

LONG ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

19:30 – 16th March 2020, Jubilee Pavilion



Present: - Mr D Johnson (Chairman)

Ms L Anderson

Ms S Barnes

Mr A Cartman

Mr C Cave

Ms C Fagg

Mr P Jackson

Mr C James

Ms L Lansley

Mr O Lloyd-Jones

Mr S McQuillan

Ms R McAllister Kemp

Ms C Sellars

Mr T Weir

Absent: -

Ms S Hardingham

Mr M Harris

Mr A Johnson

Mr A Wilkinson

In attendance - The Clerk, Dr Janet Turp, Assistant Clerk, Tracy Warren (minutes) and 11 members of the public.

Public Participation - Prior to the formal meeting time was set aside for public engagement. Members of the Long Ashton Coronavirus Support Network addressed the meeting about their plans to support residents. Each street would have volunteers, made known by slips put through doors, to help the vulnerable or isolating with shopping, getting medication etc. There would be IT support to help people communicate digitally. Businesses such as the PO and others were planning a phone order system and some were prepared to provide a delivery services and to make sure their stocks were maintained. Councillors were pleased to see the community taking a lead and promised the PC's support.

A member of the VES working group updated Councillors on the progress of the works taking place. He confirmed that following concerns raised by residents the moving of the 50 mph boundary at the west end of Long Ashton is on hold until a meeting is held with all stakeholders. Plans for the works outside Piccolo's are close to being agreed.

A resident explained his concerns to Cllrs that the recent changes made by the Churchyard Trustees to form the Churchyard and Memorial Trust and associated changes to the constitution and objects, in his opinion, had not been made lawfully. This was denied by a member of the trust.

C20.025 - Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Hardingham, Harris, A Johnson and Wilkinson.

C20.026 - Declarations of Interests and Grant of Dispensations

Interests to be declared during the meeting. It was noted that as a PC appointed representative to the War Memorial and Churchyard Trust, Cllr Cave has a dispensation to take part in discussion and vote on items involving the trust.

C20.027 - Exclusion of the press and public

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

20.028 - Chairman's remarks

In light of the Covid-19 crisis, the Chairman commended residents and Cllrs for their quick response in offering voluntary support to the vulnerable in the parish and for their attendance at tonight's meeting and noted this may be the last PC meeting for some time.

C20.029 - Parish Council Minutes

- a) Re C20.015 – Cllr Cave asked for an amendment to the minutes of the meeting of 20th January relating to LACA. In summary he stated that he believed that the PC should undertake an exercise to consider the social return on the PC's funding for both LACA and the Youth Club as both grants are substantial. After some discussion it was agreed that his general comments should be noted in the minutes of the current meeting. Cllr Jackson confirmed his belief that the Youth Club has demonstrated this social return each year.
- b) Following amendment of paragraph C20.021(b) to read "Tyntesfield Patient Participation Group (PPG) – Cllr Anderson having attended recent meetings felt that there are probably more efficient ways to communicate with the practice, and said that she will continue the PPG meetings until May after which the PC will review", the minutes of the meetings held on 20th January, 27th January and 17th February 2020 having been previously circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. All in favour.

20:31 – one member of the public left the meeting.

C20.030 - Matters arising for information.

- a) C20.006a - Bank mandates; a response from HSBC is awaited and other mandates are being finalised.
- b) C20.006b - North Somerset Parish and Town Councils group; no update.
- c) C20.006c – Gardeners Walk Play Area; Sovereign have now completed works identified in the post-installation inspection.
- d) C20.023e - Climate emergency planning workshop; Up to five Cllrs from each PC are invited to attend. One Cllr has confirmed they would like to attend.
- e) C20.024 – NALC paper on fighting loneliness; as a meeting to discuss this paper has yet to take place.

C20.031 - Planning Committee reports

The reports of the meetings held on 13th January and 10th February (previously circulated) were adopted. Proposed by Cllr Lloyd-Jones and seconded by Cllr Anderson. All in favour.

C20.032 - Environment Committee report

The report of the meeting on 27th January was adopted subject to any amendment by the committee. Proposed by Cllr McQuillan and seconded by Cllr Cartman. All in favour.

C20.033 - Finance and General Purposes Committee report

The report of the meeting on 17th February was adopted. It was RESOLVED that the cover provided by the current policy (previously circulated) is appropriate. Proposed by Cllr D. Johnson and seconded by Cllr Jackson. All in favour.

C20.034 - Climate Emergency

A meeting of Cllrs and LA CAN is planned for Friday 27th March.

C20.035 - Council for the 2020s

Cllrs had received an updated draft of the Council Plan, amended to take account of comments received during the public consultation. Noting that a review will be undertaken of the relationship between the PC and the external bodies onto which it nominates people it

was agreed that a list of such bodies will be added to the plan. Following a discussion on how long a councillor should serve as either Chairman of the PC or any of its committees, it was agreed that an amendment to Standing Orders should be considered at a future meeting to set a time limit on the length of time a Chairman should serve. Following consideration of a number of other matters it was RESOLVED to accept the final draft of the 'Long Ashton Parish Council Plan 2020 – 2023' with the amendments as discussed and the correction of any spelling or grammatical errors. Proposed by Cllr Lloyd-Jones and seconded by Cllr Weir. All in favour.

C20.036 - Council Issues

- a) It was RESOLVED to appoint Cllr James to all Parish Council committees and to the Skate Park and Library Working Groups. Proposed by Cllr McQuillan and seconded by Cllr Barnes. All in favour.
- b) Annual Parish Meeting – In view of new Coronavirus advice, it was RESOLVED to postpone the Annual Parish Meeting planned to be held on 27th April, subject to further guidance. Proposed by Cllr Cave and seconded by Cllr McQuillan. All in favour. The Chairmen of each committee were asked to provide their reports to the Clerk.
- c) Broadband contract renewal – Ongoing.
- d) Northleaze phone box update – The Community Engagement Working Group are considering the best way to liaise with the public to decide on the use of the phone box.
- e) Inclusion of Leigh Woods Village Design Statement in the NDP – no update.
- f) Gardeners Walk Play area – It was RESOLVED to agree the quote for additional grass tiles at £372. Proposed by Cllr Fagg and seconded by Cllr Cartman. All in favour.
- g) Coronavirus – It was agreed that the PC will support the Long Ashton Coronavirus support group as much as it can, including printing and sharing the initiative on its social media to give the group some status.. It was noted that there was a high probability that no further face to face Council meetings will be able to be held for some time and that, at present, it was not lawful to Council meetings to be held remotely. In these situations it would be impossible for the PC to make decisions so it was RESOLVED to extend the delegation of Council decisions to the Clerk, in discussion with as many Cllrs as possible, during any period of restricted activity declared by the Government in respect of the Covid-19 virus. Such delegation is to enable the Council to fulfil its responsibilities to its residents. Proposed by Cllr Sellars and seconded by Cllr Anderson. All in favour.

NSC's 'Your Neighbourhood Consultation' will now only be online. It was noted that the burial ground is very wet at present and this will need taking into account if there was a much increased need for plots.

C20.037 - Working Groups

- a) VES working group – a resident updated the PC on the current works within the public participation time. Cllrs noted that there is a strong feeling to protect the children using the Guide HQ on Weston Road with 206 signatures having been collected on a petition objecting to the movement of 30mph hours signs giving rise to a 50mph limit outside the Guide HQ. It was noted that the movement of the signs followed advice given to the PC by NSC on a visible 30mph entry to the village boundary. An average speed limit of 40mph was noted to be recorded on the speed camera near the Guide HQ. Works are to be deferred in this area pending a meeting to be convened with the Chairman, Rob Thompson, NSC Highways and the VES group in order to discuss resident concerns.
- b) Library working group – Cllr McQuillan confirmed they are in discussion with LACA to confirm the exact location of the library and professional advice is being taken on the quotations received. A report will be brought back to the next meeting.
- c) Skate Park working group – Cllr Jackson gave the following report (previously circulated): "The skatepark working group have now successfully concluded discussions with the Community Association and the Junior Football Club on the siting of the

skatepark at the eastern end of Peel Park adjacent to Keeds Lane. The points raised by the Community Association on drainage, vehicle access and the junior football club's usage of Peel Park have been resolved and agreed. Points noted in the discussions, including use of a temporary fence during the build to protect the football pitches, allowance for a possible additional vehicle access entry to Peel Park and early identification of maintenance costs, are recorded in the minutes of the Skatepark Working Group meeting with the Community Association held on 3rd March 2020.

A draft questionnaire has been prepared by the skatepark working group. The survey will seek resident's views on a one-off precept increase to support further funding of the skatepark. The Council is asked for comment on the questionnaire. It is proposed that agreement of the final version is delegated to the Community Engagement Working Group, together with the methods of issuing the questionnaire to residents. It is planned to issue the survey around two weeks ahead of the Annual Parish Meeting to support discussions at that meeting.

The next step will be to carry out a soil survey at the planned skatepark site which will form part of the competitive tender for the skatepark. The skatepark working group is looking at the formation of a Long Ashton skatepark charity as the vehicle for fundraising. Details of the tender documentation and the charity details in particular the Constitution, will be brought back to Council for approval."

Cllr Cave confirmed that LACA accepts the site as though not ideal it is the only one available. The requirements for the football pitch run off need to be confirmed.

It was RESOLVED that the site of the planned skatepark is at the eastern end of Peel Park adjacent to Keeds Lane. Proposed by Cllr Jackson and seconded by Cllr Sellars. All in favour. It was RESOLVED that the draft questionnaire is finalized by the Community Engagement Working Group together with the methods of distribution to residents. Proposed by Cllr Jackson and seconded by Cllr Cartman. All in favour.

- d) Superfast broadband working group – no update at this time.
- e) LULA working group – no update at this time,
- f) Community Engagement Working Group – Cllr McAllister Kemp gave the following report (previously circulated):
 - Terms of Reference for the group have been drafted, for discussion by Council on 16 March.
 - In February/March, the Council Plan was sent to a comprehensive list of local groups and organisations for their comments. The plan was published on the PC website and publicised on social media. The consultation period for the Plan closed on 9th March. Three comments have been received which will be discussed by Council on 16th March.
 - VES Phase 1 information was shared via a range of media, including hand-delivered letters, posters, online, print and social media, banners, PC newsletter and to local schools for inclusion in emails to parents.
 - It was agreed that the Skate Park, Library, VES and Community Engagement working groups should have stalls at the Annual Parish Meeting:
 - The group plans to do a Community Engagement Survey after the completion of the Skate Park Survey.
 - Prototypes of the "Olympic Volunteers" hat and sashes will be presented at Council on 16 March to encourage at least 8 councillors to participate in the Long Ashton Carnival Parade on Sun 12 July."

Several Cllrs expressed an interest in taking part in the carnival parade and it was RESOLVED to spend up to £50 on materials for the hats and sashes for the parade. Proposed by Cllr Lloyd-Jones and seconded by Cllr James. All in favour. It was

RESOLVED to adopt the draft Terms of Reference previously circulated. Proposed by Cllr Jackson and seconded by Cllr Anderson. All in favour.

C20.038 - Outside bodies

- a) Children's Centre Partnership group – no update at this time.
- b) Tyntesfield Patient Participation Group – Cllr Anderson attended the Nailsea Dementia group and noted that whilst the speakers were of merit, the meeting was appropriately attended given the circumstances. A future health event is proposed.
- c) Parochial Charities – No update at this time; the next meeting is on the 18th April.

21:43 – Meeting suspended to allow a member of the Parochial Charities to speak

21:47 – Meeting reconvened

- d) Parish Councils Airport Association (PCAA) – Cllr Fagg noted that Bristol Airport are to carry out a consultation on increasing night flights and the PCAA have drafted an objection to which Cllrs can make comment.
- e) Community Resilience – no update at this time.
- f) ALCA NS Group - no update at this time.
- g) War Memorial working group – Cllr Cave confirmed a grant application is due to be submitted with permission required from the PC. It was noted that NSC have given consent to the proposed development of the war memorial on the leased site provided it is in accordance with the planning consent dated 18th November 2019 (no. 19/P/0545/FUL) and that in the event the lease is terminated, NSC undertakes to enter discussions with the PC regarding the retention of the war memorial.

C20.039 - Report on meeting with the War Memorial and Churchyard Trust Trustees (previously circulated)

The Clerk and Cllrs D Johnson, Hardingham and Jackson met with the trustees and highlighted the concerns that had been raised about the recent changes. The trustees explained the steps they had taken to properly set up the expanded charity, that the money held for the churchyard is ring fenced and will not be used for the memorial project. They also confirmed that the Trust would be responsible for future maintenance, insurance and intend to retain ownership of the memorial. Cllrs were content that the evidence produced showed that the Trust had made changes legitimately.

Following the meeting Cllr D. Johnson prepared a report explaining the situation and raising a number of issues for consideration in terms of what should be done next. He expressed disappointment that the PC had not been consulted about the changes made to the Churchyard Trust, and was of the opinion that a separate charity for the war memorial project would be preferred and the need for the stone presently being stored on the car park to be moved to a better location. He highlighted issues that needed to be addressed before the project went ahead. Following discussion of the paper it was RESOLVED: for the Parish Council as leaseholder to grant permission, to the War Memorial and Churchyard Trust for the land to be used for the proposed war memorial and that prior to any works on the war memorial commencing, a plan of works must be agreed between the War Memorial Trust and the PC, with funding secured for the entire build and maintenance arrangements agreed.

Proposed by Cllr Jackson and seconded by Cllr Cartman. Motion carried with 1 abstention.

C20.040 - Request for permission for orienteering event.

Bristol Orienteering Klub has written asking permission for an orienteering event in Long Ashton on May. It was agreed to give permission on the condition that all the necessary health and safety precautions are taken.

C20.041 – Close of meeting

As it had reached 22:00 it was agreed to close the meeting – the Chairman will discuss with the clerk how the remaining agenda items will be addressed.

22:04 - Meeting closed

Date of next meeting: Monday 18th May 2020