



LIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on
Wednesday 7th December 2022 at 7pm in the Village Hall

Present: Councillors Aftelak, Bunney, Lomax (Chair), Murphy and Wilson.

Also Present: Laura Evans (Clerk), Ward Cllr G Sumner

1. APOLOGIES

Resolved: To approve Cllr Hyatt's reason for absence (unavailable). Cllr Lomax proposed that permission be granted to Cllr Hyatt for a leave of absence which will be reviewed in Spring. The proposal was unanimously agreed.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Murphy declared an interest as the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: The Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 2nd November 2022 were approved and signed as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING (10 MINUTES)

Clay Pigeon Shoot- Cllr Aftelak contacted the Rights of Way Officer at SBC who has concerns over the shoot taking place so near public footpaths and a play park. The contact details for the shooting club were passed to the Officer at SBC, no response has yet been received. Cllr Aftelak to chase the Rights of Way Officer.

Action-Cllr Aftelak

It has been noted that a sign has now been placed, with a hooter attached, on entrance to the footpath, requesting any walkers to sound the horn so shooting can cease.

Churchyard Gate- Clerk to write to the remaining volunteers who helped with the fixing of the gate.

Action-Clerk

Trees- Cllr Murphy had consulted with residents in Spinney Close with regards to a Memorial Tree being planted. All the residents were happy with this idea. Cllr Lomax to consult with the Contractor regarding the best type of tree for the area.

Action-Cllr Lomax

The meeting noted that the fallen tree, from within a property boundary, on Joel Joffe way had still not been removed by the landowner. The Clerk has already provided the Rights Of Way Officer at SBC with an update and is awaiting a response.

5. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT (10 MINUTE)

No Ward Councillor's report was given.

6. PUBLIC SESSION (15 MINUTES)

As no members of the public were in attendance or had made representations, the Parish Council continued with the meeting.

Cllr Bunney expressed concerns over The Village Inn pub closing. The meeting noted that it was sad to see the pub close. The meeting agreed that Cllr Bunney write to Arkell's Brewery expressing that the Village does not want to lose the pub and that LPC see the pub as an asset to local residents.

Action-Cllr Bunney

7. PLANNING MATTERS (10 MINUTES)

(a) To consider any planning applications:

Application: S/HOU/22/1634 & S/LBC/22/1635 (14th December 2022)

Location: The Old Rectory, Church Road Liddington, SN4 0HB

Proposal: Erection of greenhouse within new walled garden, creation of sunken garden and creation formal gardens within existing garden and the removal of 2no. trees.

Resolved: Liddington Parish Council have no objections to this proposal.

(b) To note any decisions:

Application: S/22/1249/LZWI

Location: Rhodes Farm House, The Street Liddington, SN4 0HD

Proposal: Change of use of part of outbuilding to staff accommodation (use class C3) – Granted

Cllr Wilson raised concerns that work no further works have been carried out on The Lodge, despite the planning application being granted well over four years ago. The site is becoming an eyesore. Cllr Wilson to forward the details of the planning application and the Clerk to raise the concern with planning. **Action-Clerk**

8. FINANCE (10 MINUTES)

(a) To approve payment of the following invoices:

Resolved: Cllr Wilson proposed approval of the invoices, standing order, recurring payment and ratification of the payments made between meetings. Cllr Bunney seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed.

- HMRC- Tax Month 8- £31.20
- Chairs Allowance- £75.00
- Clerks Expenses- McAfee & Printer Paper- £20.16
- Members Expenses- Graffiti Remover- £13.00
- Auditing Solutions Ltd- £198.00
- Liddington Village Hall - £24.00

(b) To approve payment of the following Standing Orders:

- Adams & Watt – Annual grass cutting contract – December instalment- £604.87

(c) To approve the following Direct Debits:

- Three Mobile phone bill - £3.00

(d) To approve payment of the following recurring payments

- Unlimited webhosting – (18/11/2022- 17/12/2022) - £4.79

(e) To ratify payments made between meetings

- Salary November- £201.40

(f) To receive the monthly account reconciliation

Resolved: The meeting noted that the accounts were in good order.

Cllr Bunney raised the question regarding his expenses as two cans of graffiti remover were purchased. The Clerk explained that only one can was shown on the receipt and for audit purposes the other receipt must be provided for the payment to be made. If the other receipt can be provided then the expense will be ratified.

9. REVIEW OF IRPP FOR PARISH COUNCIL ALLOWANCES 2023-24 (5 MINUTES)

To consider the recommendation received from Swindon Borough Council.

Resolved: The Councillors stated and agreed that they did not wish to receive the allowances and the situation should continue as currently in place.

10. DRAFT BUDGET 2023-2024 (10 MINUTES)

To review the draft budget proposal for April 2023 – March 2024- The draft figures were discussed, and the draft budget shall be approved at the January meeting.

- Annual Walkaround quotation – The meeting agreed to the quotation provided for the additional areas of work identified on the annual Walkaround. The moss removal being a priority due to the recent weather conditions making this even more hazardous.
The meeting agreed to accept the Grounds Maintenance Contract costs for 2023-24.

11. LYDEN MAGAZINE

To discuss the draft response- Cllr Wilson circulated to all Councillors, prior to the meeting, the draft response to the request for a contribution for the article published in Lyden Magazine. The response was discussed, and a slight amendment was made to the draft response. The meeting agreed for the Clerk to submit the response.

Action-Clerk

12. VILLAGE MATTERS (15 MINUTES)

- a) Anti-Social Behaviour- Unfortunately and understandably, due to the recent incident in Swindon, all Police resources were needed elsewhere meaning the PCSOs could not attend. An update was received via email with recent activities in Liddington, which were;
- 1 Burglary
 - 1 arrest for drink drive offences.
 - 2 criminal damage
- Other matters including domestic abuse related incidents etc.

b) Liddington Clump and Castle- A response has been received from one of the Landowners, who wishes to be notified when work commences due to access issues. The other Landowner has not responded to the requests sent by Cllr Aftelak, so the meeting agreed that as the viewing platform will be the biggest cost that it was best to proceed and submit the funding application for the viewing platform and remove The Clump from the application. **Action-Cllr Aftelak**

c) Winter detritus- Cllr Lomax spoke to the head of tree maintenance at SBC and confirmation was given that the trees and hedges are on an annual cut. As for the collapsing bank and moss on the paths, this is the responsibility of the Highways team at SBC. Photographs have been sent and Cllr Lomax is awaiting a response.

12. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (10 MINUTES)

Councillors who have attended meetings on behalf of the Parish Council or who are responsible for local schemes, amenities and projects will have the opportunity to provide an update on progress made.

Allotments (LH) – No update provided

Playing Field (CB) - Cllr Bunney confirmed that the fortnightly safety inspections had been carried out on 17th November 2022. There has been no more graffiti and it appears that dog fouling has improved in the Parish.

Village Hall Committee (JM) – Cllr Murphy was unable to attend the last meeting held.

Town Advisory Engagement Group (GW) – The next meeting is being held on 16th December. Cllr Wilson will give an update at the January meeting.

Swindon Local Council Forum (DL & GW) – No progress has been made on the draft Charter.

Parish Chairs/Clerks Engagement Meeting (DL) - Meeting being held in December, update will be provided at January's meeting.

NEV Meeting (DL)

13. PARISH MAGAZINE (5 MINUTES)

The meeting agreed to put the following into the Parish Magazine

- Parish Councillors Allowances
- Liddington Viewing Platform
- Effectiveness of the new Speed Indicator Device
- The Village Inn

14. CORRESPONDENCE

The meeting noted that no correspondence had been received.

15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/FUTURE AGENDA

No items were raised for information or future agenda items.

The meeting closed at 8:58pm

Signed.....Date.....