

LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
1930 WEDNESDAY 13th APRIL 2016 IN THE VILLAGE HALL
following Annual Parish Assembly

Present: Cllr Sophie Walters (SW) – chairman.
Cllrs David Burnfield (DB)
Cllr Ivan Gibson (IG)
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)
Cllr Rebecca Griffiths (RG)
Cllr John Milne (JM)
Cllr Selina Musters (SM)

Clerk John Musters and Borough Councillor Peter Boulton

1. **Apologies**, County Councillor Andrew Gibson, Borough Councillor Daniel Busk and Colin McIntyre (Leckford Estate).

2. **Minutes of Meeting of 16th March**. Agreed for adoption and signed.

3. **Matters Arising:**

a. **Highways**. Clerk had nothing new to report on potholes. The blocked soakaway by Ivy Cottage and the bent 30 mph limit sign on The Bunny had both been registered on the ‘Hantsweb’ system. CG had replaced the light bulb in the kiosk.

ACTION: Clerk

b. **Lengthsman**. The contract was expected to be renewed for a further year, but HCC would modify its funding, with 25% coming from the Rights of Way (ROW) budget. HCC would be looking for a return on its money, and asked that parishes place more emphasis on footpath and bridleway issues for the lengthsman. Parishes would be told in due course any aspect of footpath maintenance that the lengthsman could not tackle. Meanwhile clerk had passed to CG a link to current reported ROW issues and problems – in Longstock’s case that concerned footpath 4, identified as ‘unresolved’ from last summer.

ACTION: Clerk

c. **Roman Road field**. Chairman would speak again to the landowner’s gamekeeper to see what had emerged since their meeting in February.

ACTION: Chairman

d. **War Memorial cleaning**. Councillors having agreed last time to postpone cleaning of the memorial until the 2018 centenary, clerk had ‘stood down’ Cullens and Blackwell & Moody, who had both quoted for the work.

e. **Leckford Estate representation**. Having taken advice from TVBC, clerk confirmed that Colin McIntyre (CM) could be ‘co-opted’ onto the council, to attend meetings and take part in discussions, but not have voting rights. Councillors agreed this a sensible way forward; Chairman would inform CM.

ACTION: Chairman

4. **Correspondence.** In addition to regular e-updates from HALC we had received: (a) HCC Countryside Access Ranger's questionnaire on Rights of Way resources – passed to CG; (b) TVBC's Sustainability Scoping Report for gypsies and travellers – passed to JM; (c) SSE's renewed street lighting contract for 2016/17; (d) Government's 'Technical Consultation of Planning Changes', that had come via HALC with an unrealistic deadline for reply. HALC had replied for Hampshire councils; (e) Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's electronic questionnaire on current services and plans – answered by SM; and (f) PCSO's appeal for return of missing 'no waiting' cones!

5. **HM the Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations.** Chairman ran through the rough outline of the day (12th June): open at 1230, events to include BBQs, jazz band, cream teas, an offer from Waitrose to operate their 'café on wheels', a competition for the U12s for the 'best king and queen' and prize for best crown. CM would represent Leckford and Cllr Nadal Stockbridge. Each village would be required to provide four fit young men to put up tents etc on the Friday evening. Clerk confirmed we would be covered under our current Employer's and Public Liability insurance, provided we met certain criteria which he read out. He would draw up a risk assessment nearer the time. Much detail for the day remained to be finalized, but the event seemed to be coming together well. Maximum advance publicity would be essential.

ACTION: All

6. **Finance.** Clerk took councillors through the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) of the 2015/16 Return, each element of which they agreed in the positive. After chairman had signed Section 1, clerk explained in detail the end-of-year accounts; IG proposed and RG seconded their adoption, which was passed unanimously. SW as chairman signed Section 2 (Accounting Statements 2015/16) of the Return.

ACTION: Clerk

7. **Councillors' Reports.**

a. Affordable Housing. (DB). NTR.

b. Allotments, Cemetery, Trees. (IG). **Allotments** – (1) the documents for the renewed lease with the Diocese had been completed; chairman signed the resulting agreement between parish council and allotments committee, which would be countersigned by them. (2) DB would find out from Gus Penfound when he could tackle the required hedge/tree works. **Cemetery** – (1) the dead cherry trees had finally gone. (2) Councillors would consider a suggestion from the Garden Club whether to plant a tree in the cemetery in memory of the late Nicholas Tatton Brown.

ACTION: All

c. Footpaths and Transport. (CG). The steel 'limited access' barrier at the Danebury end of path 10 had been repaired. There was much discussion about broken finger posts on footpaths and whether they could be fixed by the lengthsman (*cf* 3b above), as well as a dangerous stile at south end of path 4.

ACTION: Cllr Grieve, Clerk

d. Test Valley School. (RG). NTR.

e. Environment. (JM). JM had discussed the ‘recycling’ site on the Leckford road with TVBC who had said that criminal proceedings would follow if the site had not been returned to green field status by August. Now however a planning application had been made this week for ‘change of use of former chalk pit to create one Romany traveller pitch with associated ancillary development’. The application would be treated on its own merits.

ACTION: Cllr Milne

f. Newsletter and Village Hall. (SM). NTR.

g. Playground and Website. (SW). The annual safety inspection of playground equipment was due in May.

8. **Planning Applications. 20 Roman Road** (convert one house into two) – still with TVBC for decision. **Poplars Farm** (erect farm manager’s house) – PC no objection. **Church Farm** (rethatch, heighten chimney, rebuild chimney breast) – TVBC permission. **St David’s Cottage** (erect summerhouse, fell trees) – TVBC permission/no objection. **Yew Tree Cottage** (replace existing rotted windows; repair and re-render cob walls) – PC no objection.

9. **Any Other Business/public comment**. SM said that the monthly lunch club had met for the first time and was an instant success, with over 20 attenders. She intended to run them on the last Thursday each month.

10. **Date of Next Meeting**. Wednesday 18th May, Annual General Meeting.

Cheques Signed:

983	Sarsen Press	Newsletter printing	£ 126.10
984	Post Office Ltd (for SSE)	Electricity supply (4 th quarter)	£ 81.29
985	SSE Contracting	Street lights maintenance (Q4)	£ 121.15
986	HALC	Affiliation fee 2016/17	£ 180.00
987	HALC	NALC levy 2016/17	£ 25.00
988	Hants Playing Fields Assn	Annual sub 2016/17	£ 40.00
989	NALC	Local Council Review sub 2016/17	£ 17.00

The Chairman closed the meeting at 2115.