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Minutes of the meeting of Longden Parish Council held on
Wednesday 5th July 2023 at 7.30 pm in Longden Village Hall

Present:

Cllr. Paul Carter – Chairman	Cllr. R Evans – Vice chair	Cllr. P Arnold
Cllr. N Evans	Cllr K Lovegrove	Cllr. C Rigby
Cllr C Roberts	Cllr K Roberts	

Also present: Caroline Higgins, Clerk

36/2023 Chairman's Welcome – Cllr P Carter opened the meeting

37/2023 Public Participation – *There were no members of the public present so the Chairman deferred the public session.*

38/2023 Apologies – None

39/2023 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest – None

40/2023 Minutes - The Council unanimously RESOLVED to add an exempt note to the draft minutes of the full council meeting held on 7th June 2023 to record the location of the pre-application site discussed in closed session. There were no objections to the suggested amendments to minute 23.2 546/544 bus changes (reworded) and 24/2023 Naming of Private Road (reworded). There were no objections to the suggested amendment to minute 35/2023, Potential Land Transfer, which recorded an offer from a local resident to act as land agent. It was RESOLVED to defer the approval of the draft minutes to the next meeting to which a revised draft will be presented.

41/2023 Reports

41.1 Chair's Report – The Chairman reported his attendance at a meeting of the Lyth Hill Advisory Group which focused on the deer farm lease. He had also attended the Longden Classic Car Show at the weekend.

42.2 Shropshire Councillor's Report – Cllr R Evans reported on the following issues:

- Budget overspend
- Pest Control Officer - role review
- Chief Executive - separate office and staff
- North-West Relief Road planning application

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- Highways / Transport - Consultation to go to 3000 residents
- Future Fit – NHS planning application to build in Shrewsbury
- Peer Review – delay in publication

42.3 Clerk's Report - The Council noted the written report circulated with the agenda.

43.4 Councillors Reports – Cllr R Evans shared information about the planned 'Connect on Demand' bus service which is expected to be available from October. It will cover Radbrook Green, Lyth Hill and Longden.

Cllr R Evans shared information about grants available from Sustainable Warmth Shropshire, for air source heat pumps for homes not connected to mains gas.

Cllr Arnold reported that Manor Lane still needs resurfacing.

44/2023 Place Plan Review – The Council reviewed the draft list of priorities and resolved to remove the redevelopment of the website from the list as this could be arranged by the Council without a CIL contribution. It was resolved to seek guidance on costings for the remaining projects, which all require an input from Highways.

It was resolved to seek a date when Place Plan officers will meet with Parish Council representatives and Chairs to discuss the place plan review.

45/2023 Neighbourhood Plan – The Council noted that a banner and flyers had been ordered and that Cllr Arnold had manned a stand at the Classic Car Show, which had resulted in a new volunteer for the steering group. The next meeting will be held on 7th August at the Tankerville Arms PH.

46/2023 Planning

Note: Council decisions are based on the information available at the time of the meeting. Members representing other bodies reserve the right to take new information into account and review their position should they be required to consider an application at a later date.

46.1 Planning Applications –

46.1.1 23/02433/FUL The Vinnals, Lower Common – Installation of roof covering to existing agricultural muck store; No objections.

46.1.2 23/02287/FUL Longden Wood Farm, - Bunded oil tank – No objections

46.1.3 23/02673/AMP Spring Cottage, Lyth Hill: The Council noted that a further application for a non-material amendment to the approved planning

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permission had been lodged. No formal consultation had been undertaken with residents or the parish council despite objections to the previous non-material amendments proposed. The Council resolved to urge the planning officer to require resubmission as a full planning application due to the extent of the variations proposed.

46.2.1 Planning Decisions – The Council noted an appeal against refusal had been lodged with reference to **22/04795/FUL, Proposed dwelling, SW of Reabrook Villa, Hook-a-Gate**. It was **resolved** to reinforce the original objections that the development is too large for the plot and conflicts with the emerging Local Plan, in which Hook-a-Gate is designated as Open Countryside.

47/2023 Modification of Bridleway 29, Oaks Wood – The Council resolved to make no objections.

48/2023 Diocesan Land Transfer – *It was unanimously resolved to discuss this item in closed session due to commercial sensitivity,*

49/2023 Play Areas – Cllr Lovegrove reported a verbal estimate of £150 for the repair by a local contractor. In consideration of the low cost estimate, **the council resolved unanimously to suspend financial regulations and authorise the repair to carried out without unnecessary delay.**

50/2023 PCC Town and Parish Council Survey – The Council approved the draft response and identified three priorities for the local policing charter as speeding, inconsiderate parking and anti-social behaviour (drug use).

51/2023 Licensing Consultation – No comments

52/2023 Website Development – The Council considered quotations from three website providers licensed to host a .gov.uk domain name. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to appoint Parish Online to design an attractive and compliant website at an annual cost of £385.

53/2023 Parish Online Mapping Subscription – It was agreed that the council wished to maintain the mapping subscription but to confirm if this was included in the website cost before paying the subscription.

54/2023 Finance

54.1 Payments for approval – The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the following online payments:

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- C Higgins (July Salary) 836.68

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- HMRC (tax deductions) 80.33
- NEST Pension (Combined contributions) 63.48 (Direct debit)
- C Higgins (Expenses) 29.70
- Boyd's Groundcare (grass cutting) 108.00
- SSE (Street light electricity - account) 99.94 (Direct debit)
- Cloudy IT 77.52
- Public Works Loans Board (loan repayment) 676.39 (Direct debit)

54.2 The Council noted and approved the transfer of £30,000 from the current account to the savings account in 9th June 2023

54.3 Bank Reconciliation – The Council approved the reconciliation to the end of June.

54.4 Review of Banking Arrangements – The Council considered a report by the Clerk and **RESOLVED unanimously that the Council will open a Public Sector Deposit Account with the CCLA Public Sector Investment Fund with an initial deposit of £50,000.**

It was **resolved** that the authorising signatories to the new account shall be Cllrs P Carter, C Roberts and N Evans.

It was further agreed to review the signatories for the Lloyds accounts at the next meeting.

55/2023 Committee Membership – It was **resolved** to invite Cllr Fotheringham to join the Finance Committee but if he did not wish to join, then Cllr R Evans would be appointed.

56/2023 Review of Standing Orders – deferred pending circulation of updated document.

57/2023 Meeting dates– It was **RESOLVED** that the next meeting will be held on 6th September 2023

58/2023 Exclusion of the Press and Public – In accordance with the Public Bodies, Admission to Meetings Act (1960) it was **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public on the grounds that the following discussions may reveal confidential or commercially sensitive information.

59/2023 Staff matters – The Council noted the dates the Clerk would be unavailable due to holidays.

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Cllr Lovegrove left the meeting.

60/2023 Diocesan Land Transfer – The Council received a confidential report from the Chairman detailing an area of land offered to the Council for a peppercorn. Both parties were expected to meet their own legal fees.

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint a local land agent to prepare a formal proposal for consideration by the Council at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm