

LONGSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 23rd June 2011 in Longstowe Village Hall

Present: Cllr Zoe Burton – Chairman
Cllr William Bevan.
Cllr Peter Hemmins
Cllr Geoff Hemmins

Also present: County and District Cllrs Bridget Smith and Sebastian Kindersley plus 4 residents

Dick Murden drew attention to several issues as follows:

- a) A skip was available in the village hall car park to dispose of the 2 old wheelie bins but help was required to lift them – WB to assist
- b) The notice board outside the village hall had been vandalised again – See report below
- c) Hedge needs cutting along from the notice board – WB to action
- d) Trees overhanging pathway outside 30 Great North Road – Clerk to write to owners

- 12 An Apology FOR ABSENCE was received from Cllr Alan Waldron (work commitments).
- 13 The MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING were agreed and signed.
- 14 MATTERS ARISING/TO REPORT FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES
The 40mph sign in the High Street still had not been replaced –
The Clerk to chase
- 15 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on the agenda – none were received.
- 16 The Chairman welcomed Chris Maitland, Chairman of the SCDC Disability Forum, to report on the services of the forum. He gave a brief background to the forum and their aim to focus on disability issues across all services provided to tenants and leaseholders in the district. He provided a summary, with contact details, to be distributed in the village and published in 'Skylark' and on the web site.
- 17 FINANCE
 - a) The Clerk reported an alteration the Accounts and Annual Return that had been approved by the Chairman to meet the audit deadline of 6th June 2011. The Play equipment purchase value of £28,820

had been added to the asset register. The Council approved the revision.

- b) A request for a donation from Royston & District Community Transport was not approved as the Council does not have a grant aid budget
- c) The following cheques were signed:
 - i) Suffolk ACRE - £373.56 for additional insurance cover for the play equipment.

18 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

None received

19 TO CONSIDER OTHER MATTERS

a) Further to Minute 6a (19th July 2011), the Clerk reported that the advice from Cambs ACRE had indicated that the Play Equipment is currently owned by the Parish Council. On that basis the purchase value had been added to the asset register and insurance extended to include the equipment and public liability cover. It was noted that the terms of the grant agreement does not allow the Parish Council to "assign or otherwise transfer any of its rights and obligations or sub contract performance of its obligations without prior agreement of the County Council". Mandy Holland, the Village Hall Chairman, was present and it was agreed that the best option was for future ownership, insurance and maintenance to remain with the Parish Council but that the Village Hall be requested to appoint a sub-committee to maintain the Play Area on their behalf. Mandy also suggested that the Village Hall should make a contribution towards insurance and maintenance costs to avoid the burden falling on residents of Longstowe. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Village Hall Committee with a proposal including a detailed breakdown of insurance costs.

b) Further to Minute 8 (19th May 2011), the Chairman welcomed Sally McCall, the new Editor of 'Skylark', and thanked her for taking over the position. Sally then reported on new costings for the printing of 'Skylark' and circulated a sample of the new format to Councillors. The normal 8 page edition would cost £20 with a 12 page edition costing £30, the printers, Victoirpress, would invoice the Parish Council directly. Members approved the new format and it was agreed to create a regular agenda item to consider any future editorial issues.

c) The Clerk reported that the notice board outside the Village Hall had been vandalised. It had been reported to the police and an insurance claim instigated.

20 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

a) Further to Minute 4 (19th May 2011), the Clerk reported an offer from SCDC to participate in a Speed Sticker initiative. The District Council will fund 120 stickers to be distributed by the Parish Council as they wish. The Council approved the Clerk to order 120 stickers under the scheme.

b) CCC – Consultation on the proposed street lighting changes as a result of the PFI.

c) CCC – A & B Speed Limit Review – Letter confirming decisions made by Area Joint Committee together with a guide to new speed limit policy (copy circulated)

For information only – details available from Clerk

Parish Monthly update – Information to assist Parish Councils to plan their involvement in plan-making (already circulated by email)

- SCDC – Weekly bulletins May/June 2011
- LDF – Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Housing Market Partnership – update
 - LDF – Parish Council Briefing Session (circulated by email)
 - Review of Planning Services at SCDC – draft report inviting comments.
 - Standards Committee Agenda – 08/06/11
 - Standards Committee – nominations for new Parish Council Member.
 - Tree Council Grants Available (Big Tree Pack available)
 - Community Pride and Village Hero Awards
 - The Rampton Drift Retrofit Project – Launch Day 25/06/11
- CCC - Community Connect - Update
- Update on grass cutting Rights of Way – change of dates
- Cambs ACRE - News Digest May 2011
- Copy of Community Action – Summer 2011
- NALC - Conference and Exhibition 22/09/11 - London
- Rural Services Network – News Digest May/June 2011
- Public Services Efficiency Weekly News – June 2011
- The Journal of Local planning – Neighbourhood Planning
- Cambs Police – Notification of web site information on crime and anti social behaviour – www.police.uk
- Notification of cycle road race to be held on 3rd July 2011 affecting Longstowe

21 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

The parish Council report from Cllr Sebastian Kindersley for June had been circulated. In addition he and Cllr Bridget Smith also drew attention to:

- a) New Speed Limit Policy (already circulated)
- b) Police Panel Meeting – 14/07/11 – important Parish Councils attend.
- c) Guided Bus to open 07/07/11 – two and a half years late.
- d) Secondary School in Cambourne – Capital funding approved.
- e) Reorganisation of SCDC Cabinet – Two new portfolios created.(Environment & Sustainability, Planning and Climate Change)
- f) New Chief Constable – Simon Parr
- g) Loss of dedicated helicopter – now sharing with other counties.
- h) Planning – move to ease restrictions on commercial>residential – object.
- i) Gamlingay Councillor brought before Standards Committee – suspended for 4 months.
- j) Possible closure of Gamlingay Fire Station dropped to bottom of list.

23rd June 2011

Cllr G Hemmins reported trees overhanging path outside 20 Great North Road – Clerk to write to owners.

The Chairman reported that the central post/light of the traffic island at the south end of the village was down – Clerk to report.

It was also reported that the ‘Longstowe’ village sign at the beginning of School Lane had been stolen. Clerk to report.

22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING- Thursday 21st July 2011

Signed by Date
Chairperson