

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th September 2021 at 7.30pm at Longford Village Hall

1. Attendance noted as

Cllrs K Doherty (Chair), J. Ford, L. Gough (Vice-Chair), M. Wallace, C, Byers (item 6 onwards)

Also present: J. Shirley (Clerk), Borough Councillor Bocking, County Councillor Awford

Members of public present: Four

Apologies: Borough Councillor Okleton

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None.

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 6th July 2021

Council resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6th July 2021.

4. Review outstanding actions from previous meeting

Clerk updated the meeting on contacting the school regarding the Sivell Close wildflower memorial garden and the clerk is investigating rabbit proof fencing and available grants.

5. Co-option (5 vacancies)

There was one application to fill councillor vacancies by Co-option (of 5 vacancies). Cllr Doherty proposed co-opting Chris Byers, seconded by Cllr Ford, all in favour. Cllr Byers joined the meeting.

6. Presentation of awards to Allotment Competition winners

Cllr Doherty presented the Allotment Competition cup to Mr Moulder winner of 2021 best kept allotment, and congratulated Mr Stevens on the runner up prize.

To receive a report from County Councillor.

Cllr Awford gave an update on County Council matters including Highways matters. Potholes on A38 have been marked several times for filling but no timescale for resolution, it is likely traffic management will be required; Cllr Awford will continue to make enquiries as to when the works will commence. There is a push to use more natural ways of slowing the flow of flood waters eg tree planting, there is ongoing work in this area. Cllr Doherty and Cllr Gough enquired about what Highways are doing about the many potholes county-wide; Cllr Awford expects this to be debated at the Overview & Scrutiny Meeting later this week.

To receive a report from the Borough Councillors.

Cllr Bocking ran through the main points of his report that was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Bocking has enquired about the allocation of another Borough Councillor to the ward given the growth of the ward; this is determined by the Local Government Boundary Commission. Tewkesbury Borough Council has successfully prosecuted for unauthorised development in Green Belt.

Members of the Public were invited to address the meeting; a resident noted that the warning signs for road damage on Tewkesbury Road are blocking the view of cars coming out of Lewis Avenue junction. Cllr Gough will arrange for the signs to be moved.

Cllr Gough raised an issue with temporary traffics lights not being removed until several days after the works had completed. Cllr Awford agreed this was an issue and this relates to the works undertaken by utilities companies; this will be raised at the County Council Overview & Scrutiny meeting.

Cllr Doherty asked a question about general litter picking; Cllr Bocking explained that there was no regular litter picking except by volunteers. However, the street cleansing team can attend one-off major clean-ups. Cllr Bocking and Cllr Awford requested that Cllr Doherty email details to them

both; Cllr Bocking will enquire of Environmental Health whether a camera can be installed in a location where there is frequent anti-social behaviour.

7. Finance / Procedures

- 7.1. Council approved the bank reconciliation and budget versus spend reports for July 2021. Proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Ford, all in favour.
- 7.2. Council approved the payment of expenses for Clerk (£138.12). Proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Gough, all in favour.
- 7.3. Council considered the disposal of an old laptop that had been purchased using grant monies for councillor to manage the website. It was agreed to perform a factory reset deleting all the data and donate the laptop for use by a child that may not have access to IT.
- 7.4. Council considered a resident request to purchase a small area of the allotment site; the Council was opposed to the sale of part of the allotment land, proposed by Cllr Gough, seconded by Cllr Wallace, all in favour.
- 7.5. Council considered finance and allotment management software options, Cllr Doherty proposed starting with allotment management software and include an amount for the allotment and finance software in the budget for 2022/23; seconded by Cllr Ford, all in favour. **Action: Clerk**
- 7.6. Council considered the large walnut tree at the allotments and agreed to reduce the size of the tree at a cost of £150+VAT. **Action: Clerk.**
- 7.7. Council resolved to contribute £250 to Gloucestershire Policy for the bike marking event, proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Gough, Cllr Wallace abstained, all in favour. **Action: Clerk.**
- 7.8. Council resolved to apply appropriate herbicide to the playing field as requested by the football club at a cost of £384+VAT. Cllr Doherty proposed accepting the quote and see if the Football Club will contribute, seconded by Cllr Ford, all in favour. **Action: Clerk.**
- 7.9. Council approved the accounts for payment, proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Ford, all in favour:

Invoice Date	Payee	Net	VAT	Gross	Budget
06/09/21	Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils	£100.00	£0	£100.00	Training
05/09/21	Complete Weed Control (North Wessex) Ltd	£350.00	£70.00	£420.00	Maintenance
31/08/21	Glebe Contractors - August	£393.14	£78.63	£471.77	P&OS
31/08/21	Salaries & Expenses	£594.11	£0	£594.11	Admin
23/08/21	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00	P&OS
13/08/21	Venables Pest Control	£60.00	£0	£60.00	P&OS
30/07/21	Glebe Contractors - July	£393.14	£78.63	£471.77	P&OS
16/07/21	Karen Doherty – reimbursement	£25.45	£0	£25.45	Allotments
				£2215.10	

8. Parks and Open Spaces

- 8.1. Council received the annual play inspection safety report and authorised the clerk to arrange repairs as required with the exception of any unusually expensive items which should be brought back to Council for review, proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded Cllr Ford, all in favour. **Action: Clerk.**
- 8.2. Council noted that an order has been placed for a new swing seat and new cradle swing seat at a cost of £346+VAT.
- 8.3. Council considered a request for a circus in 2022; the Council requested additional information such as types of circus act etc. **Action: Clerk.**

9. To note arrangements for community events with Longford Village Hall

- Bike Marking – Saturday 28th August

- Glider / World War talk – Saturday 20th November 2.30pm. Council to provide the speaker, cakes, Village Hall provide the tea and coffee and use of hall.
- Car boot - 18th September 2021
- Village fete on Jubilee weekend 2022.
- First Aid – still to be arranged, council reviewed the options researched last year and deferred until the clerk can find out some more costs. **Action: Clerk.**

10. Council considered the following planning applications:

Date received	App Ref	Address	Details	Longford PC Comments
23/07/2021	21/00781/FUL	86 & 88 Tewkesbury Road, Longford	Erection of two storey rear extensions	Object on concerns of flooding
23/08/2021	21/00821/APP	Land North Of Innsworth Lane, Innsworth	Erection of 144 dwellings on Parcel 6	Object

Application for 21/00976/OUT up to 160 dwellings off Brook Lane, Twigworth to be included on next meeting agenda.

Cllr Gough left the meeting.

11. Council discussed the recent meeting with Highways and requests for double yellow lines in other areas of Longford. Cllr Awford will follow up with Highways and look for positive solutions. Cllr Awford will also find out about the resurfacing of Longford Lane that was possibly to be done by the developer.

12. Council agreed to support the 20s is Plenty policy initiative for residential streets to be 20mph zones.

Cllr Awford left the meeting.

13. To receive reports for information:

- Allotments – 1 plot available and 2 on the waiting list, 3 tenants evicted for non-cultivation and re-let. Council may need to arrange for rubbish to be removed from one uncultivated plot. The allotment competition took place in July. The farmer's field adjacent to the allotments is for sale. The field is supplied by mains water via a sub-meter in the allotments which is difficult for the Clerk to read due its location under the ground. **Action: Clerk to investigate solutions.**
- Finance – no new update; Clerk and Cllr Ford to arrange a date to check the accounts.
- Personnel – no new update.
- Play Park & Playing Field – no new update.
- Village Hall Working Group – Village Hall requested a clarification of the wording in the deeds regarding the car park ownership due to the high water rates of the surface water drainage; it was confirmed that the car park is the responsibility of the village hall and the Clerk offered to contact a solicitor to review the deeds, the village hall were content with the clarification. The village hall also requested confirmation that the Council were in agreement with the village hall improvement plans including the extension onto the car park, this was agreed by Council at the April 2021 meeting.

Next meeting Tuesday 5th October 2021 at the village hall.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.