

**LONG ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**19:30, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018, Jubilee Pavilion**

Present: Chairman – Mr A Wilkinson  
Mr A Batt  
Mr C Cave  
Ms G Collins  
Ms S Hardingham  
Mr P Jackson  
Mr D Johnson  
Ms L Lansley  
Mr S McQuillan  
Mr N Moorcroft  
Mrs J Pullin  
Mr M Semple  
Mr I Scoones  
Miss M Uppington

Absent:-  
Mr A Cartman  
Mr M E Harris  
Ms S Hughes  
Mrs B Mackwood  
Mr A Johnson  
Mr R Sterland  
Mr J Thomas

In attendance - The Clerk, Dr JE Turp, Tracy Warren, Assistant Clerk (minutes), Mr M Riggall - NS Liaison Officer and two members of the public.

At 19:00 before the meeting Sue Mountstevens, the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner, talked to Councillors about policing issues.

During public participation, a resident addressed the Council about litter in Peel Park and the Community Centre.

C18.114 - Apologies for absence LGA 1972 s85(1).

Apologies were received from Cllrs Harris, Mrs Mackwood and Sterland.

C18.115 - Declarations of Interests and Grant of Dispensations

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

C18.116 - Exclusion of the press and public

There were no matters necessitating the exclusion of the press and public

C18.117 - Chairman's remarks. None.

C18.118 - Parish Council Minutes

Copies of the minutes held on the 21st May had been circulated. Further to the amendment of the minutes so that in C18.111(a) "It was noted" was replaced by "It was suggested" and "Andrew Hughes, Chairman of the local junior football club stated to Cllr Cave that the football pitches are the best they play on" was added at the end of the paragraph, the minutes were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C18.119 - Matters arising for information.

C18.111(a) It was agreed that any matters raised by the local football clubs about the pitches should be sent to LACA in the first instance.

#### C18.120 - Planning Committee Report (14th May).

The report of the Planning Committee of the meeting held on 14th May was adopted, proposed by Cllr Miss Uppington, seconded by Cllr Cave. All in favour. Cllr Miss Uppington added that Cllrs had recently met with the applicant for 58 Long Ashton Road and were shown first sketches for amended plans showing 4 detached dwellings giving less dense building on the site.

#### C18.121 - Highways and Burial Ground Committee

The report of the Highways and Burial Ground Committee of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> June was adopted, subject to any alterations by the committee. Proposed by Cllr Moorcroft, seconded by Cllr Lansley. All in favour.

#### C18.122 - Finance and General Purposes (F&GP) Committee

- a) The reports of the Finance & General Purposes Committee of the meetings held on 14th May, 4th and 11th June were adopted, the latter subject to any alterations by the committee. Proposed by Cllr Hardingham and second by Cllr Cave. All in favour.
- b) The Internal Auditor's Report for the year end 31st March 2018 was discussed. F&GPs plan to look at the items regarding insurance, assets and the asset register were agreed. In response to a question re the Auditor's observation that three of the PC's bank accounts have balances in excess of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) limit of £85,000, it was confirmed that this was discussed at the F&GP meeting and as the funds are held across five institutions, which have been subject to the Bank Of England stress test, and that the sums beyond the limit are relatively low the committee agreed the risk was at an acceptable level.
- c) Annual Accounts for 2017/18. It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the annual accounts with no amendments. Proposed by Cllr Hardingham and seconded by Cllr Moorcroft. All in favour.
- d) Annual Governance Statements in part 1 of the 2017/18 Annual Return. Cllr Hardingham reminded Cllrs that each had a responsibility for the probity of the council. Each of the Governance statements was read out. No queries were raised and it was RESOLVED that the PC could answer yes to each of the questions, that part 1 of the annual return be completed and signed by the Chairman and clerk. Proposed by Cllr Hardingham and seconded by Cllr Batt.
- e) Accounting statements in part 2 of the 2017/18 Annual Return. It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the accounting statements with no amendments. Proposed by Cllr Hardingham and seconded by Cllr Moorcroft. All in favour.
- f) Letter of Engagement from Bishop Fleming; It was RESOLVED to agree the terms in the letter of Engagement from Bishop Fleming for Internal Audit services. Proposed by Cllr Hardingham and seconded by Cllr Moorcroft. All in favour.
- g) Reviewed investment strategy. Following amendment to replace the year 2017 with 2018 in the section 'Current Borrowing', it was resolved to adopt the reviewed investment strategy. Proposed by Cllr Hardingham and seconded by Cllr Miss Uppington. All in favour.
- h) Bank Signatories proposed by F&GP. It was RESOLVED to accept the list of current authorised signatories for bank accounts with no amendments. Proposed by Cllr Hardingham and seconded by Cllr Moorcroft. All in favour.

#### C18.123 - Long Ashton Community Association; Cllr Mrs Pullin gave the following report:

The Plaque to mark the Village Hall being built as a war memorial has now arrived. The application for the extension to the Club Room has been granted by NSC and the grant application to Garfield Weston is in the process of being completed. A bench has been provided in Peel Park at the request of residents.

Cllr Lansley reported that the community café made a profit of £18,000 last year. Cllr Mrs Pullin did not confirm this but stated that the accounts were still being looked at.

C18.124 - Community Safety - Local Action Teams – No report from either team.

#### C18.125 - Youth Matters

Cllr Jackson gave the following reports:

##### Youth Club

To start with a few words about youth work. Youth work focuses on personal and social development – the skills and attributes of young people. It is an educational process that engages with young people in a curriculum that deepens a young person's understanding of themselves, their community and the world in which they live. The activities we deliver at the Youth Club are designed to support young people to proactively bring about positive changes in their lives.

Our provider EPIC Youth has been successful in submitting a grant to the Quartet Express grant, and this will fund the street dance sessions from September for around twelve months. The youth club will support the Bark in the Park fundraising event on 7<sup>th</sup> July to support fundraising for LACA, Holly Hedge and the youth club. In addition to the regular street dance sessions on Thursday, the young people are going on a trip on 28<sup>th</sup> June to tobogganing at Mendip Outdoor Pursuits. Following a short trial we have decided to stay with the Monday session, rather than Tuesdays, although going forward we may explore some outdoor engagement with young people congregating around the rec.

The Youth Club AGM was held on 12<sup>th</sup> June, and a copy of the annual reports will be provided to Councillors together with the annual accounts.

The Youth Club Management Committee like many local organisations relies on volunteers, without which we couldn't operate and provide youth provision. The search for a new Treasurer is ongoing and I thank the Chairman and Councillors for supporting the youth club to find a suitable volunteer.

##### Children and Young People's Network

On the skate park – the Networks awaits feedback from LACA and the junior football club to confirm that the proposed siting can be accommodated with all parties. The Network has received an invitation from the junior cricket club to visit on a club night and this is currently being arranged.

##### C18.126 - ALCA NS Group

There was no report at this time. The NS branch AGM is on the 5<sup>th</sup> July.

##### C18.127 - Parish Councils' Airport Association

There was no report. The next meeting is on the 28<sup>th</sup> June.

##### C18.128 - Superfast broadband working group

There has been no change in the situation re superfast broadband provision.

##### C18.129 - Community Engagement/ Website working group

A meeting has yet to be held. It was noted that 148 people have liked the PC Facebook page and with sharing this increased the reach for some popular posts to 500-700 people. It

was agreed that the Clerk investigate further statistics available and circulate the weekly Facebook Page update. Cllr Batt volunteered and was appointed to this group.

#### C18.130 - Scout Group HQ Working Group.

Cllr Cave reported that terms for a new site have been verbally agreed.

#### C18.131 - NDP Review Working Group - There was nothing new to report.

#### C18.132 - Public Art Working Group – There was no progress to report.

#### C18.133 - VES working group

Cllr Hardingham gave the following report:

As noted in the Highways & Burials Ground meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> June updated plans had been received and these include a 20mph zone. A VES meeting will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> July to discuss these plans and all councillors are welcome to attend. It was noted that 20 mph zones are becoming generally more accepted and are present in an increasing number of villages. It was noted that the Police and Crime Commissioner supports such areas and that BaNES has proactively promoted them, however, NSC has been less active.

#### C18.134 - Library working group.

Cllr McQuillan gave the following report:

The number of volunteers has now increased to ten and a meeting is to be organised soon. Cllr Cave confirmed he is looking into the option of a portacabin to provide for a library and meeting space until such time as a permanent solution is found.

#### C18.135 - Community Resilience.

It was confirmed that there are three snow wardens. With respect to flood risk Bristol Water have been asked to provide plans showing changes to the inundation risk following the building of the SBL.

#### C18.136 – Plastic Free Long Ashton

It was RESOLVED to support Plastic Free Long Ashton and to commit to plastic free alternatives and supporting plastic free initiatives within the Parish. Proposed by Cllr Moorcroft and seconded by Cllr McQuillan with one abstention.

#### C18.137 - Breaking the Mould conference

Three of the questions, focussing on openness, dialogue and communication, from the workshop attended by Cllr Lansley this year, were considered as to how they relate to the PC currently. The answers will be considered at a future meeting.

#### C18.138 - A Parish Council for the 2020s

It was agreed that the initial whole council meeting will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> September at 19:30. A representative of Frome TC may attend to explain what they have achieved.

#### C18.139 - Foodbanks

It was noted that benefit changes and in particular the roll out of Universal Credit, may leave residents in potential food poverty as there are often delays in payments. There is a foodbank in Clevedon but those without transport may not be able to benefit from this and may find public transport costs prohibitive. The Long Ashton Co-op has a basket for residents to donate products and they also put food close to use-by dates aside for local foodbanks.

It was agreed that Cllr Lansley speak to the Co-op to further investigate their initiatives and to publicise the Co-op's arrangements on social media and the Newsletter and that the possible extent of the need in the in the parish be investigated to provide the information on which to base any future action. Analysis of DWP and NSC statistics could support this. Mike Riggall, NS Liaison Officer confirmed that he had access to such statistics and would report back to the Council. This will then be discussed at the next meeting.

#### C18.140 - Biodiversity working group

The aim of the group to bring the Parish's different environmental projects together was explained by Cllr McQuillan and it was agreed that he should go ahead and plan a meeting of all interested environmental groups.

It was noted that Chris Wilmot of Heaven Scent, had confirmed in writing to the Council that she would be ceasing her involvement with this project at the end of the season and has asked for help with the mowing of the area and paths. It was agreed to hold a meeting with Heaven Scent and the contractors who mow the burial ground to ascertain what is needed and the extra cost. This will be discussed in more detail at the next Highways meeting.

#### C18.141 - Mass messaging

There are times when it would be useful to be able to get information to most people in the Parish. It was noted that whilst the engagement of residents via social media could be increased, this will not reach those who do not use social media. It was agreed to put this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

C18.142 – GDPR; update and to consider the need for Cllrs to individually register with the ICO. Cllrs were reminded to use their Cllr email addresses as information is then held on the PC server and is more obvious to residents when Cllrs are acting on behalf of the Council. There is conflicting advice about the need for Cllrs to be registered with the ICO but it is thought that as long as Cllrs are always acting on behalf of the PC when processing data the individual registration is not required. M Riggall, NS Liaison Officer noted that there are only three Parish Cllrs on the ICO register.

#### C18.143 - Battles Over; update

Preparations for the event are progressing as planned and although the Crowdfunding target was not reached it was hoped that many of the pledges would be still be given.

#### C18.144 - Correspondence

- a) From Bristol Civic Society – Ashton Court Mansion update explaining what is happening to the mansion. It was agreed to share this update with residents using the PC Facebook page and notice boards.
- b) From RBL re a new war memorial. The LA RBL branch is hoping to build a new outdoor war memorial in Long Ashton and is asking for the support of the Parish Council in their endeavours to raise the funds to construct a suitable permanent memorial to the Fallen of the Parish due to enemy action. It was noted that not all names were on the memorial plaque in the church. Some sites have been earmarked for consideration. It was agreed that the Council support this initiative with a working group to be set up to further investigate. Proposed by Cllr Cave and seconded by Cllr Mrs Pullin.
- c) From resident re flags - A resident had called the clerk to express her concerns about the extended flying of the Union Flag fearing that this might give the wrong impression about the attitudes of the residents. It was agreed that the Council supports the flying of the national flag but is happy to consider flying other flags and the clerk will investigate what is permitted.

- d) From resident - proposal for Long Ashton flag. A resident has written offering to fund a Long Ashton village flag; this was further clarified by Cllr Hardingham who declared that she is related to the resident. It was agreed that the Council would support this initiative and the communications group were asked to find a design for the flag.
- e) Invitation to Birdwell celebrations - Noted
- f) Sign for Dawson Walk – It was RESOLVED that funding for a new sign be granted with the next F&GP meeting to confirm budget allocation for payment. Proposed by Cllr Hardingham and seconded by Cllr Moorcroft. All in favour.
- g) St Peters Hospice has asked if the grant given by the PC toward the purchase of a scanner can be used for other purposes as the Hospice has received more donations for the scanner than needed. This was discussed and it was RESOLVED to allow the grant to be used for other items. Proposed by Cllr Wilkinson, seconded by Cllr Cave, all in favour.
- h) From the Airport – invitation to their summer event. Noted.

C18.145 - Any items for information.

- a) It was reported that there is a shortage of volunteers for the Bark in the Park/village picnic. The site [www.do.it.org](http://www.do.it.org) was suggested as a method of advertising for volunteers.
- b) It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Sue Mountstevens, Police and Crime Commissioner, to convey the PC's appreciation of her attendance and talk to the council.

Meeting closed at 21:19

Next meeting: Monday 10th September 2018