

**LONG ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
7.30pm 19th March 2018, Jubilee Pavilion**

Present:- Chairman – Mr A Wilkinson

Mr A Batt

Mr A Cartman

Mr C Cave

Ms S Hardingham

Mr M E Harris

Dr P Jackson

Mr D Johnson

Ms L Lansley

Mrs B Mackwood

Mr S McQuillan

Mr N Moorcroft

Mr I Scoones

Mr M Semple

Mr J Thomas

Miss M Uppington

In attendance - The Clerk, Dr JE Turp and Ms E Price (minutes), Mr M Riggall NS Liaison Officer (until 8pm) and Kate Stowey NS Cllr.

Absent:-

Ms G Collins

Ms S Hughes

Mr A Johnson

Mrs J Pullin

Mr R Sterland

C18.36 – Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Collins, Mrs Pullin and Sterland.

C18.37 - Chairman's Remarks

No remarks were made.

C18.38 - Declarations of Interests and Grant of Dispensations

Interests to be declared during the meeting and no dispensations were requested.

C18.39 - Minutes of the last meetings

Copies of the minutes of the meeting held on 15th January and 15th February, had been circulated. Further to amendment of the February minutes so that C18.35 para 2 begins 'Although Cllr Cave had alerted the PC to the risk of the library closing, Cllrs expressed their dismay....' and that Cllr Scoones was absent, the minutes were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C18.40 - Long Ashton Library

It was noted that the cost of a new modular 12m x 6m building would be about £75,000 plus VAT and that there would be ongoing costs and volunteers to staff the library would be needed. The building could, however, provide additional meeting space for the community centre. It was noted that grants might be available to set up a service. The provision of computers to give access to council and other services was agreed to be very important. It was agreed to set up a working group of Cllrs Cartman, Cave, Semple and McQuillan to report to Council and to put the library closure as an agenda item for the Annual Parish Meeting.

Mike Riggall left at 8pm.

C18.41 - Matters arising

a. C18.05b Safe place scheme – no further updates.

b. C18.05c Theynes Croft Car park – NSC contractors have mown the grass and the signage has been ordered.

- c. C18.05f Audley Redwood welcoming – Cllrs attended the meeting which was well received. The building will be finished in April and it is suggested that the PC should visit again in May/June.
- d. C18.24 Councillor email addresses – Clerk to finalise.
- e. C18.26 Airport Consultation – A representative from the Airport will be attending the Planning Committee meeting on 9th April. The Airport's Community Grant Scheme is being extended and will include Long Ashton.

C18.42 - Planning Committee Report

The reports of the Planning Committee of the meetings held on 8th January, 5th February and 5th March, were adopted, (5th March subject to any alterations by the Committee), proposed by Cllr Miss Uppington, seconded by Cllr Cave, all in favour.

C18.43 - Highways and Burial Ground Committee Report

The report of the Highways and Footpaths Committee of the meeting held on 29th January, was adopted, subject to any alterations by the Committee, proposed by Cllr Mrs Mackwood, seconded by Cllr Lansley, all in favour.

C18.44 - Finance and General Purposes Committee Report

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of the meeting held on 12th February was adopted, subject to any alterations by the Committee, and the Earmarked Reserves of £411, 317 were confirmed. Proposed by Cllr Hardingham, seconded by Cllr Mackwood, all in favour.

It was RESOLVED to agree that bad debts amounting to £57.75 from 2016 can be written off, proposed by Cllr Hardingham, seconded by Cllr A Wilkinson, all in favour.

C18.45 - Long Ashton Community Association

- a. Cllr Cave gave a report: As Cllrs are aware there is a plan to apply for a grant to extend the Club Room and an application for planning permission will be made soon. A café manager has been appointed. Judy Bridges resigned as chairman of LACA at the beginning of the year after many years in the post. It was agreed that the Clerk should write convey the PC's appreciation of all that she has done for the association.

It was noted that as a PC nominated trustee Cllr Cave has a dispensation to take part and vote on items involving LACA.

- b. Annual grant – members of F&GP met with LACA's treasurer and manager to discuss the outstanding issues surrounding the grant. These were successfully resolved. LACA will draw up a business plan with input from the PC if required on strategic issues such as the skate park and library. Quarterly meetings will be held. It was RESOLVED to confirm the annual grant, proposed by Cllr Hardingham, seconded by Cllr A Wilkinson, all in favour.

C18.46 - Community Safety - Local Action Team

Cllr Cave gave a report: Harry Williams has joined the team. It was noted that in many places the walls surrounding Ashton Court need repairs and Bristol City Council has been contacted. The Bristol City FC application for a new training facility was discussed and it would appear that the applicants are not aware of the footpath running alongside the site. There is an illegal encampment on the island by David Lloyd.

Cllr Harris informed the meeting that Leigh Woods is setting up a speed watch team.

C18.47 - Youth Matters

Cllr Dr Jackson gave a report:

Youth Club

First an update, Kathy our Youth Work Leader has recently had a knee operation and will be off work for about six weeks. Kathy has put plans in place with her staff to keep the youth club open during this period.

Thursday sessions continue to go well and have continued to provide cooking, crafts and street dance. The girls really enjoy the Street Dance and we are currently looking at taking them to a competition so that they can compete as a group. Two of the youth workers have been into Northleaze School and spoke to years 5 & 6 to talk about the youth club, and a visit to Birdwell School is being planned. A trip was held recently to Freedog for parkour and trampolining activities with the juniors and a further trip is planned this coming week to Laserquest, these have been funded through a grant from the Woodward Family Trust.

I've previously mentioned that since early November we had changed the Wednesday session to an outreach/detached session to address issues of anti-social behaviour in the village. This has been successful, and we have seen a good number of young people on most evenings and engaged with young people on the streets as well as in the club room. We feel it is important to keep contact with the young people, some that are known to the youth workers and also good that to engage with young people that were not known previously. The young people engaged are in the age range 16 – 20 years old.

The youth workers had discussions with young people about substance misuse and the effects that certain drugs can have on the body, and also the issues surrounding long term substance use. Discussion topics also include career plans and advice on CV writing, causing anti-social behaviour in the village and the consequences of this.

The youth workers have noticed cars parked in the Community Centre car park and young people grouping around these and are aware of other cars coming into the car park for short periods of times. The suspicion is that these cars were probably selling weed to the young people. However, the youth workers have not seen these cars lately and believe that this is due to their presence in the vicinity. So hopefully the youth workers presence is having an impact on this activity around the community centre.

I mentioned previously that we've been looking at changing the Monday session to a Tuesday evening as attendance has been low. We've had to put these plans on hold until Kathy recovers and is back on her feet. The intention will be to run a trial session on a Tuesday from around early May to see if this works better for young people.

I met with Sarah, LACA Manager, recently to discuss the Club Room extensions proposals and provided some comments and improvements to fit with the youth club needs. At F&GP we spoke about the youth club doing another community activity. One idea raised by LACA was to do a project around the youth shelter. EPIC Youth have further developed this idea into an inter-generational project with the young people engaging with others including with the History Society to educate them on our local history. And then showcase this in an art project in the youth shelter including the flooring which needs replacing. An application to the Co-op Local Community Fund has now been made. We expect to hear whether this is successful in October, so this is likely to be a project for 2019. On fundraising, the youth club is currently discussing with LACA running a games stall at the Village Picnic to support fundraising for the youth club together with LACA and Holly Hedge.

The Youth Club would be pleased to see new members of the management committee.

Children and Young People's Network

On the skate park – we have proposed that a strip of land is allocated in Peel Park for use as a skate park and await further discussion with LACA and the junior football club to confirm this can be accommodated. The youth grant was launched for applications in February, by the closing date one request has been received and this is currently being assessed.

The detached youth worker will investigate problem that has arisen at the community allotment. Concerns about possible drug dealing in the Theynes Croft car park have been reported to the police.

C18.48 - ALCA NS Group

The Clerk attended the Forum. The NSC Finance Officer gave a presentation about the budget and the continuing need for NSC to make cuts; highlighting the lack of direct funding from central government. There was a discussion about what type of devolved services the parish councils in NS may accept. It was agreed that ALCA will set up a half day meeting with NSC to further discuss the issues.

C18.49 - Parish Councils Airport Association

The meeting is to be held on Thursday 22nd March. Cllr Scoones to attend.

C18.50 - Parish recycling scheme working group

Cllr Hardingham reported that the PC has qualified for a Silver Award from NSC. It was proposed by Cllr Hardingham and seconded by Cllr Dr Jackson to accept the Silver Award of £1050 from NSC and to spend it on seating and planting in the shopping area.

C18.51 - Superfast broadband working group

Cllr Moorcroft reported that the working group has been active trying to ascertain why the east of Long Ashton is not on the list for superfast broadband and has informed Liam Fox MP of the issues. It was noted that only 30% of the east end has access to Virgin Media fibre. It is felt unlikely that the issue will be resolved quickly.

C18.52 - Community Engagement/ Website working group

The working group has not met recently. Facebook and Twitter are working well. The Facebook page has had 1500 engagements. It was agreed to put the invitation to the Taylor Wimpey meeting about The Vale on the Facebook page. It was noted that Cllrs had not received the public invitation to the meeting and it was agreed that the Clerk will write to Taylor Wimpey and copy NSC to advise that Long Ashton residents have not received invites to the meeting.

C18.53 - Scout Group HQ Working Group – No new information - ongoing.

C18.54 - NDP Review Working Group

Cllr Sterland had provided this report

A progress report was provided to the Planning Committee on 5th March.

Three documents are being produced for eventual agreement by Council

1) Minor updates proposed to the existing policies in the NDP.

These have been agreed by the Group and have been sent to Claire Courtois at NS to obtain an opinion on whether these can be regarded as “tweaks” which can be made to the NDP without undertaking consultation and a referendum. Once we have a response we will bring the document to Council.

2) Potential Housing Allocation

The review of potential sites for a housing allocation has been completed. It concludes that there is very little if any scope for allocating sites, primarily because the green belt abuts the settlement boundary. There is limited scope for sites becoming available within

the settlement boundary and on brownfield sites outside the boundary. This has also been sent to NS to obtain a view as to whether this document can be associated in some way with the NDP, perhaps as an appendix.

3) Infrastructure Development Plan

This was requested at the planning meeting on 5th March

The attached document explains the reason for having an IDP and proposes an initial IDP. Council is asked to agree to the plan. It should be noted that this plan responds to the current perceived position. Should that change significantly, then the plan may need to be revised. The current plan enables CIL to be spent in accordance with the plan, it does not prevent CIL being spent on other things, within the scope of CIL, but if outside the plan it would be prudent to agree with NS in advance.

The future

The original remit of the group has largely been achieved. The group does not feel that there are new policies required which would justify the effort and cost of going through the full consultation, examination and referendum process. We await responses from NS and subsequent agreement of Council to the documents that have been produced, but essentially the original task has been completed. Council is therefore asked to consider the future of the Group. Should it be wound up or should it remain in place to respond to ad hoc requests from Council or the Planning Committee, to consider and advise on issues related to the NDP?

It was agreed to wait from the response from NSC to decide whether the group should remain in place. The Infrastructure Development Plan information was not available and it was agreed that this should be discussed at the next Planning Committee meeting.

C18.55 - Public Art Working Group - Nothing further to report.

C18.56 - VES working group

Cllr Hardingham gave a report. A useful meeting was held, and it is clearer what can be included in phase 1. The PC is unsure what to propose at the bottom of Brocks Lane and Rob Thompson of NSC will meet with Cllrs before the Highways and Burial Ground Committee meeting on March 26th to provide advice. It was agreed that the works to be included on the proposed stage 1 of the VES will be decided at the Highways and Burial Ground Committee meeting. It was RESOLVED to spend up to £1800 on consultation on the suggested VES scheme, proposed by Cllr Hardingham, seconded by Cllr Mrs Mackwood. All in favour.

C18.57 - Community Resilience

Cllr Moorcroft has volunteered to become a flood warden and a snow warden. There is concern that the grit bin at the top of Glebe Road has not been replaced but this is because the developer has yet to pay for the bin as NSC has failed to send a correctly addressed invoice. Cllr Cave to follow up. Concern was expressed about the modelling of the inundation should Barrow Tanks fail and NSC has been asked for an up to date analysis.

C18.58 - LULA (Light up Long Ashton)

The Clerk is meeting with a representative from LULA and will receive an update then.

C18.59 - Plans from NSC for Longwood Lane/Clarken Combe/Providence Lane junction

NSC proposals address the road safety issues around this junction by closing Longwood Lane to through traffic or making it one way were discussed. There was a view that until the changes proposed by the quarry had been implemented it was difficult to know whether this was necessary. It was RESOLVED that a response should be made to NSC to say that the PC is against the proposals to close Longwood Lane or to make it one-way and believes a decision should not be taken until the effects of the improvements due to

be undertaken by the quarry have been assessed. Proposed by Cllr Miss Uppington, seconded by Cllr Moorcroft. Carried (13 for, 2 against, 1 abstention). Clerk to write to NSC to that effect.

C18.60 - Recruitment of new Assistant Clerk

The Clerk had received 5 applications and all are being interviewed this week.

C18.61 - Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk has yet to have a confirmed speaker for the event, but given the importance of the library closure it was agreed that Mandy Bishop or one of her colleagues from the Library service should be invited to speak about the closure and consultation process.

Kate Stowey left at 9.20pm.

The Community Garden group has asked if it could talk to the meeting about what it does and this was agreed. Clerk to contact them.

C18.62 - Correspondence to consider and respond

- a. From Plastic Free Long Ashton – meeting to be held in the Pavilion at 7.30pm on Weds 11th April. Clerk to invite the group to a future meeting.
- b. From Apple Day organisers re stall for PC – Clerk to write to ask for a stall.
- c. From Bristol Civic Society – Ashton Court newsletter – for information noted.
- d. From Royal British Legion – requesting PC help in finding new site – Clerk to write that ‘while it is sympathetic, it cannot suggest any suitable piece of land in the village’.
- e. From organisers of Great Weston Bike Ride – for information.
- f. From NSC – consultation on the changes to the Children’s Centre and Early Birds Nursery – Clerk to write to NSC that ‘the PC has concerns regarding the loss of the services provided by the Children’s Centre and would wish to see them remaining in the village and asks for confirmation that this will be the case.’
- g. From Avon and Somerset PCC offering to meet with the PC - the Clerk to write to accept the offer and to suggest possible dates for the PCC to attend.
- h. From Keep Britain Tidy – re #GBSpring Clean – for information.

C18.63 - Insurance renewal

The renewal documents were considered and it was agreed that that there has not been any material change.

C18.64 - Any items for information

Disruption from work on the A370 - to be put on Highways and Burial Ground agenda.

C18.65 - Maintenance contracts

All the contractors have agreed to continue their present contracts at the existing price. If the contract with Idverde is renewed for three years they will hold the price at the current level for the three years. It was RESOLVED to extend the contract with Idverde for another three years – proposed by Cllr Mrs Mackwood, seconded by Cllr Cave, all in favour.

Date of next meeting Monday 21st May 2018 (Annual Council Meeting)

Meeting closed 10.00pm