

LONG ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2010 AT 7.30 pm IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, STOCKTON ROAD, LONG ITCHINGTON

Present: David Cobley (Chairman) Christopher Spencer (Vice-Chairman)
Barbara Atkins Ian Briggs Wendy Charles
Richard Jackson Adrian McNally Russell Wheatley

District & County Cllr: Robert Stevens

Parish Clerk: Sue Jack

Members of the public: 12

1. **Apologies accepted:** Cllr. Heales (holiday).
2. **Questions from members of the public:**
 - 2.1 Mr. Clark, of Shepherd Close, was concerned about a barn on adjoining farm land, believed to be let by the Coventry Diocese, which created an offensive smell and attracted rats. It was agreed to contact the Environmental Health Department of the District Council to see if there was any action that could be taken.
 - 2.2 Mr. Hobbs, who recently suffered a burglary at his property, and Mr. Guest, his neighbour, wanted to improve security at their properties, possibly by erecting electric gates and strengthening doors and windows. As their properties are within the Conservation Area it was suggested that they consult the planning department of the District Council for advice.
 - 2.3 Mr. Stilwell, of Bascote, was concerned about a retrospective planning application for Lilac Cottage, Bascote, to obtain permission for the dormer windows and third storey, which had already been constructed. He said that the house had been partly built on highway land, owned by the County Council, and access to his property for emergency vehicles or farm machinery was likely to be restricted. It was agreed that the Parish Council would support the residents in their objections to this development.
 - 2.4 Mrs. Hughes and Mr. Whittaker, of Bascote Heath, were concerned about the number of road accidents which had occurred on the C97 which passes through Bascote Heath. Councillor Stevens said that the County Council had allocated funds to investigate what could be done to improve the situation. The school buses that use the road were also a problem, driving over gardens when they pass each other. Was this route essential or could they use a different one?
 - 2.5 Mr. Nicholls and Mr. and Mrs. Field wanted the views of nearby residents to be taken into account when plans were formulated for the playing field.
 - 2.6 Mr. Clark said that he had seen an application by The Duck on the Pond to extend its opening hours on Thursdays to Saturdays. It was agreed to look into this.
3. **Declaration of interests:** none.
4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2010**

Councillor Wheatley proposed that the minutes, having been circulated to all councillors prior to this meeting, were signed as a correct record. Councillor Briggs seconded this proposal and it was agreed.
5. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Mr. Charles reported that there had been three burglaries in the village, two of which took place while the owners were at home. Two cars were stolen from one property but two of the thieves were arrested by the police after a chase. He had put posters up around the village. Councillor Wheatley said that perhaps more publicity should be given to preventative measures such as locks, alarms, gates etc. It was agreed to put an item in the next Parish Diary and possibly arrange a public meeting to discuss crime prevention.

6. Report from District/County Councillor Stevens:

- 6.1** The grant for the Parish Survey had been approved.
- 6.2** The County Council budget had been agreed but the grant from the Government had not been finalised.
- 6.3** The County Council element of the Council Tax rise had been set at 0%.
- 6.4** Household waste tips were likely to have their opening hours reduced.
- 6.5** The subsidy for bus routes is being reduced.
- 6.6** Libraries – there was to be a consultation but some would close, or possibly be offered to the community to run.
- 6.7** 10 Care Homes were to be shut in the next two years.
- 6.8** 1700 jobs were to go at the County Council, although not in schools.
- 6.9** Southam College had obtained outstanding results.
- 6.10** Long Itchington Primary School had received a “good” report from Ofsted.
- 6.11** Southam Police Station was not closing and the forensics department was moving there from Leek Wootton. It was planned to include the front desk at the one-stop shop planned for the library development .
- 6.12** The District Council budget was still to be agreed.
- 6.13** A green bin charge of £30 per annum was being proposed but he would oppose it.
- 6.14** Car parking charges were being proposed for Southam but he would oppose that as well.

7 Reports from committees:

7.1 Community Centre: Councillor Atkins reported that:

- 7.1.1** Mr. Fincham had fallen off a ladder and broken his arm but it was hoped that he would make a full recovery and still be available to act as holiday relief caretaker when Mrs. Sheasby was away.
- 7.1.2** The insulation project was expected to be completed in February.
- 7.1.3** Lease/Trust deed – discussions were ongoing.
- 7.1.4** The fee for the hire of the hall for the elections in May had been agreed at £75.
- 7.1.5** Spring Show -2nd April – a grant of £100 was agreed
- 7.1.6** The flyer distributed with the Parish Diary in November had resulted in more bookings for the Community Hall.

- 7.2 Communications:** Councillor Atkins reported on the meeting on 31st January. The Parish Council website was to be closed with a link to the Community site. The notice board system was working, with boards being kept tidy and up to date. The Parish Diary has been printed in a different colour each issue over the last year but this appears to have caused confusion and it has been decided to revert to the familiar blue colour in future.

7.3 Emergency Planning

Watermark Project: Councillors agreed to meet on Saturday 5th March at 10am at the Community Centre to take part in this exercise.
The Chairman undertook to update the Telephone Cascade.

7.4 Finance

- 7.4.1 Monthly report:** see attached.
- 7.4.2 Accounts for approval:** see attached. Councillor Atkins proposed that the accounts be approved. Councillor Charles seconded the proposal and it was agreed.
- 7.4.3 Church Clock grant:** it was agreed to make a grant of £200 towards repairs to the clock.
- 7.4.4 New Accounting System:** this was to be installed on the Clerk’s computer soon.
- 7.4.5 Direct debit:** it was agreed that this could be applied to utilities only from 1st April 2011.

7.5 Street Lighting/Highways

- 7.5.1 Faulty lights to be reported:** the light on the west side of Rhine Hill was leaning and turned around. One light at the junction of Church Road and the A423 was blinking, another was out, the light opposite The Diner was out, the bollard by the pond was leaning and the last light in Collingham Lane was very dim.

- 7.5.2 Highways Working Party Meeting 17th January 2011:** see notes attached.
- 7.5.3 HS2:** it was agreed to await the Parish Survey results and to discuss the topic at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 7.5.4 Speeding on A423:** Ufton Parish Council are using a speed gun to deter speeding vehicles. It was agreed to contact the Clerk. Councillor Wheatley asked if a letter could be sent to Parcelforce as he had witnessed their lorries speeding on several occasions.
- 7.5.5 Canal bridge by The Two Boats:** Councillor McNally reported that a hole was opening up. It was agreed to report to Mr. Byrne, County Highways.
- 7.5.6 Horsebox, Stockton Road:** complaints had been received about the condition of the horsebox and the surrounding area. The police had said it was legally parked so it was agreed to ask the District Council if they had any powers to clean up the area.
- 7.6 Playing Fields/Open Spaces**
- 7.6.1 LILAC Project/car park:** Councillor Wheatley said that only four people had attended the meeting on 19th January. Mike Brown had applied for planning permission for the drainage work, the car park and the storage container. Christopher Purser had been offered some trees for the playing field and it was agreed to pay for them at a cost of £33.84. The Beer Festival might be an opportunity for fund raising. The group needed a Child Protection policy in place to enable it to apply for further grants. The adjoining field was up for sale and it was agreed to find out the price.
- 7.6.2 Open Spaces Working Party Meeting 17th January 2011:** see notes attached.
- 7.6.3 Mower for Green End:** the mower was being repaired. Mr. Hudson had a mower which might be useful.
- 7.6.4 Grasscutting/gangmowing - 2011 season:** quotes for next season had been received from the current contractors, M.P. Garden Services and Mr. Mann and it was agreed to accept the quotes (details in attached notes).
- 7.6.5 Signs to prevent parking on green:** two signs had been ordered.
- 7.6.6 Footpaths:** no money was available from the County Council so it was suggested that volunteers could be recruited at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 7.6.7 Golf Practice at Green End Field:** A note would be put in the Diary banning this activity.
- 7.6.8 Land North of Green End Fields for Sale:** The Chairman will obtain details.
- 7.7 Planning**
- 7.7.1 Monthly report** – see attached.
- 7.7.2 Cemex:** problems with ice/mud on road. Councillor Spencer had attended a meeting with Mr. Southcott, of Cemex, and he had confirmed that the company would be sweeping the road twice a week, changing the water in the wheel washing machine more often and making sure that all lorries used it. The pavement would also be looked at and cleaned.
- 7.7.3 Housing:** the Stockton Road development was on hold at present until a dispute with the County Council over the educational contribution was settled. A similar situation at Stockton was being decided this month and would set a precedent for other projects.
- 7.7.4 Enforcement matters:** it was agreed to ask for an update about the Marton Road camp site.
- 7.7.5 Stratford Planning Meeting 2nd February:** no items.
- 7.7.6 Planning Rota:**
Feb – Spencer and Wheatley March – Atkins and Charles
- 8. Meetings attended/forthcoming meetings**
- 8.1 CCMC 23rd February 2011**
- 8.2 WALC Briefing Seminar Saturday 5th March 9.15 – 3.30pm at Myton School**
- 8.3 Parish Council Induction day Saturday 9th April at Leek Wootton Village Hall –**
Councillor Wheatley to attend.
- 8.4 Gypsies and Travellers, Radcliffe Conference Centre, Warks Univ. 11/3/11 12 to 4pm:**
- Councillor Wheatley to attend.
- 9. Correspondence for circulation**
- 9.1 British Legion - Poppy Party**
- 9.2 Warks. Rural Housing Annual Report**

10. Other Items

10.1 Parish survey: Councillor Atkins reported that the survey was going well.

10.2 Annual Parish Meeting: it was agreed to invite the police. Jeremy Atkins would present the results of the survey. Other possible topics are LILAC and Housing.

10.3 Annual Parish Dinner: a guest list was agreed.

10.4 2011 Beer Festival: Councillor Spencer had attended a meeting with the organisers and they were keen to involve local groups, particularly with activities for children. They had also suggested a fair on the green but this was likely to cause objections from nearby residents and could cause damage to the green. Charlotte Griffin had asked if she could set up a stall on the green to raise money for local groups and this was thought to be a better proposal.

10.5 Venue for 4th May PC meeting to be agreed: the hall was required for a W.I. meeting and it was agreed to hire a classroom for this meeting.

11. Date of meetings all at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre, Stockton Road.

2nd March 2011

6th April 2011

4th May 2011

1st June 2011

6th July 2011

7th September 2011

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.40 p.m.

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

Finance Report – to be added

Highways Working Party meeting 17th January 2011 – notes

Present: Cllrs. Briggs and Wheatley and the Clerk

Apologies: Cllrs. Heales, Jackson and McNally

- 1. Pot hole survey to be updated in March/April** – Cllrs. Briggs and Cobley.
- 2. The verge and road opposite the pub** - low priority according to Mr. Byrne. Possibly remove tree to create a lay-by? Mrs. Whitehead has no objection. Clerk to contact Mr. Burrows, WCC.
- 3. Cement dust on A423/ice on road** – reported to Mr. Byrne – meeting to be arranged with Ian Southcott.
- 4. Speed reduction at Bascote Heath** – residents have reported several accidents over Christmas. Parish Council to ask for a speed reduction? Grit bin has reappeared.
- 5. Model Village** – a complaint has been received about the state of the pavement and tree roots which are breaking it up. Tree to be inspected.

Already reported:

- 1. Gulleys** – Wulfstan Drive and triangle by Buck and Bell – drains sinking – reported to Mr. Byrne.
- 2. “Gate” sign, Stonebridge Lane** is missing – reported to Mr. Byrne.

3. New Highways signs:

Height restriction signs needed for bridge at Snowford Hill near pond and weight limit on river bridge, Leamington Road and at the Fosse end of the road – requested from WCC. Informed that there is a backlog of requests and will be looked at as soon as possible. Clerk to chase.

4. New name signs:

“The Green” - the Clerk had requested a sign for the green by the notice board in Church Road. Clerk to chase.

5. Verge at Stockton Rd on left of Community Centre exit –Mrs. Fincham has been asked to trim.

6. The “Stratford District” sign is off its posts on A423 – reported to SDC.

7. Kenning Close name sign – damage reported to SDC.

Streetlights

1. Meeting with WCC - WCC have inspected and would be willing to take over the newer lights. A meeting was held with Mike Cunningham, WCC. He is to discuss taking over eligible lights with his manager.

2. Light at Thorn Way – was made safe by E.ON and a new light has been ordered. Clerk has made a claim for reimbursement.

3. PL5 Galanos – resident had requested a shield to prevent light shining in his house – now adopted. Clerk to check options. The light was out – Clerk to report.

4. Leamington Rd – E.ON to inspect.

Open Spaces Working Party meeting 17th January 2011 – notes

Present: Cllrs Briggs and Wheatley, Mr. Purser and Mr. Round and the Clerk

Apologies: Cllrs. Heales and McNally

- 1. Car park, Marton Rd** – stone needed. Planning permission to be applied for by PC.
- 2. Mower repairs/replacement** – Chairman has authorised repairs to mower amounting to £465 (less £100 due to no claim for pitch maintenance in Dec/Jan - already paid for Dec)
PC needs to take an overview of use of playing field in future. Costs for level of use etc. need to be justified.
- 3. Tenders for grasscutting/gangmowing** – M.P. Garden Services had tendered £307.50 per visit on a fortnightly basis from March – October (2010 - £300). Mr. Mann had tendered £37 per mow for a maximum of 22 cuts between March and October for the playing field and £52 per mow for the new field based on 7 cuts April to October (2010 - £36 and £51). It was agreed to recommend Acceptance of the tenders to the Parish Council on 2nd February.
- 4. LILAC/car park, Marton Road** – the next meeting was on Wednesday 19th January. Planning permission was needed for the drainage work, the car park and the storage container and would need to be in the Council's name.
- 5. Christmas Tree lights/tree etc** – put up earlier next year (Tree Festival?) Thank you letters have been sent to Mrs. Reeve and Mr. Lazell.
- 6. Noticeboard for Leigh Crescent** – request from residents. Clerk to investigate the possibility of a grant to pay for the board.
- 7. Bus shelter guttering needs repair** - it was agreed that the guttering was not necessary and the remaining sections could be removed. Mrs. Fincham has been asked.
- 8. Memorial seats** – it was agreed to place the seat in front of the Marsh House. Clerk has contacted Wendy Hawke about the location. Site meeting required to finalise position.
- 9. 73 Leigh Crescent** – roses etc. hanging over path and around street light – to be cut back. Mr. Shinnars had written to say he would do it but a further complaint had been received.
- 10. Pond overflow** – PC is responsible for repairs. Mr. Byrne had confirmed that a Section 50 Street Works Licence would be required if a connection was to be made to the main. He was happy to meet on site with plans to discuss the exact location of the mains. Clerk to arrange meeting. New flotation cubes(11) needed.
- 11. Tollgate Cottage** – Ian Field – trees are hanging over garden/fence being damaged. MAC to remove.
- 12. Practice goal** - for playing field - Mr. Ward and Mr. Pails have installed it. Clerk to claim grant.
- 13. Beechcroft** – Cllr. Spencer had met Ms. Holdsworth of Orbit, Heart of England re Garden/verge along the front of the wall – Orbit do not own it but are willing to plant it up and hand over to LIPC for future maintenance. Mr. Purser has suggested Cotoneaster horizontalis. Mrs. Fincham to be asked to tidy the area in March before planting.
- 14. “No parking” signs for Green x2** – Clerk has ordered.

Information/updates on existing jobs

1. Marton Road - Sign "Gate this way". T & J to put up.

2. Footpaths

Footpath along side of cemetery needs strimming – Clerk has asked Mrs. Fincham.

3. Play area repairs. Site visits would be useful for new councillors.

Leigh Crescent

Safety surface under swings needs repair

SDC asked to replace fence.

EA informed of smell

Springer to be replaced - T & J to be asked (DW has springer) Allan key needed – star shaped with a centre hole – Mick Pails has it. Clerk to chase up.

Short Lane Play area

Replacement of "springers" - Grant may not be available – PC to pay if not.

Fence around green needs inspecting - T & J

Problem with footballs. Re-design green area? – Clerk to contact garden designer.

Fence along road side needs posts screwing in – T & J to be asked.

Green End

Slide to be checked/wood needed – SJ to contact supplier.

Tractor – the Young Farmers had offered to paint it.

Mole problem – Contractor informed.

4. Bins

4.1 Chater's Orchard – clips obtained to attach bin to pole.

4.2 Play area, Green End – bin missing – replace?

5. Trees

5.1 Trees at New field – need clearing between them. Mrs. Fincham to strim.

5.2 Tree by Church/Manor Farm – branch needs lopping.

5.3 Elm trees available – SDC/Warks. College may plant – possibly in new field

PLANNING REPORT February 2011

10/02488/ADV Charles Wells Ltd, The Duck on the Pond, The Green, Long Itchington

New signs

Objection due to signs not being in keeping with the Conservation Area. The signs on either side of the entrance would detract from the overall appearance of the area. Also objection to any form of illumination other than on the building.

Applicant offered to remove signs on either side of the entrance if the Parish Council removed its objection. This was agreed and notified to Stratford District Council on 26th January 2011.

10/02775/FUL Mr. J. Barnes, 3 Willow Grove, Marton Road, Long Itchington

Single storey rear extension to form garden room

Response by 8th February 2011

11/00049/TREE Long Itchington Parish Council

Tree works at Greens in accordance with tree survey.

Response by 8th February 2011

SDC/10CM023 Cemex UK Ltd, Southam Quarry, Long Itchington

To complete the restoration of Cell 3 at Southam Quarry with waste from Parkfield Road, Rugby. Approved 18th January 2011 by Regulatory Committee of County Council.

11/00053/FUL Mr. & Mrs. Purser, Pear Tree Cottage, The Green, Long Itchington

Single storey rear extension

Response by 10th February 2011

11/00064/FUL Miss G. Paige, Lilac Cottage, Bascote

Amendment to approved scheme 09/01034/FUL to insert three dormer windows to the front roof slope.

Response by 11th February 2011

09/00873/OUT Dallas Burston Polo Grounds, Stoneythorpe

An amendment to relocate the farmhouse and barns on the western side of the site from a position adjacent to Ufton Wood to a position adjacent to the proposed Indoor Area and stable blocks.

Response by 10th February 2011