

16th January 2014

LONGSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 16th January 2014 at 7.15pm
in Longstowe Village Hall

Present: Cllr Barbara Cooper (Chairperson)
Cllr Will Bevan
Cllr Geoff Hemmins
Cllr Ben Holland
Cllr David Rolls
Bobbie Coe – Clerk

Also present: Cllr B Smith, Cllr S Kindersley, Mr W Slater, Mr R Murden

1. It was reported that, again, one Whippet coach service did not arrive and a member of the Parish was unable to get to work that day.

2. Mr W Slater resigned from his position of looking after the Longstowe bus shelters. He was sincerely thanked for his work and for the care he has taken over the years.

3. Flooding was reported on the road by St John's Farm. The pipes connecting the gullies seem to be blocked along with entry to the brook; it would appear that it needs clearing out. Cllr G Hemmins offered to meet with Council workmen.

4. It was reported that bushes overhanging the Longstowe sign near the Red House need cutting back.

5. It was reported that the bus shelter on the B1046 needs some new boards and re-felting.

6. It was reported that the new work at Middle Farm gateway is already breaking up.

79 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
PCSO Karen Mahoney 7238

80 THE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
Minutes of 12th December 2013 were agreed and signed.

81 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS
Cllr B Smith reported: 1. SCDC will now charge the commercial bin collection fee for the Village Hall bins. 2. The Children's Centre has a 22% cut in funding, for Bassinbourn and St. Neots it is more like 50%. 3. The Homeless shelters are closing. 4. SCDC Community Chest grants are underspent and some grants of £1500 are now available. 5. Central Beds: the Potton travellers' site increasing to almost double the current size as the other proposed site has been refused. 6. CAB: bad debts are not being helped post public cuts. 7. Buses: suggested 18 and 18A bus changes causing problems for school children at Comberton.

Cllr S Kindersley: 1. Reporting on the proposed new Cambridge bus schedule of one bus in each direction Monday to Saturday; all other journeys to be by dial-a-ride, modelled on Suffolk, the cost being the same as the current bus fare, including concessionary fares. C2 to St Neots market is not affected. 2. SCDC council tax will be raised by 1.99%. £75m savings have been made

16th January 2014

with a further £145m yet to be made; this is alongside a 20.9% reduction in Government funding this year.

82 MATTERS ARISING/TO REPORT FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- a) Longstowe speed limits: Cllr W Bevan to attend the Local Highway improvements meeting at 4pm on 21st January.
- b) Visibility at the Fox junction following the installation of the olive-green box for telecommunications: still waiting for a report. This may be helpful to the speed limit application.
- c) Parish Paths Partnership Scheme: Cllr B Cooper to report later in the new year. An application for maps of our footpaths was discussed.

83 MEMBERS' DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA
None received.

84 FINANCE

- a) Longstowe Budget/Precept 2014/15 of £4,000 submitted to SCDC.
- b) Monies other than the Precept should be paid into the savings account.
- c) A new internal auditor is required.
- d) CCC: Street lighting energy bills: change to invoice date and based on actual usage.

85 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
None received

86 TO CONSIDER OTHER MATTERS
Village Hall: an exhibition and open meeting will be held on Saturday 8 March at 2pm; leaflets will be delivered in the village.

87 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED
A list of correspondence received is printed in the Agenda which is placed on the notice boards prior to the Parish Council meeting and details are available from the Clerk.

88 SKYLARK – TO CONSIDER ANY EDITORIAL ISSUES
It was suggested that some people might prefer to receive the Skylark by e-mail; Cllrs to consider sending a letter requesting feedback.

89 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Thursday 20th February 2014 at 7.15pm

Signed by:.....
Chairperson

Date: