clearing and vegetation clearing around them
- Andy Wilde, Operations Manager for Highways has confirmed that the cess pit on Hanley Drive has been cleared since your report; he instructed our drainage contractor to attend site and they spent two full days cleaning out the pit and as of today we believe that issue is resolved, if this isn't the case please let them know
- The report on numerous signs there is no update available to me on if this has been resolved however Andy has committed to sending a gang to the locations you have details to undertake required work, the gang will be sent asap but it may be into next week before they can attend

Further **RESOLVED** to note the following and the Clerk was asked to report the following:

- Cllr. K. Roberts said that the cover for the inspection chamber has not been replaced and so there is currently a dangerous hole for people to fall into and this needs to be replaced and sealed.
- Cllr. Carter said that another one of the crossroads signs at Woodhouse crossroads has been broken.
- There is a long length of broken fencing at Hookagate – 4 -5 foot – from Red Mill Cottage towards Hook a gate that needs replacing
- The road to Lyth Hill has a lot of large potholes in it especially in the Wildwood area

## 24/2020 Finance

- i) **RESOLVED** that Members agreed that the following items of expenditure be paid as listed below:

• HMRC	104.00
• A. Wilson salary	416.84
• Annual Lighting Maintenance Contract	323.40
• Internal Audit Costs – Mrs V. Voysey	120.00
• Chairman's Allowance	300.00

- ii) Bank Reconciliation

This would follow due to access problems with online banking and lack of bank statements.

Members note the updated income and expenditure report.

- iii) End of Year Accounts 2019/2020

Members **RESOLVED** to:

- Confirm the accounting statements for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020
- Note the Internal Auditors Report and any actions arising from it
- Agree the Annual Governance Statement – the Chairman read it out line by line and Members agreed the response – all as Yes
- Confirm the AGAR – the Annual Return

Members agreed that the Clerk would arrange with the Chairman a convenient time for the accounting documents to be signed. Also, the minutes from the May and June e mail meetings.

**25/2020 Parish Matters**

**RESOLVED** that Members reported the following matters:

- Shropshire Council Cabinet are likely to agree to adopt the Local Plan at their meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020 and there would be an eight-week consultation period afterwards. It was agreed that a virtual meeting would be held with the residents of the parish during this consultation period
- The bus shelter at Hook-a-gate is not watertight any more and it was agreed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman would go and look at it before obtaining quotes for new roofing as it was unlikely that the developers who were providing a anew bus shelter would commence development before the autumn. The shelter was too well used to demolished.
- There was a feeling that Smartwater should be begun to be delivered across the parish following a concern about increased thefts in the parish. Discussions over prices for residents and businesses and how to distribute the Smartwater took place. The matter would be discussed further at the September meeting when it was hoped that a decision on the way forward and how many packs could be agreed. Several Councillors offered to help, and it was agreed that a co-ordinator was needed
- Cllr. Carter said that he hoped to open the play areas on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020 however as the guidance was not yet completed then the Clerk would keep the Chairman updated and they would be open as soon as practicable and the relevant signage made
- The phone box at Longden Common had been removed and the area left tidy

**26/2020 Date of next meeting**

**RESOLVED** that Members noted that the next meeting of Longden Parish Council is scheduled for Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 however this will depend on the current situation and directives about COVID-19.

**Signed** ..... **Date** .....

**Chairman**