



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Longden Parish Council

Held on Wednesday 1st July 2026 at 7:30pm in Longden Village Hall

Councillors present:

Cllr. Paul Carter – Chairman	N Evans	R Evans
D Morgan	K Lovegrove	

Also present: Caroline Higgins, Clerk, one member of the public

46/2026 Apologies for Absence – Cllrs Arnold, (health), K Roberts, C Roberts and N Ingham - Noted

47/2026 Declarations of Interest – None

48/2026 Public Participation – A resident of Hook-a-Gate suggested that traffic lights be installed at the Edgbold roundabout at the A5/A488 junction as vehicles are increasingly using Hook-a-gate as a cut through from Hanwood to avoid crossing the roundabout. RE observed that the roundabout is the responsibility of National Highways who are reluctant to install lights on trunk roads. It was noted that 1500 new houses are proposed near the junction and that some safety improvements may be required. RE is meeting with highways officers to discuss the issues.

The public session was closed.

It was RESOLVED to write to National Highways to request traffic lights be installed on the roundabout.

49/2026 Minutes – Draft minute 33/2026 was corrected to show that the council returned to standing orders before resolving to write to Severn Trent. The amended minutes of the Council Meeting held on 3rd June 2026 were then unanimously APPROVED as a true record.

50/2026 Planning

50.1/2026 Planning applications – A new planning application reference 26/02283/FUL – Dog walking facility, east of Lyth Bank was deferred to the Planning Committee for consideration due to the short notice of the planning



validation. A meeting date of 29th July at 2pm was proposed for the planning committee meeting.

50.2/2026 Planning decisions – The Council noted the following planning decisions,

50.2.1 25/04895/FUL (validated: 15/01/2026)

Address: Proposed Holiday Accommodation at Lyth Hill, Shrewsbury, Shropshire

Proposal: Change of use of land for the stationing of 2 No shepherds' huts for holiday purposes

Decision: Refuse

50.3 Shropshire Council Local Plan – The draft response to the Scoping consultation was reviewed and supported by the Council. The Clerk was thanked for her work in preparing the document.

50.4 Neighbourhood Plan – The Council noted that two new members had joined the steering committee, including Cllr D Morgan and a resident of Annscroft. The next meeting was confirmed as 15th July 2026.

51/2026 Asset transfers and devolution of services - The list of resources allocated to street scene services in Longden, (currently totaling £6,385.78) was considered. It was anticipated that Shropshire Council would allocate up to two-thirds of the current budget to parish councils willing to take responsibility for the services listed. It was noted the spreadsheet contained numerous errors and was difficult to interpret due to the locations describing lengths of road rather than specific points. It was also noted that verges in some parts of the parish are usually maintained by residents.

It was RESOLVED that the council signs the Expression of Interest, on a non-binding basis and request accurate information to allow for further discussion with Shropshire Council.

52/2026 Highways

52.1/2026 20mph Longden School Zone – Despite assurances, there has been no evidence of progress on this scheme. Clerk to follow up with Shropshire Council.



52.2/2026 Longden VAS Relocation – Reliant on completion of 20mph scheme.

52.3/2026 National Grid – Cable reinforcement scheme – The Council note an updated route, with works on Plealey Lane programmed for the school holidays.

52.4/2026 Hills Ford Rally – Noted that the rally is causing concerns in Pulverbatch parish, where the organisers have arranged to meet with the parish council. This has not been offered to Longden as there are no road closures planned in the parish and the organisers refuse to publish the connecting routes to avoid giving an unfair advantage some competitors.

53/2026 Play Areas

53.1/2026 Play area maintenance – No new issues identified.

53.2/2026 Annscroft Play Area improvements –

53.1 Reallocation of funds – The allocation of CIL funding on 3rd December, (minute 112.1/25) was reviewed. It was noted that a substantial donation of £20,000 had been given to the Council for parish priorities and improvement of the play area was deemed a suitable project for the use of that donation.

It was unanimously RESOLVED to allocate the £20,000 donation for the play area improvements at Annscroft and to reduce the allocation of CIL funds to cover the remaining expenditure (totaling £3,590, including the new picnic bench). The remaining CIL to be returned to the unallocated CIL reserve.

53.2/2026 Play area installation – The Council RESOLVED to delegate supervision of the installation to the Play Area Working Group and to authorise them to agree completion and release of payment upon receipt of a satisfactory post installation inspection report.

54/2026 Streetlight Columns

54.1 Streetlight condition survey – The Council noted that seven concrete columns were beyond their design life and required replacement as soon as possible. The Council also noted that the pole light outside the village hall on School Lane was mounted on a post which is in very poor condition and likely to require replacement. It is unlikely that permission would be granted to attach a



light to a new post, so it was RESOLVED to replace the pole light with a new steel column.

54.2 It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to allocate £13,000 CIL funds and to replace seven concrete columns and one pole light with steel columns.

55/2026 Community Grants Policy – The Council reviewed the grant policy adopted in June 2024 and RESOLVED to readopt it without change.

56/2026 Finance

56.1/2026 Payments – The following payments were authorised by the Council:

Staff costs	(Confidential)	£1,197.34
Bank Charges	Lloyds Bank	£4.25
IT support & licenses	Cloudy Group Ltd	£123.54
Lease	Shropshire Council	£10.00
Streetlight testing & inspection	Highline Electrical	£999.60
Mileage/Travel	Employee	£9.30
Work from home allowance	Employee	£26.00
Refix Redhill bin	A Roberts	£75.00
Replace damaged streetlight	E.ON Energy Solutions	£1,990.44

57.2/2026 Transfer of funds – The Council RESOLVED to approve the transfer of £22,000 from CCLA to the Lloyds account to cover the cost of play area equipment upon satisfactory completion.

57.3 Bank Reconciliation – The Council approved a bank reconciliation totaling £159,061.55.

57.4/2026 Budget Monitoring Report – The Council noted expenditure during quarter 1, which was largely in line with the budget.

58/2026 Reports

58.1 Clerk's report – The Clerk's written report was noted

58.2 Shropshire Councillor's report – Cllr R Evans reported on Shropshire Council finances which continue to rely on emergency funding grants. An independent report on the disposal of the Shirehall will be considered by Cabinet



on 14th July. A Local Government Association Peer Review produced a positive report but identified further work to do.

58.3 Chair's report – Cllr Carter reported ongoing discussions with Longden church wardens to obtain permission to install a post and traffic mirrors. A letter from a planning officer confirming planning permission is not required has been requested.

He had taken part in another Speedwatch session with a local resident who had independently requested the red telephone box in Longden village be listed and restored. Openreach have agreed to undertake renovations, but the box will not be listed.

He continued working to obtain evidence to support the registration of village green in Longden Common.

58.4 Councillors' reports

58.4.1 Cllr K Lovegrove - Reported on behalf of the Village Hall Committee, which has a stable financial position due to increased use of the hall and is now able to reclaim gift aid for the last four years. They have completed the registration of the land with the Land Registry and are working towards finalisation of the updated Trust document. The Village Hall Committee is planning to extend the car park to make space available for a small construction compound to facilitate the building work at the hall. They will also take back control of an area of the neighbouring field, currently rented out for grazing, to create a contemplation area.

58.4.2 Cllr R Evans – Reported that efforts were being made by Cllr Ingham to identify ownership and responsibility for the dilapidated garages and abandoned cars behind the Long Mynd Flats.

At 9:30pm it was RESOLVED to suspend standing order 3 x) to permit the council to consider the remaining business on the agenda.

58.4.3 Cllr N Evans – Reported as a community governor for Longden CE School. The play equipment at the school has been condemned by the annual RoSPA inspection report and budget pressures will force the loss of a PE teacher, however the financial picture is improving for the next academic year. The vicar will attend the school leaving ceremony on 10th July before retiring from his post.



58.4.4 Cllr D Morgan – Reported another fly tipping incident at Lyth Hill involving garden waste and plastics. This had been reported to Shropshire Council and the local police but the police did not follow up the report.

59/2026 Date of Next Meeting –

Wednesday 2nd September 2026, 7:30pm – Full council

Wednesday 29th July 2026, 2pm – Planning Committee

60/2026 Exclusion of the press and public – In accordance with the Public Bodies, Admissions to meeting Act 1960, it was RESOLVED to exclude the press and public on the grounds the following discussion might reveal co61

61/2026 Confidential Quotations – The following quotations were approved.

61.1 Installation of wall mounted noticeboard – £75.00 A Roberts

61.2 Supply and installation of post for convex mirror, Longden Churchyard – (subject to approval by Church wardens) – £195, A Roberts

61.3 Streetlight Column Replacements x 7, (including traffic management as required) – £11,605.80 E.On Energy Solutions. It was further RESOLVED to seek a quote for an additional column to replace the pole light at School Lane and delegated authority granted to the Clerk to approve replacement subject to a comparable price.

61.4 Delegated Authority for August – The Council RESOLVED that the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, be given delegated authority in accordance with the scheme of delegation to deal with any urgent matters arising during August, when no ordinary meetings are held.

Meeting closed at 9:50pm