

Long Ashton Parish Council

The quarterly meeting of the above Council was held at the Parochial Schools on Tuesday January 7 at 8 p.m.

Mr James Marsh presided and there were also present Messrs J Fuller, J Hamblin, W P Kingston, W Tucker, and W R Withers.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Clerk reported the replies of Mr H B Napier concerning Waterman's fence and Gregory's hedge and from the Rural District Council re the alleged dangerous fence at the side of the road between Gatcombe Court and the Batch and enclosing a copy of a report made by the County Surveyor as follows: "My attention was directed to this matter when I last drove over the road with the District Surveyor. The complaint refers to the road above the Great Western Railway cutting near Gatcombe Court. There is a wide grass verge in most places along the road and I do not see anything dangerous in the existing circumstances. The road scrapings could be piled up and a bank soon thus formed is desirable but beyond this I recommend that nothing be done".

The Local Government Board's reply respecting repairs to stiles and bridges was read to and considered by the meeting.

Mr Hamblin reported that the question of deciding which were public footpaths was still under consideration and Dr Fuller proposed, Mr Withers seconding that the matter be referred back to the Committee for completion. Carried unanimously.

Dr Fuller also proposed and Mr Kingston seconded that without prejudice the Council deal with the bridge mentioned in the Committee's report and accept Mr Napier's offer to present the wood, the Parish Council to carry out the repairs. Carried unanimously.

Mr Hamblin and Mr W P Kingston were appointed to see the work carried out.

On the proposition of Mr Kingston seconded by Mr Hamblin the seal of Mr William Perry as a member of the Parish Council having been declared vacant through Mr Perry's disqualification.

Dr Fuller proposed and Mr Kingston seconded that Mr Herbert Jefferies of the Mead Long Ashton be elected a member of the Long Ashton Parish Council to fill the casual vacancy. Mr Tucker proposed and Mr Hamblin seconded an amendment that Mr George Cox of Richmond Villa Long Ashton be elected.

On a division there vote

For the amendment: Mr Wm Tucker and Mr J Hamblin

For the original proposition: Dr J Fuller, Mr W P Kingston, Mr W R Withers.

The Chairman did not vote.

The Chairman thereupon declared Mr Herbert Jefferies duly elected. Mr Brock wanted in a notice of intention of Mr Cox to appeal.

The following letter from Mr J C Brock was considered by the Council:

“Ivy House

Long Ashton

January 7 1908

To the Long Ashton Parish Council

Gentlemen I consider it my duty to respectfully call your attention to the Disgraceful and dangerous condition of the public thoroughfare leading from the Main Road into West Leaze and passing between property in the occupation of Messrs Watts, Young, Vowles and Staynings. I understand this path was repaired some time ago by the PC but as this is undoubtedly one of the oldest highways in your Parish I am inclined to consider it to be the duty of the DC to bear the cost of keeping the same in proper repair – hoping the matter will receive first consideration by your Council, I remain, Yours respectfully J C Brock”

Dr Fuller proposed and Mr Withers seconded that the path referred to be repaired by the Parish Council Mr Hamblin moved an amendment that the Clerk write to the District Council requesting them to take immediate action in the above matter and pointing out the dangerous state of the steps. The amendment was carried.

Mr Hamblin proposed and Mr Kingston seconded that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk make arrangements to call a Parish Meeting at an early date and also arrange for a suitable gentleman to explain the Small Holdings and Allotments Act. Carried unanimously.

The Clerk was instructed to obtain 12 copies of the Act for the use of the Parish Council.

Mr Kingston proposed that the allotment rent of £48.13.9 due to Mr H B Napier for the Ashton Court Estate be paid. Carried unanimously.

A letter from Mr J Hamblin accompanied by a plan and asking for the sanction of the Council to the diversion of the path now leading from the Ashton Ovens was considered and it was resolved to defer the matter till the Council's next meeting.

Mr Hamblin moved and Dr Fuller seconded that the present Council meeting be adjourned till Tuesday January 14th. Carried unanimously.

Mr Kingston proposed and Dr Fuller seconded that the Clerk again write to the School Managers respecting the comfort of the Parish Council at their meetings and state that a fire was desirable through the winter months.

Carried unanimously.

Adjourned Meeting

The adjourned meeting of the Long Ashton Parish Council was held at the Long Ashton Parochial Schools on Thursday January 16 1908 Mr H B Napier presiding.

There were also present Messrs J Hamblin, S Harding, H Jefferies, James Marsh, W Tucker, W R Withers, Mr Jefferies signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

Mr Joseph Avery apologised by letter for unavoidable absence.

Mr J Marsh moved and Mr W Tucker seconded that the Parish Council having considered an application from the Ashton Vale Iron Company for the diversion of the footpath at Ashton Vale as set out in the plan duly signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council offers no objection to the

proposed diversion which they consider will be to the advantage rather than to the disadvantage of the public. Carried unanimously.

A correspondence from Mr P Ogden relating to lamp posts for Leigh Woods in the vicinity of his house was read and the Clerk was instructed to write Mr Ogden saying that the Council had no power to deal with the matter.

The Revd L H Deering's letter respecting the warning of the schools at Council Meetings was read stating that the managers had agreed that the Clerk to the Council should acquaint Mr Gunston with the dates of the meetings when he would see that the room was properly heated.

The Charity Commission Scheme together with letter dated November 18 1907 was brought before the Council. It was decided to excuse the following rents: Plot 5 No 4, Hancock 3/9 half year ending September 29 1907. (4:7) Hancock.a. 10 shillings for year ending March 25 1908 on account of his getting it into a proper working order, J Watts (2:1) 12/6. (3:27) C Shore 5 shillings.

Mr Hamblin moved and Mr Marsh seconded that the Clerk be allowed ten pounds for collecting the current special rate. Carried unanimously.

A Special Parish Meeting was held at the Long Ashton Parochial Schools pursuant to notice on Friday January 17 1908 at 8 p.m. at which Col Long explained the provisions of the Small Holdings and Allotment Act. The Chairman (Mr H B Napier) then asked for the names of applicants both for small holders and allotments the former to be forwarded to the County Council the latter to be dealt with by the Parish Council. The following applied for small holdings:

Joseph Fuge, Market Gardener, George Kingston Labourer, Ernest James Cow Keeper, Harry James Chorley General Dealer, George Parsons Haulier, Robert Pike Market Gardener, John Beames Inn Keeper, John Ayres Coal Dealer, William Marsh Farmer's Son, Maurice Fritter Labourer, Stephen Ogbourne Labourer, Charles Williams Labourer, Francis Radford Labourer, James Rossiter Labourer.

The Chairman moved a hearty vote of thanks to Col Long for giving up his time and coming to explain the Act to the meeting. Mr Stephen Harding seconded this and was carried.

Mr J Hamblin moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman. This was seconded by Mr R Harding and carried.

Chairman

Long Ashton Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting of the Long Ashton Parish Council was held at the Schools on Friday March 27 1908 at 7.30 p.m. there being a fair attendance. Mr H B Napier took the chair.

The Accounts of the Long Ashton Parochial Charity were presented to the meeting by the Clerk Mr A G Thomas.

The Chairman invited any of those present to ask questions if they desired to.

Mr A J Poultney and Mr Wm Tucker expressed their opinion that the business of parish council meetings should be reported and Mr R E March agreed to attend the Council meetings and report.

Mr S Harding asked if a list of the applicants for small holdings and allotments had been sent to the County Council and the Chairman replied in the affirmative.

Remarking on the allotments the Chairman said that there was little encouragement to give further allotments when the rents were so difficult to collect. The District Auditor had said that no credit was to be given and the Parish Council would have to seriously consider whether they would renew the lease when it had run out unless allotment holders paid better.

No further questions being put the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

Mr Hamblin proposed and Mr S Harding seconded a vote of thanks to the Chairman who acknowledged the same.

H Napier

A Special Meeting of the Long Ashton Parish Council was held at the Parochial Schools on Friday March 27th at the close of the Parish Meeting Mr H B Napier presided and there were also present Messrs J Avery, J Hamblin, S Harding, H Jefferies, W Tucker and W R Withers.

Accounts amounting to £11:0:3 were passed for payment. The Clerk was instructed to write to Geo Andow stating that the Council was not satisfied with the way in which the drinking fountain and trough were looked after and to say that someone else would be appointed if greater attention were not given to these matters.

Mr Jefferies moved and Mr Withers seconded that the footbridge over the Ashton Brook between the Church and the cricket ground be repaired. Carried unanimously.

Mr Tucker proposed and Mr Jefferies seconded that the keeping of the key of the Birdwell allotments by Mrs Powell be discontinued.

H Napier – Chairman

Long Ashton Parish Council

The Annual Meeting of the above Council was held at the Parochial Schools on Tuesday April 7 1908 at 8 p.m.

There were present Messrs H B Napier, J Avery, J Hamblin, S Harding, H Jefferies, Wm Tucker and W R Withers.

Mr Hamblin said it was with pleasure he moved that Mr H B Napier be re-elected Chairman of the Council.

Mr Avery seconded and Mr S Harding supported and the resolution was unanimously carried.

Mr Napier then took the chair. Mr Tucker proposed and Mr Avery seconded that Mr James Marsh be re-elected Vice-Chairman. This was carried unanimously.

The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the outgoing Overseers Messrs J Hamblin and J Avery for their past services remarking that no one could do the work better.

Mr Avery intimated that he did not wish to be re-elected but Mr Hamblin would be willing to serve another year.

The Chairman moved and Mr W R Withers seconded that Mr J Hamblin and Mr W P Kingston be appointed Overseers for the ensuing year. Carried unanimously.

The Chairman proposed and Mr Jefferies seconded that Mr J Hamblin be re-elected a representative school manager. Carried unanimously.

Mr Joseph Avery on behalf of the Committee Footpaths Committee presented their completed report together with ordnance sheets with the paths agreed upon marked in blue pencil.

Mr Hamblin spoke of the pleasant way in which Mr Napier had met the Committee with regard to settling the paths and hoped the public would not want to dispute and go to old paths.

Mr Avery endorsed these remarks Mr Avery moved and Mr Jefferies seconded that the Parish Council is of opinion that the path going diagonally across the church yard serves no useful purpose and as it is

dangerous it is resolved that the Council would strongly recommend its being closed. Carried unanimously.

The plans presented having been carefully examined Mr Hamblin moved and Mr Jefferies seconded the adoption of the report presented by the Footpaths Committee.

The report was unanimously adopted. The Chairman moved and Mr S Harding seconded that the Clerk write to the District Council to say in reply to their letter accompanied by copy of bye-law and dated February 1908 that the Parish Council heartily approves of the proposed bye-law under the Locomotives Act 1898 and will render every assistance in their power to carry it out if passed. Carried unanimously.

W M Tucker and the Clerk were to make arrangements to have the Providence Allotment hedge cut.

The Clerk read the following letter from the Rural District Council

“Flax Bourton, Bristol

27th January 1908

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 20th instant was brought before this Council at their last meeting when the District Surveyor was directed to have the steps and church path repaired.

Yours faithfully

(signed) Albert E Hicks, Clerk”

W H C Guyatt, Clerk, Parish Council Long Ashton.

The Clerk reported that G Andow had resigned charge of the fountain.

H Napier.

The Long Ashton Parish Council met at the Parochial Schools on Friday July 10 1908 at 8 p.m.

Present Mr H B Napier in the Chair, Mr James Marsh, Vice Chairman and Messrs J Avery, J Hamblin, H Jefferies and Wm Tucker.

Mr Napier reported that the District Council had allowed one of their men to look after the fountain and keep it clean and £1 per annum but as the tap that regulated the flow of water was accessible to boys it was resolved that he should get this made secure. Carried unanimously.

Mr W Tucker and the Clerk reported that they had agreed to allow Fred Davis one half years rent of his allotment for cutting his hedge. This was adopted.

The Clerk read a letter from the District Auditor dated 9th June 1908 calling attention to the fact that there did not appear to be any record of the rent to be paid the Ashton Court Estate for the new allotments Birdwell and the conditions on which it was held and the price per perch to be charged the Council's tenants.

It was resolved on the proposition of Mr Hamblin seconded by Mr Marsh that the rent of £2:2:2 is £8:17:6 per annum and that this rent starts from March 25 1907; the fences to be maintained by the Council but not the wall adjoining the main road.

That the conditions appertaining to the allotment lands rented from the Estate under leave shall apply to this new taking and that when this lease expires at the 25th March 1909 the Estate will then grant a fresh lease, if desired, of all the lands now rented by the Council. That the rent charged to the Council's tenants is at the rate of sixpence per perch.

The ordnance sheets in connection with the footpaths were signed by the members present. Accounts were passed amounting to £51:18:9.

Mr Napier proposed and Mr Avery seconded that the clerk be allowed ten pounds for collecting the special rate for the current half year, Mr Avery remarking that this was now too much for the work done and Mr Tucker being of the same opinion.

The Chairman thought that a sub-committee should be formed to consider the question of the Clerk's remuneration.

H Napier

Long Ashton Parish Council

The above Council met at the Parochial Schools on Tuesday October 6th 1908 at 8 p.m.

There were present Mr H B Napier in the Chair, Mr James Marsh Vice Chairman and Messrs J Avery, J Fuller, J Hamblin, R Harding, S Harding, H Jefferies, W P Kingston, W Tucker and W R Withers.

A letter from Stephen Ogbourne was read requesting that he might be allowed to give up No 2 allotment in Plot 6 and to take No 4 from Henry Barnes upon paying him compensation. The Clerk was instructed to write stating that the Council agreed to the exchange of plots but could not recognise any settlement between tenants, looking upon this as a matter that should be effected by the Council.

It was agreed to let J Beames rent his allotment plot 8 @ 8 shillings per year in future on account of loss to crops through the Elm Tree close to the allotment. He could also cut the roots entering his allotment. Mr J Gale applied for permission to store a small iron bin for the purpose of storing about a dozen two gallon cans of petrol on his allotment.

Mr Marsh proposed and Mr Napier seconded that the clerk should write saying that the Council would grant permission but would accept no responsibility or liability whatever.

A letter from the Bristol Post Office with reference to the curtailment of hours of sub postmasters was considered – the Council resolving to offer no objection to the proposals contained in the letter (dated October 6th 1908).

Mr Marsh mentioned that Yanley Lane sewage matter was running out and Dr Fuller explained that the defect would be attended to tomorrow.

Mr Napier moved and Mr Kingston seconded that the District Council be asked to hand over the management of the outfall works of the sewage farm to the Parish Council in order that they may receive more direct supervision. Carried unanimously.

Mr H B Napier moved and Mr Kingston seconded that this Council thanks the Rural District Council for having used a hard store through

the village and hopes the experiment which has proved so satisfactory will become the practice in the future. The Parish Council further asks that the District Council will obtain permission from the County Council for a portion of the road through the village to be treated with tar.

Dr J Fuller moved as an amendment that the portion of the resolution relating to tar omitted Mr R Harding seconded.

Upon the amendment being put to the meeting, then voted for it three and against it four.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The resolution of Mr Napier was then put as a substantive resolution and was carried.

H Napier.