

**LONG ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
**19:30, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021**  
**(held remotely over zoom)**



Present:

Ms C Fagg (Outgoing Chairman)  
Ms L Anderson (Vice Chairman)  
Ms S Hardingham  
Mr M Harris  
Dr P Jackson  
Mr C James (Chairman)  
Ms R McAllister Kemp  
Mr S McQuillan (joined 20:55)  
Ms Jane Purkiss  
Mr A Wilkinson

Absent:

Mr A Cartman  
Mr C Cave  
Mr A Johnson  
Ms L Lansley  
Mr O Lloyd-Jones  
Ms C Sellars

Also in attendance – The Clerk: Mr S Jacob-Lange, Minute-taker: Mrs J Howell and one member of the public.

[Public Participation](#)

*Cllr Fagg (outgoing Chairman) welcomed residents and members to the meeting. There were no items raised.*

[Environment Committee Meeting](#)

E21.001      Apologies for absence  
There were none.

E21.002      Declarations of Interests and Grant of Dispensations  
There were no interests declared and no dispensations requested.

E21.003      Resignation of Chair  
Cllr Fagg announced her resignation following her appointment as Chairman of the Parish Council.

E21.004      Election of Chair of the Environment Committee  
RESOLVED: The Environment Cttee appointed Cllr James as Chairman and Cllr Anderson as Vice Chairman of the Environment Cttee. Cllr James then presided over the meeting.

E21.005      Minutes of the previous meeting  
**RESOLVED: The minutes of the meetings of the Environment Committee held on the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 (previously circulated) were confirmed as a correct record. Minutes to be signed by outgoing Cttee Chairman Cllr Fagg. LGA 1972, Schedule 12, paragraph 41(1).**

E21.006      Exclusion of the press and public  
There were no matters which required the exclusion of the press and public.

E21.007      Chair's Comments  
No matters raised.

E21.007

Matters arising:

The Chairman referred to report dated 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 from Cllr McQuillan.

- a) HB20.019b. Hollis Close car parking:  
Meeting with David Bailey. Relayed PC interest in planters and other suggestions he has made to improve safety for pedestrians, particularly children. Awaiting costings to compare NS sourced and PC sourced. Next step is for PC to consult with residents and Birdwell School. **Cllr McQuillan to progress.**
- b) HB20.019c. Yanley Lane humps:  
Previously the Environment Cttee wanted all options investigated including priority system (like Barrow Gurney). Cllr McQuillan reported that a resident has written to request one-way road also investigated. Options discussed with David Bailey. NS view that one way system increases the speed of traffic. David Bailey to investigate feasibility of one-way system. Speed limit changes also consideration of the PC.
- c) HB20.019f.ii Community Speedwatch  
Three sites agreed with the Police, and small number of trained volunteers. Equipment ready to be delivered. All Community Speedwatch activity suspended due to lockdown. Residents to contact Cllr McQuillan in first instance if interested in volunteering. Details to be shared on Social Media (Cllr McAllister Kemp).

Providence Lane

Unsuitable for HGVs. 'Unsuitable for HGVs' signs installed. Residents reporting HGVs still using Providence Lane and seem to originate from the quarry. Quarry Manager has been informed and has added an alert so will be notified if drivers continue to use Providence Lane.

Durnford Quarry

Mud on road from lorries. This has been raised by the Clerk with NSC who have been in touch with the Quarry. Further update on impact of measures to follow.

Cycling

Recent accidents reported. Written to the Cycling Team to establish current policy for gritting cycle paths.

*Cllr Harris also reported accidents involving 6 cyclist who hit black ice at Perry Road over the weekend and request for grit bin.*

Road re-surfacing

Lampton Road (missed) and Elmhurst Gardens. Enquiries underway.

Grit Bins

**RESOLVED: The Environment Committee delegated the Clerk to purchase up to four grit bins with a budget of £500 each bin, to be positioned at Clerk's discretion.**

- d) HB20.019f.i Speeding Awareness Project with Long Ashton Schools:  
The Chairman reported that due to lockdown this project will have to be deferred until schools re-open.

- e) HB20.019g. Estune Business Park: car parking on Double Yellow Lines:  
Report from Police: parking on DYL's not Police issue but an NSC issue. The police will not enforce. **Clerk to report to NS Parking Enforcement. Clerk to circulate report from PCSO Newell to all Cllrs.** Cllr Harris reported however that tickets have been issued in Leigh Woods in the last couple of weeks.
- f) HB20.019d. Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) for Leigh Woods:  
Cllr Harris. No new update. Has been in touch with NSC Officer.
- g) HB20.019i. Burial Ground and Closed Churchyard:  
Clerk reported quotes for the tree survey are in progress.
- h) HB20.020c. Dawsons Walk – Green Belt Management Company:  
As well as the damage to the boardwalk itself, it was reported that the exit of the boardwalk is unsuitable for buggy's or wheelchairs as the steps that lead out are broken. Cllrs discussed that previous efforts and attempts to communicate with Green Belt Man Co seem to be ignored. Members raised concerns that this is now perilous. The Cttee discussed options and next steps including group action. Members considered whether the PC could enlist the support of a local public figure. Cllr Anderson and the Chairman will consider options and take this forward with the Biodiversity and Public Open Spaces Working Group.
- i) HB20.021a. Peel Park access issues:  
Cllr Fagg reported on meeting with Cllr Wilkinson and an Officer of NSC. NSC reported it should be straightforward to widen the entrance and smooth path surfacing with bonded gravel and smooth the path at Kings Croft entrance. Quote to repair fencing also requested. LACA have been updated. NSC hope to get the work done by 31 March 2021. NSC are paying for the work and would welcome a contribution. PC to consider contribution when quote arrives.
- j) HB20.022c. B3128 Junction with Cumberland Basin:  
Following a letter from resident after serious accident. PC has written to head of road safety for NSC with residents email fully supporting suggestions and asking if these could be considered along with any other action to make junction safer. Road closure notice to carry out the work came out today. One of the requests included traffic flow software. Cllr Fagg has written to ask whether this will be included.
- k) HB20.027. Links with Long Ashton Horticultural Society:  
Clerk update: work underway to explore what can be done. Planters not possible at present due to shielding and weather. Keen to find out where communal garden spaces that can be accessed and improved (Keedwell triangle suggested). LAHS reported current focus on War Memorial Garden.
- l) Fenswood Farm and university  
Cllr Fagg provided a brief update on Fenswood Farm and the University and discussion to use land to increase biodiversity and public realm. It was reported that Friends of Fenswood Farm are considering governance aims and objectives and intend to be an independent group with a strong link to the PC. No firm proposals at this stage.

E21.008      Biodiversity and Public Open Spaces

a)      Biodiversity Working Group:

Cllr Anderson had previously provided a report (circulated) and outlined discussions. Working Group have met twice. Action plan in first stages. Potential projects include Peel Park and potential to work with SP WG – planting trees and wildflower bank. Have not yet consulted with LACA – meeting on Thursday. Various other ideas under consideration, working with schools, together with Horticultural Society. Working Group to meet end Feb. Further update prior to next Env Cttee Meeting.

b)      Tree planting at Peel Park:

From Skate Park consultation – one of the needs identified was for more trees to provide a screen. Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January with LACA to consider what can be done. Drains to be considered. Gaps in line of tree would enhance biodiversity and provide sound shield between Skate Park and Friends of Fenswood.

c)      LAPC Play Areas – Risk Assessment and Signage:

Perry Road Play Area

The Clerk reported that an item of play equipment at Chancellors Park recently sustained damage causing one of the timber supports to break at the base. Playdale have provided a quote to fix support (circulated). Timber post removed until replacement parts can be installed. Playdale also in process of completing repairs to equipment at Kings Croft.

**RESOLVED: The Environment Committee accepted the quote for £495 to replace the timber support at Chancellors Park.**

Gardener's Walk

Reported as being quite slippery recently. Liaising with Village Orderly. Temporary signage erected. **Clerk to obtain designs for permanent signs.** Longer term options / actions may need to be considered including second layer of matting / drainage work.

E21.009      Burial Ground and Churchyard Trust.

a)      To consider a proposal from Burial Ground Gardener:

The Clerk updated members on recently meeting with the Gardener and projects identified. **RESOLVED: The Environment Committee approved a budget of £500 to cover small projects (to include greenhouse, guttering and wildflower planting).**

b)      Proposal relating to existing headstone in the Burial Ground.

A member of the public has raised a headstone which does not confirm to policy (photograph included). This is a historic error which has previously been reported and discussed with the stonemason. Issues around policy and consistency were considered. Item deferred - further consideration.

At 20.55 hours Cllr McQuillan joined the meeting.

c)      Burial Ground and Closed Churchyard roles and responsibilities

Cllr Fagg proposed a session to determine Parish Council roles and statutory responsibilities for the Burial Ground and Closed Churchyard (including role of the charitable trust) and ensure they are documented. Cllr James, Fagg and Anderson to investigate what information is held, gaps in knowledge and progress with an informal meeting. All members welcome.

E21.010      Footpaths and Cycle Paths

- a) Cllr Fagg set out a proposal to create a Working Group to review all public rights of way in the parish with a view to improving access for those with mobility challenges, working with landowners to improve the network of footpaths and discussion with landowners to extend the network of footpaths. **Cllr Fagg to lead and progress.**
  
- b) PRoW Newsletter:  
Cllr Fagg gave an update on the PRoW Newsletter - two issues have been sent through mail chimp. Third has been drafted and should be ready to go out by the end of the week. 90 residents on the circulation list. **Cllr McAllister Kemp to assist with promotion on the website / social media.**

E21.011      Highways, Car Parks and Airport

- a) Management of abandoned vehicles at Theynes Croft Car Park:  
Abandoned vehicle on PC land. **Clerk to progress arranging removal.**
  
- b) PCAA: Update on Bristol Airport Planning Appeal and PCAA representative:  
It was agreed that Cllr Fagg and the Chairman will draft a response based on previous resolution of LAPC to oppose the airport expansion. New PCAA rep is required. Expression of interest invited – anyone interested to notify the Clerk.
  
- c) Grit Bin removal/ replacement at Providence Lane:  
This item was covered under Matters Arising.
  
- d) Car parking in Leigh Woods:  
Cllr Harris reported parking at Leigh Woods is still the number one problem. DYL's have been applied and reduced safety issues in certain roads. Still receiving many visitors at the weekend. Police and NSC Enforcement Team both assisting. Still anticipating installation of pay and display scheme and complete the DYL's. Speed enforcement vehicle has been in attendance every fortnight. Parking issues also reported at Beggar Bush Lane.
  
- e) Kingcott Mill Farm road safety:  
Cllr Fagg reported having met with resident – it is not possible to walk to either bus stop without walking on the road. Even where there is a pavement it is very narrow. Discussion took place around options and Cllr McQuillan suggested the only way to solve the problem is to radically redesign the road or to provide a footpath but this would require the permission of the landowner. **Cllr Fagg to liaise with Cllr Cave.**
  
- f) Village Enhancement Scheme & Planters:
  - i) Long Ashton Planters consulted upon in the Autumn, implemented in January 2021 as part of a project to make the road safe for COVID-19. The PC have received a significant number of messages on Facebook (80+) majority have not been in support however the planters have not yet been planted. Lessons learned about communication and consultation. Members agree further consultation with residents is now required.  
**RESOLVED: The Environment Committee approved a budget of £200 each for 5 planters. Action delegated to Clerk. Cllr Fagg Chairman and Clerk to liaise.**
  
  - ii) Leigh Woods  
Cllr Harris advised he has identified several projects re-staking of verges. By next meeting draft plan to carry out this work. Film crew reported to have demolished verges North Rd. **Cllr Harris to raise with NSC.**

E21.012      Pollution and waste

a)      Tagging/ spray painting on bus stops/ signs:

Members were advised of update from PCSO Newell at Full Council. Offender has been arrested and community resolution is now underway.

b)      Litter bin at War Memorial:

No litter bin at War Memorial.

c)      To resolve to replace a number of damaged dog waste bins:

RESOLVED: The Environment Committee approved the replacement of up to five dog bins with a budget of £300 per bin (replaced at Clerks discretion). Clerk to investigate longer term strategy for bins and whether some dog waste bins could be swapped for general waste bins (*To include investigating whether the additional bins could be emptied by NS and suitability of locations*).

E21.013      Correspondence to note any not included above.

a)      CPRE Avon and Bristol branchy seeking donations.

Item to go to F&GP February 2021.

E21.014      Other Items for Information

Letters written by clerk under delegated authority - None to report.

Items raised for information:

- Member note increase in national increase living wage - Matter for F&GP.
- Footpath LA12/10. Damage by tree roots raised by resident – item to be added to future agenda.

Date of next meeting – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021. At 21:49 hours, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting.