



LONG ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the Jubilee Pavilion, Keedwell Hill, Long Ashton on 25th November 2024 at 6.30pm

Present: Councillors D Bolton, F Chaudhuri, C Davis, N Davis, C James, H Lilley, D Smith (Chair), D Barks, A Trozzo, A Johnson, D Wilkinson and J Fenton.

In Attendance : Hannah Harwood (Deputy Clerk & RFO), Stuart McQuillan (Ward Councillor) and 8 members of the public.

C24.083 Apologies for absence LGA 1972 s85(1)

Apologies for absence were received from A Barrett and M Harris.

Absent – D Andrews.

C24.084 Declarations of Interests and Grant of Dispensations

Resolved - That the following declarations of interest were received, and dispensations were approved:

1. Cllr N Davis & C Davis – Other interest in items 5 – approval to stay in the meeting and discuss.
2. Cllr D Smith – Pecuniary interest in all item 5 and 6, 7, 8– Approval to Chair the meeting but not vote.

C24.085 Confirmation of minutes

Resolved - That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23rd September 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (LGA 1972, Schedule 12, paragraph 41(1)).

C24.086 Committee Memberships

Resolved - Additional members were appointed to the following committees:

- a) Planning Committee – D Wilkinson
- b) Finance & General Purposes Committee – D Wilkinson

C24.087 Long Ashton Community Association (LACA) Maintenance Grant Report and 2025/2026 Maintenance Funding Request

- a) **Noted:** The LACA Maintenance Grant Report was received, including:
 - i. SOFA for restricted grant funds.
 - ii. Updated Maintenance Schedule (job status, costs, external contributions).
 - iii. Summary of Centre Usage (organisations and bookings).
- b) **Noted:** The annual Grant Funding Request for 2025-2026 was received. The requested amount will be reviewed as part of the overall budget approval during the January Full Council meeting.

C24.088 Peel Park Management

a) A report was received outlining a proposal to revise the management arrangements for Peel Park. Long Ashton Community Centre (LACA) currently manages the site but has requested to renegotiate this arrangement in 2025.

Resolved:

i) A working group was formed to review the proposal and develop a recommendation by early 2025. The group will include Councillors C James and F Chaudhuri.

ii) The Clerk was tasked with making enquiries regarding the transfer of ownership to the Parish Council and the enforcement of the S106 agreement to facilitate this process.

b) Resolved - The maintenance budget for Peel Park for 2024-2025 was approved.

c) Resolved - Approval was granted for reimbursement of expenditure listed in the Peel Park budget to LACA. Any additional expenses for the current year will require a separate funding request in advance. All costs will be drawn from Earmarked Reserve 331 – S106 Taylor Wimpey Areas.

C24.089 Skatepark Project

The Parish Council reviewed the next steps for the skatepark project, focusing on two potential sites: the Community Centre (LACA) and Peel Park. The discussion was complex, reflecting the differing perspectives surrounding the project. While the Skatepark Working Group had initially requested a deferral to explore alternative proposals, they later recommended progressing with a noise survey for Peel Park to avoid delays. Councillors debated whether to defer or proceed and resolved to take the following actions:

- a) **Resolved** – That a Lawful Development Certificate (£150) for a skatepark at the Community Centre site adjacent to the Multi Use Games Area was approved, following indication from North Somerset Council that this may fall under permitted development rights.
- b) **Resolved** – That the expenditure of up to £1,500 (excluding VAT) for a professional sound survey at Peel Park Site 1 was approved, as noise impact has been identified as a key consideration in achieving planning permission at this location.

These actions aim to assess the feasibility of both sites for the skatepark project.

C24.090 Working Groups

To note – Reports were received from the following groups:

- a) Community Engagement Working Group
To note – Ruth (Communications Officer) will be at the Long Ashton Village Market on Sat 7 Dec 2024 to encourage residents to complete the Community Engagement Survey.
- b) Newsletter Working Group
- c) Light Up Long Ashton (LULA) Working Group
- d) Skatepark Working Group
- e) Biodiversity Working Group

C24.091 Date of the next meeting

To note that the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is Monday 20th January 2025 at 6.30pm.

C24.092 Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved – that pursuant to the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business by reason of the confidential nature of business to be transacted – to consider commercial and staffing matters.

C24.093 Pay Award

Resolved - To note that the national pay negotiations for National Joint Council (NJC) staff for 2024/25 have reached an agreement, with a flat rate increase of £1,290 on all spinal column points, backdated to 1 April 2024. This pay award will be implemented in accordance with existing staff contracts and processed through the standard payroll procedures.

Meeting closed at 20:20

Signed: Date: