

**Parish Council**  
**11<sup>th</sup> February 1946**

At a special meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church House, Long Ashton on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 1956

Present: Chairman: A. E. Morrish Esq. presiding over the following members Messrs Ball, Bollom, Knapman, Pearce, Skinner, Stacey, and Yeo.

The notice convening the meeting was read.

Number of Parish Councillors

The Chairman read a Public Notice which had been issued by the Somerset County Council stating that there were prepared to receive applications for an increased number of Parish Councillors, and setting out the scale of populations on which the number would be calculated. For a Parish of 1800 and upwards the number could be fifteen.

Upon the proposition of Mr Pearce, seconded by Mr Skinner it was resolved that applications be made to the County Council for the number of Councillors to be increased from eleven to fifteen. This was carried unanimously.

Town Planning

The Surveyor to the Long Ashton R. D. Council Mr G. K. Foster, attended the meeting by invitation, as did so Mr W. R. Hollis, Rural District Councillor, and produced the draft Town Planning Maps and explained the proposals of the Town Planning Officer.

After careful consideration the Council came to the conclusion the new road shown on the plan to join the Weston super Mare road near Ashton Bridge, should be routed so that it entered the city by joining up with Ashton Drive. The building zones were also discussed and recommendations made as to an extension near the area of Warren Lane and in Wild Country Lane beyond the railway and on the opposite side to the University of Bristol Research Station Land.

**Parish Council**  
**18<sup>th</sup> March 1946**

The Annual Parish Meeting was held at the Church House, Long Ashton on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1946 at 7pm.

Mr O. J. Ball was in the Chair. Mr A. G. Morris, Chairman had sent an apology for being unable to attend.

The Notice convening the meeting was read and confirmed.

The Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 1945 were read and signed.

Parochial Charities

The Clerk read the Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 1945 which showed a total income of £493. 2. 3. and expenditure of £342. 19. 0 and a balance of £150. 3. 3 carried forward.

Street Lighting

The accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 1946 were presented and an estimate of the expenditure in the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 1947 was given. Upon the proposition of Mr Peace, seconded by Mr Skinner, it was resolved that a sum of £400 be raised to cover expenses in the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 1947.

There was no further business for discussion and the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

**Parish Council**  
**18<sup>th</sup> March 1946**

At a Meeting of the Parish Council, held at Church House, Long Ashton, on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 1946 after the close of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Present: Presiding Chairman – Mr O. J. Ball. Messrs, Yeo, Skinner, Mitchell, Knapman, Pearce, Milner, Bollom and Stacey.

There was an apology for non-attendance from the Chairman, Mr A. Morrish.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December were read, confirmed and signed.

Allotments

The Clerk reported writing to the Ashton Court Estate with regard to the Grass Allotments in Wild Country Lane and Mr Worrall had stated he would go into the matter.

The Report of the Allotment Committee was presented as set out below:

Long Ashton Parish Council

Report of the Allotments Committee

Your Committee met on March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm when there were present Messrs. Geo. Yeo in the Chair, A. E. Morrish, G. Childe, and S. Mitchell.

Providence Allotments

The Clerk reported that Notice had been served by the Ashton Court Estate requiring the Parish Council to give up the land at Providence by 29<sup>th</sup> September 1946, as the land was required for building. Notice to quit had been served on each tenant. Mr Wilmott, Builder, who was anxious to develop the land for housing, has written stating that if it is possible to obtain possession of the land on March 25<sup>th</sup> 1946 he would be very grateful, and has stated he will compensate tenants if they agree to vacate on that date. The Clerk informed all of the tenants of this and asked if they would be prepared to vacate on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Some tenants were agreeable but other required full six months notice. The Clerk's action was approved and it was left in his hands to do what he could to assist Mr Wilmott to obtain early possession.

Vacant plots

St. Martins no. 9/1 - £6. 8d. void

        /6 - £6. 8d. void

        7 - £6. 8d. void

9/11 (W. E. James (would be vacant at 29<sup>th</sup> Sept 1946, Mr James had informed the Clerk that if he could let it before he would be agreeable to give it up immediately.

Birdwell 10/9 Birdwell (Todd) would be vacant at 25<sup>th</sup> March. It was agreed to allow Mr Llewellyn tenant of no. 10/8 to take this plot if he desired owing to his plot being of poor land.

Changes in tenancy

St. Martins – 2/8 Mr Yemm (formerly Mr Halfyard)

Archgrove – 3/10 F. W. Burgess (formerly G. Burgess)

St. Martins – 2/14 W. E. James  
Grass Allotment – Mr P Yeo (formerly Mr Geo. Yeo)

Birdwell – Mr Cumner 10/15

The Clerk reported that Mr Cumner had now moved to Ashton Gate to live, but that he hoped to return to Long Ashton soon and wanted to keep the garden. Rent for current year has been paid. This was agreed.

Grass Allotments – Wild Country Lane

The Clerk reported that he had not yet heard from the Ashton Court Estate in regard to the Council's suggestion to give up this ground.

Archgrove – Nuisance caused by dogs and cats

The Clerk reported he had received several complaints in regard to nuisance caused by dogs from tenants of the houses at the top of Archgrove, and also of the fact that some of the tenants there were using the allotment field as a right of way at the top end. The Clerk was directed to write to Messrs. Maggs, Routley and Gillett, No's 9, 10, 11 Archgrove asking them, if they were dog owners, to be sure that their dogs cause no nuisance to the allotment holders, and also pointing out that the allotment field is private property and no right of way exist across it.

Fence at Archgrove

It was reported that the fence fronting the main road at Archgrove was in need of repair. Resolved – that the matter be deferred for a short while, when an inspection would be made by the Committee.

The Report was adopted and with regard to the letting of vacant plots the Committee were authorised to let the ground free of rent if considered necessary on account of gardens which were in a bad state of cultivation. It was decided that a Notice be displayed in regard to vacant plots.

Clerkencombe Quarry

Mr Skinner reported he has seen Mr Forbes with regard to the ownership and the Clerk stated a letter had been received from Mr Forbes on the matter which gave an extract from Mr Forbes' interview as follows:-  
“10<sup>th</sup> January. Attending Mr John Skinner of 64 Ridgeway Road, Long Ashton, on his calling when he handed us copy of Long Ashton Enclosure Commissioners' Award dated 20<sup>th</sup> May 1820. He said he had known Clerkencombe Quarry for 45 years last past, during which period it had been in the possession of the Inhabitants of the Parish of Long Ashton and he had never known or heard of such Quarry being subject to an encumbrance easement or right of any kind or of any Charitable Trust and he had never known or heard of any adverse claim having been made by any person to the property or to any part thereof and believed same to be the exclusive and indispensable property of the inhabitants of the Parish and believed that no deeds or writing relating to the property existed relating to the property existed except the said Award and he said he could make a statutory declaration if necessary to that effect”.

The Clerk also reported the receipt of a letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> January from the Ashton Court Estate which stated that “though the matter was not free from doubt they consider the ownership of the Quarry is now vested in the Long Ashton Rural District

Council, and as a consequence the Este makes no claim to the ownership of the quarry”.

It was resolved that before any further steps are taken by the Parish Council, Mr Skinner be asked to make a statutory possessory title.

#### Footpaths

The Clerk reported writing to the District Surveyor in regard to the Church Path at Forge Cottages and read the reply from the Surveyor which quoted previous correspondence with the Parish Council in regard to Church paths and from which it appeared that the County Council accepted no liability for such paths.

Mr Skinner reported seeing Mr Forbes as requested and that he expected Mr Forbes to write to the Council on this matter although Mr Forbes last stated that he did not express any opinion on the matter. Upon the proposition of Mr Pearce, seconded by Mr Mitchell, it was resolved that a letter be forwarded to Col. Gibb asking him to take the matter up with the County Council. It was also decided that efforts be made to obtain evidence as to the age of the paths in question.

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the War Agricultural Committee in regard to the withdrawal of the directions issued to farmers to plough up certain footpaths under the Defence Regulations.

#### Precept

It was resolved that a Precept be served on the Rating Authority for £40 General Expenses and £200 Lighting Expenses for the half year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 1946.

Accounts The Clerk presented a draft receipts and payments account for the current year. It was resolved that one quarter of the Clerks Salary be charged each year to the Allotment Account, this management to apply for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 1946.

#### Peace Celebration

Letter was read, from the Ministry of Health, authorising reasonable expenditure on the celebrations for Victory Day. It was resolved that no expenditure of the Parish Council be incurred, but that the Village Association be asked if they would be good enough to make arrangements for celebrations.

#### Bus Services

A letter from the tenants of Fenswood Road was received asking if the Council would support an application for re-placement of the bus stop at the end of Fenswood Road, the present stop at the Research Station being very inconvenient. It was resolved that a letter be written to the Company asking that steps be taken to replace the bus stop referred to.

#### Payments of Accounts

The following cheques were ordered to be drawn:

Haddon Best Co.	£ 1. 9. 6.	Receipt and Payments Book
Shaws Ltd	6. 0.	Stationery
Philpotts Ltd.	£1. 8. 2.	Stationery
Ashton Court Estate	£39. 2. 9.	Allotment Rent – half year to 25 <sup>th</sup> March 1946.
Bank of England	£9. 16. 9.	Loan Charges
Somerset Co. Council	£2. 3. 0.	Superannuation
A. R. Harper	£13.18.6	Salary and expenses

Inland Revenue            £2.17. 0.      Income Tax - PAYE

Lighting Agreement

The Agreement with the North Somerset Electric Supply Co. Ltd. Was signed on behalf of the Parish Council by the presiding Chairman, Mr Skinner and Mrs Pearce.

**Parish Council**  
**29<sup>th</sup> April 1946**

At the Annual Meeting of the Long Ashton Parish Council held at the Church House, Long Ashton, on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm.

Present: Mrs M. Maltby and Messrs O. Ball, S. Bollom, S. Cole, C. Hurley, S Legge, G. Low, W. Mereweather, N. Pearce, S Skinner, G. Stacey, G. Yeo, Rev. Knapman.

Apologies for non-attendance received from Mr A. Morrish and Mr G. Childe.

The members present being newly elected made the necessary Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Chairman

Before proceeding with the business of electing a Chairman, the Clerk read a letter received from Mr A. Morrish, in which he stated he was sorry he was unable to be present but would be glad if the Council would consider electing O. Ball as Chairman. Mr Morrish, in his letter printed out that Mr Ball was 'father of the Parish Council' and had a vast stance of local knowledge and would be a most fitting person to elect to the Chair.

The Clerk then asked for nominations for Chairman. Mr Pearce spoke in support of Mr Morrish's letter but Mr Ball after thanking the Council for their kind consideration of his services, stated he would prefer not to be elected as Chairman.

Upon the proposition of Mr Pearce, seconded by Mr Stacey, it was resolved that Mr A. Morrish be Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

Chairman

Upon the proposition of Mr H Knapman, seconded by Mr Skinner it was resolved that Mr O. Ball be the Vice Chairman.

Mr Ball in the absence of the Chairman took the chair.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March were read, confirmed and signed.

Allotments

Providence The Clerk reported in regard to the tenants who had agreed to give up their tenancies so as to permit Mr Willmott to obtain permission for building.

Grass Allotments – Wild Country Lane The Clark reported that he had not yet had a definite reply from the Ashton Court Estate in regard to the proposal to terminate the lease.

Changes in tenancies

9/1	St Martins	Now let to Mr Yemin
9/11	St Martins	Now let to Mr Blackmore
9/7	St Martins	Now let to Mr Hole
9/6	the only vacant plot	
10/9	Birdwell	Now let to Mr G. Harding

Birdwell 10/15 (Cumner). It was reported that the ground was not being cultivated it was resolved that notice to quit be issued in this case.

The Clerk reported that the Allotments Committee has met at Archgrove and inspected the path over which it was alleged that Mr Maggs of Archgrove was trespassing, and of which the Committee had received complaints. There was some evidence of trespass but there did not appear to be any damage caused by this. It was resolved that a letter be forwarded to Mr Maggs stating that he must no longer trespass on the allotments and must cease to use the hauling way as an access from Archgrove to Keeds Lane, and that if he continued to do so the Council would be bound to take action against him.

It was also reported that the Committee had inspected the fence at Archgrove and that directions had been given for the necessary repairs to be carried out.

#### Notice boards

The Clerk was authorised to provide Notice Boards for the Allotments stating the provisions of Section 18 of the Allotments Act 1922 in regard to damage to allotments.

#### Clerkencombe Quarry

The Clerk reported that Mr Skinner had seen Mr Forbes, the Solicitor, in regard to the Declaration of Possessory Title and has been advised that it would not be necessary to make such a Declaration unless the Parish Council had definitely decided to dispose of the property by sale.

After careful consideration, upon the proposition of Mr Pearce, seconded by Mr Stacey, it was resolved that the Ashton Containers Ltd be offered the tenancy of the Quarry, as a tip for the yearly rental of £25, on condition that no nuisance is caused and that the Company absolve the Council from any action which might be attributed to their use of the quarry as a tip.

It was also resolved that in the event of the Company not agreeing to the terms the Chairman and Vice Chairman be authorised to find a suitable tenant.

#### Rights of Way

The Clerk reported that he had not written to Col. Gibbs as directed as after perusal of the minute book, it was discovered that similar action had been taken in 1942 and on that occasion Col. Gibbs had stated that in view of the contents of the letter written to the Parish Council by the Clerk of the County Council he did not see any advantage in taking the matter further.

Mr Skinner reported that he had visited the Ashton Court Estate Office with a view to finding old Parish Maps giving detail of the paths before 1835 but could find nothing earlier than 1840 and this in respect of the paths leading to the Church only.

After consideration of the matter, upon the proposition of Mr Pearce, seconded by Mr Skinner, it was resolved that no further action be taken.

#### Bus Stop – Fenswood Road

The Clerk reported writing to the Tramways Co. with regard to the re-placement of this bus stop and read the reply from the Company which stated that the Ministry of Transport restriction in regard to the number of bus stops had not been relaxed. The Clerk was authorised to follow in this matter with a further letter.

#### Recreation Ground.

A letter from the Long Ashton Village Association was read asking permission to construct a children's playground on the Parish Recreation Ground and offering to

equip it with swings etc. Mr Bollom produced a model of the proposed new Recreation Ground and explained the draft proposals of the Village Association. It was resolved that the Village Association be given permission to construct as children's playground as suggested and that the thanks of the Council be expressed to them their kindness in providing this.

#### Committees

The following were appointed:

#### Lighting Committee

Messrs Ball, Childe, Skinner, Yeo, Stacey, Low and Harley.

It was resolved that Mr R. Milner of Leigh Woods be co-opted to the Lighting Committee.

#### Allotments Committee

Messrs Ball, Childe, Morrish, Yeo, Skinner, Legge and Cole.

#### Recreation Ground Committee

Mrs Maltby, Messrs. Childe, Knapman, Pearce, Morrish, Stacey, Bollom and D. Mereweather.

#### School Managers

Rev. Knapman reported that Mr Pearce, who had represented the Council on the School Managers, had now been made a Foundation Manager and the Council should nominate someone to fill the vacancy. It was resolved that Mr Skinner, be so appointed for a period of 3 years to 31<sup>st</sup> March 1949.

#### Swann Benefaction

Before proceeding to nominate a representative on this Charity, Mr Pearce drew the attention of the Council to the fact that Mr Milner had decided not to seek re-election on the Parish Council and as a result the Council had lost a most valuable member. Mr Pearce proposed that a letter be written to Mr Milner expressing the thanks of the Council for all the help he had given and for his services as a Parish Councillor. This was carried unanimously.

It was resolved that the representative on the Swann Benefaction be Rev. Knapman for the ensuing year.

#### Amounts for payment

The following cheques were drawn:-

Phillpots Ltd	£ - 16. 3.	Stationery
Somerset County Council	£3. 0. 0.	Superannuation
		Equal amount charges 1945/6

#### Providence – Flashing Tank

The Clerk was directed to write to the Rural District Council pointing out the need for the tank to be properly fenced.

#### Manhole – Providence

It was reported that a manhole in Providence was dangerous and the Clerk was directed to bring this to the notice of the Surveyor.

Declarations of Acceptance of Office

It was resolved that Messrs Morrish and Childe make their Declarations at the next meeting.

**Parish Council**  
**1<sup>st</sup> July 1946**

At a meeting of the Long Ashton Parish Council held in the Church House, on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 1946, at 7.30pm

Present: Chairman – Mr A. E. Morrish, Vice-Chairman – Mr O. J. Ball, Mrs Maltby and Messrs Yeo, Skinner, Pearce, Bollom, Childe, Mereweather, Lowe, Legge, Stacey and Cole.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the meeting for electing him to this office once again and also extended a welcome to the newly elected Parish Councillors

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April were read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Allotments

The Clerk reported that the Committee had met and had elected Mr Geo. Yeo as its Chairman. In regard to Archgrove Allotments the Notice Board had been erected at the entrance to the field from Keeds Lane.

The Committee have excused the following rent for the summer half year due to the dirty state of the plots:

9/1 Yemin

9/7 Hole

10/15 Redden

It was resolved to confirm the action of the Committee in this matter.

In regard to the complaint of trespass on the Archgrove Allotments it was decided to defer further consideration until the next meeting.

Clerkencombe Quarry

The Clerk reported that he has been in communication with Ashton Containers Ltd and as a result the Chairman of the Council and the Clerk had had an interview with the Manager of the Company who had stated he could not agree to a rental of £25 p.a. It was pointed out that as a result of the termination of then war contracts, their needs for a tip were not now so great, and he was prepared to offer 1/6 per load tipped at the quarry. This was likely to be somewhere in the region of four loads weekly. The Company would continue to keep the tip tidy and would undertake to render accurate returns of the loads tipped.

It was resolved that this offer be accepted subject to the Council reserving the right to terminate it at any time.

Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that after consultation with the Chairman he had asked Mr E. James to cut the grass and the work had been carried out. It was understood that Mr James was prepared to make a payment of 10/- for the grass.

A letter from the Ashton United Football Club was read asking if they could be allowed the use of the Ground in the 1946/7 season. After careful consideration it was resolved that the Clerk be informed that the Council were unable to permit this as it was very likely that teams from the village would require the ground.

It was reported that the Long Ashton Football Club was hoping to run a team shortly and the Clerk was directed to arrange for a meeting with Club Official and the Village Association Recreation Ground Committee in the event of an application being received for use of the Ground.

#### Seats on Recreation Ground

It was reported that the seats on the Ground required painting. It was agreed that this work be carried out and the money remaining in the West memorial Fund be used for this, and any balance met from the Parish Council's account.

In regard to the proposal of the Village Association to construct a playground on the Recreation Ground it was stated that the proposed position of this would interfere with the Football Pitch. Mr Pearce suggested that the construction of the playground be deferred for the present in order to give the Football Club the pitch required and in the hope that next year it would be possible for further improvements to be carried out on the Ground in the way of levelling it.

#### Bus services

It was reported that the Bus Company had replaced the sign at the end of Fenswood Road. The hedge at Walnut Cottage was however obscuring the sign and the Clerk was directed to write to the occupier of Walnut Cottage asking him to cut back the hedge.

A letter from the Easton in Gordano Parish Council was read in regard to the Portishead bus service and asking for the Council's co-operation in securing an improvement. As the Council had received no complaints in regard to this service it was resolved to take no action in the matter.

#### Parochial School

The question of the provision of a barrier on the footpath outside of the entrance to the School was considered and the Clerk redirected to write the Somerset County Council asking if they would consider erecting a barrier in view of the danger to children running out into the very busy road.

#### Rayen's Cross Road

The Clerk was directed to draw the attention of the Somerset County Council to the very bad state of the footpath on this road and also to enquire if the road had yet been taken over by them. Also pointing out the fact that the manhole at the junction of Providence Lane and Ridgeway required resetting as it badly affects the camber of the road.

**Parish Council**  
**9<sup>th</sup> September 1946**

At a meeting of the Long Ashton Parish Council held in the Church House, on September 9<sup>th</sup> 1946 at 8pm.

Chairman - Mr A. G. Morrish Esq.

Vice-Chairman – Mr O. J. Ball

Present: Mrs Maltby, Messrs Pearce, Childe, Bollom, Low, Yeo, Hurley, Stacey and Cole and Rev. H. Knapman.

Apologies for non-attendance from Mr D. Mereweather and S. Leggett and J. Skinner.

Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1946 were read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Allotments

a. Trespass by Maggs – Archgrove.

After further consideration of this matter it was resolved that the Clerk consult Mr J. Skinner as to the action necessary to put a stop to such a trespass.

b. The tenant of Bower Ashton Allotment had asked if they could be represented on the Allotment Committee. It was resolved that no representatives be appointed, but the Committee meet a deputation of allotment holders as and when necessary.

Public Lighting

The Clerk reported that the North Somerset Electric Co. had agreed to a reduction of 3d. per lamp for the period during August when the lights were not in use as a fuel economy measure.

The Clerk also reported receipt of circular 599 from the Ministry of Transport which stated that this Ministry was now the Central Authority for street lighting.

Mr Low drew attention to the fact that trees at the bottom of Mr French's garden 'Hydrangea' were shielding the light on the main road, and the Clerk was directed to write Mr French asking him to be good enough to cut back the trees in question.

Clerkencombe Quarry

The Clerk reported that Ashton Containers Ltd had tipped 19 loads of rubbish at the quarry in July and 14 in August. Also that the account had been received from Mr E. T. Price for repairs to the wall at the Quarry. Mr Ball had inspected the work which he considered satisfactory.

School Barriers

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the County Surveyor stating that the application for a Guard Rail at the entrance to the school would be considered at the next meeting of the County Works Committee.

School Meals

Revd. Knapman informed the Council after enquiries on the subject that steps had been taken to provide facilities for serving school meals and it was hoped within the next month or so that they would be making a start.

### Rayens Cross Road

Correspondence with the County Surveyor was read from which it appeared that the Ashton Court Estate were responsible for the undeveloped portion of the road and the Highway Authority would not take this over until it had been made up to the required standard and building operations practically completed. It was also stated that the manhole at the junction of Rayens Cross Road and Ridgway Road was not causing trouble with the camber of the road, but that the complaints probably arose because of the camber of Providence Lane which would be met when proceeding from Ridgway Road to Rayens Cross Road.

### Footpaths

#### Hobwell Field to Golf Links

The Clerk reported writing to Mr James asking him to replace the gate on this pond. It was understood that Mr James had done nothing in the matter.

#### Yanleigh Lane – Kennel Lane

The Clerk reported receipt of an invoice from the Ashton Court Estate for carrying out repairs to a gate on this path. No instructions had been given on behalf of the Council for this work to be done. It was resolved that the account be returned and the Estate be informed that the Council were not responsible for this work.

### Ashton Hill – Golf Club

The Clerk was directed to write the Long Ashton Golf Club asking them to cut back the hedges onto the path leading from Folleigh Lane to the Golf Links, so as to leave a six foot path as provided for in the Inclosure Award.

Brock Lane – Gatcombe and paths near Railway cutting. The Clerk was directed to write the Long Ashton Research Station asking them to cut back the grass and hedges so as to make the path useable.

### Public Conveniences

A letter from the Long Ashton R. D. C. was read asking if the Council would suggest a suitable site or site for public conveniences.

After consideration it was resolved that the Rural District Council be informed that one Convenience situated near the Recreation Ground would be suitable for this parish. It was suggested that the land near the entrance to the proposed Housing Estate would be a suitable site for this Convenience.

### Conference of Parish Councils

A letter from the Somerset Parish Councils Committee was read, inviting the Council to send representatives to a Conference to be held at Weston super Mare on 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 2pm when the inauguration of a National Parish Councils Associations would be discussed.

It was resolved that Mr Morrish and Mr Bollom represent the Council at the Conference.

### Recreation Ground

The Report of the Committee meeting held on August 19<sup>th</sup> was presented (set out on folio 183).

It was resolved that the Report be approved.

At a meeting of the Recreation Ground Committee of the Long Ashton Parish Council held in the Village Hall, on 19<sup>th</sup> August 1946, at 7.15pm. Present – Mrs Maltby, Mr G. Childe, Mr. S. J. Bollom, Mr G. A. Low was present by invitation.

It was resolved that Mr S. J. Bollom be Chairman of the Committee.

Mr G. A. Low was co-opted as a member of the Committee for this meeting.

#### Football Club

An application for use of the football pitch was received from the Long Ashton A. F. C., and after consideration it was resolved to recommend that the Club be allowed the use of the ground for a payment of five pounds for the Season of 1946/7.

The Notice Boards had not yet been erected, and your Committee recommended that this matter be deferred until such time as the Swings etc. have been erected on the Ground.

#### Damage to Ground

It was reported that members of the Football Club, in an endeavour to improve the ground in front of the goal on the south side of the pitch, had taken turf from the portion where the playground was to be erected. This had been done without permission of the Council.

The Committee then met representatives of the Football Club and the Village Association. The Club was informed that a charge of £5 for the use if the pitch had been agreed, and the Club officials accepted this and a cheque was paid forthwith to the Clerk.

The Chairman then drew the attention of the Club to the fact that they should have asked permission before taking and laying turf. Mr Routly, on behalf of the Club, expressed his regrets that permission was not sought and assured the Committee that this would be attended to on any future occasion.

#### Village Association

Mr Bollom then informed the meeting that the Swings and other equipment ordered by the Village Association has been received and were being stored at Mr Willis's, The Forge, until such time as they can be erected. He explained that the Village Association had had difficulty with the Contactors who had been engaged to lay the playground, and for the time being it was not possible to say when the work would be commenced. It had now been agreed to lay the playground on the south side of the Recreation Ground and in this position it would not interfere with the football pitch. Mr Bollom stated that since the meeting of the Committee he had been able to arrange with the Contractors for a start to be made on the Playground, but that there was now some doubt as to whether the work to be done would be suitable. Mr Low pointed out the need for a proper specification to be agreed before commencement of the work and Mr Ball agreed with this. Mr Bollom stated that he would consult Mr Low and Mr Ball before the Contractor his anything further.

#### Precept

It was resolved to serve Precept on the Rating Authority as follows:

General Expenses                    £70

Lighting Expenses                    £200

For the half year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 1947.

#### Payment of Accounts

The following cheques were drawn.

Bank of England	£9. 14. 7.	Loan Charges due
Cole and Yates	£4. 5. 0.	Repairs to allotment fences

E. T. W. Price	£12. 0. 0.	Repairs to wall – Quarry
Somerset County Council	£4. 6. 0.	Superannuation
North Som. Electric Co.	£86.18. 8.	Lighting Expenses
Ashton Court Estate	£39. 2. 9.	Rent of Allotment Land
A. R. Harper	£14. 0. 6.	Salary and Expenses

Typewriter

The Clerk was authorised to purchase a typewriter for approximately £10.

**Parish Council**  
**27<sup>th</sup> November 1946**

At a Special Meeting of the Long Ashton Parish Council held in the Church House, on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 1946 at 7.00pm:

Present: Chairman - Mr A. G. Morrish Esq.  
Mrs Maltby, Rev. Knapman and Messrs W. Mereweather, G. Stacey, G. Childe, G. Yeo, N. Pearce, G. Low, S. Legge, N. Bollom, C. Harley, J. Skinner.

There was an apology from Mr. J. Cole who was unable to attend.

Bristol Boundary

The Chairman referred to a letter which had been addressed to the Parish Council from the Rural District Council which stated that discussions were shortly to be held with the Assistant Boundary Commissioner with regard to the application of the City of Bristol for an extension of then area, and which proposed to fix the new boundary at Cambridge Batch thus absaling the whole of the parish, with the exception of a very small portion between Cambridge Batch and Flax Bourton. The Rural District Council asked if the Parish Council would consider the matter and state whether or not they were in favour of being absorbed by the City of Bristol.

Mr Pearce and Mr Skinner both representatives on the Rural District Council, explained that attitude of the Rural District Council to the proposals and which was to oppose, as strongly as possible, the suggested boundary changes.

After a lengthy discussion on the matter, upon the proposition of Reverend Knapman, seconded by Mr Mereweather.

It was resolved that the Rural District Council be informed that after very careful consideration the Long Ashton Parish Council are unanimously of the opinion that the parish of Long Ashton should definitely remain within the Rural District Council and the County of Somerset, and in support of this decision, the following facts are given:-

1. It would appear that the Bristol Corporation are anxious to obtain more land for the erection of houses. The Parish Council, about a year ago, were privileged to see the Town Planning Map and examine the Planning proposals so far as they affect Long Ashton, and according to which there was very little land left for residential development. This being the case, the Council are satisfied that the Rural District Council as the local Housing Authority, are making, and will continue to make, the best use of available land for the erection of houses to let, and that so soon as the present restrictions are lifted with regard to building, there will be sufficient incentive among local people to provide themselves with houses on the remaining building land in the parish. The Rural District Council is making every effort to go ahead with their housing programme and in comparison with other authorities is in a very advanced position.
2. The Valley of Long Ashton is land of the highest classification for Agricultural and Market Gardening purposes in the country, as shown by maps prepared by the Bristol University Research Group which is taking part in a National Soil Survey. Therefore the Parish Council are of the unanimous opinion that the taking of this land for building purposes would be deplorable and the utmost resistance should be offered. It is a fact that there is very little of this high grade land in the whole of the County of Somerset.

3. Long Ashton has in its midst one of the most important Agricultural and Horticultural Research Stations in the Country, which is managed by the University of Bristol on behalf of the Agricultural Research Council and the Ministry of Agriculture. The Station has been in existence for forty three years, covering an area of two hundred and seventy three acres. The Council are advised that large scale building in the Village would be disastrous and would, in effect, mean the end of this most important Research work, as the experimental results would not be comparable to field work in the South West Region.
4. Long Ashton is a "village" and the inhabitants wish it to remain a Village. If it were absorbed into the City it would lose its identity and would become just a part of a residential area of the City. There exists in Long Ashton a very fine Community Spirit, which is very evident when one comes to review its record of social activities. The Long Ashton Village Association was formed some two years ago as an Association with a wide range of activities giving benefit to their social life and general well-being. The Association is actively engaged in raising funds for the provision of a Community Centre and Playing Fields to cater for all sections of the Community. A sum of over £5,000 has been raised in under two years by voluntary means towards these objects, and the objects of the local Branch of the British Legion. It is interesting to note that no recourse has had to be made to raising any funds for such purposes from the Rates, nor is it intended to do so. The inhabitants of Long Ashton are very much alive to the fact that they have a real share in helping to make their Village a happy one, and by virtue of the fact that it is so self contained they are sure to continue their activities.  
In addition, Long Ashton has the best supported Women's Institute in the County, the present membership being great than any other County Branch. Women's Institutes are an essential part of a Village and if the City Boundaries are extended the village life will disappear and with it the Women's Institute, which will be a very great loss to local women. Furthermore, we are very jealous of the activities of our Village Association which will also inevitably vanish.  
We claim that our Village Association and communal spirit makes our village as highly organised, if not higher, than any other Villages in the Country.
5. In conclusion the Parish Council is prepared to back the Rural District Council to the utmost in the strongest possible resistance to absorption by Bristol.

#### Street Lighting

A letter was read from the Ministry of Fuel and Power asking if the Council could arrange for a reduction in the hours of street lighting so as to assist in the fuel economy campaign.

It was resolved that as the present standard of lighting is not considered to be entirely adequate and as there is an extremely busy main road in the parish, the Ministry be informed that no reduction could be made.

#### Clerkencombe Quarry

The Clerk read a letter from the Surveyor to the Rural District Council asking permission for Contractors to tip debris from demolished Air Raid Shelters, at the Quarry.

Resolved, that permission be given provided arrangements are made with Ashton Containers Ltd to tip in a place which will not inconvenience them and to the payment of 1/6 per load tipped. Mr Skinner agreed to meet the Surveyor at the Quarry and arrange details with Ashton Containers Ltd.

#### Recreation Ground

It was reported that Contractors who were to lay a new playground at the Recreation Ground had commenced work without receiving instructions from the Village Association. Mr Bollom explained that owing to a change in the specification which had been put forward by the firm concerned, the Village Association had not been able to agree that the work could be satisfactory and having regard to the long term purpose for re-laying the entire ground, it had been agreed that the construction of the playground should be deferred. As the Contractors had ploughed up a certain part of the ground without first obtaining instruction from the Village Association, Mr Bollom stated he was not quite certain who would be responsible for re-instating the ground, but he understood that the Contractors could be held liable.

In view of the danger to children from the uneven state of the ground and the inconvenience due to the removal of turf, it was resolved that the Village Association be asked to arrange for the reinstatement of the ground as soon as possible.

#### December meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.

**Parish Council**  
**9<sup>th</sup> December 1946**

At a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Church House, on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 1946 at 7.30pm:

Present: Presiding Chairman: Mr O. J. Ball. Mrs Maltby, Messrs C. T. Hanley, J. Skinner, W. D. Mereweather, N. Pearce, S. J. Bollom, G. Childe, J. Legge, S. Cole, G. Yeo, G. Low.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from the Chairman, Mr A. E. Morrish, and Revd. Knapman and Mr G. W. Stacey.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> September and 27<sup>th</sup> November were read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

School Meals

Arising out of the minutes Mr Pearce reported that the supply of school meals has now been commenced.

Allotments

Mr Skinner reported that he had gone into the question of trespass by Maggs at Archgrove and was of the opinion that the only way to prevent this was to take legal proceedings. Maggs would have to be caught in the act trespassing on the land and it would be necessary to employ the services of a Solicitor to take the case to the Magistrates.

The Clerk reported that he had not had any complaints made to him about the matter for some considerable time.

It was resolved that no further action be taken at the present time, but that in the event of further complaints being made, the matter again be considered.

School Barriers

The Clerk reported that the County Surveyor had written stating that as the footpath outside the school was only 4 feet wide the guard rail would render the path practically unusable and that the matter had been referred to the Chief Education Officer to consider the provision of a guard rail inside the school premises. A letter was also read from the Chief Education Officer stating that it would be the responsibility of the School Managers to provide a Guard Rail on the school premises. Mr Pearce reported that the matter had been considered by the School Managers who were agreed that it was not possible to provide a Guard Rail inside the school. After further consideration it was resolved that a further application to the County Surveyor be made for a Guard Rail to be provided on the pavement outside the School Gate.

Footpaths

Ashton Hill – Golf Club

The Clerk reported that as directed at the last meeting he had written to the Golf Club asking if they would arrange for the paths to be cleared to a width of six feet.

Correspondence from the Club was read which terminated in a statement to the effect that they had been advised that they were also responsible for the upkeep of the paths and refused to allow their men to clean them.

It was agreed that Mr Skinner should interview the Secretary of the Club in regard to this matter and report at the next meeting.

#### Brock Lane

Mr Childe stated that this path required clearing and that it was the responsibility of the Research Station to do this work, if having been agreed some years ago to allow a diversion of the old path on condition that the Research Station maintained the path. It was resolved that a letter be sent to the Secretary of the Research Station asking if he would arrange for the necessary work to be carried out.

#### Parish Council's Association

It was reported that neither Mr Morrish nor Mr Bollom had been able to attend the Conference at Weston super Mare. The Clerk stated that it had been agreed to form a National Parish Council's Association and also to have Area Committees. No further details had yet been obtained. It was resolved that no action with regard to membership of the Association be taken at the present time.

#### Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that he had written to the Village Association who had replied to the effect that they had not given instructions to Western Paviments Ltd to carry out any work to the Recreation Ground, and they were unable to accept responsibility for this, and further suggesting that Western Paviments should be asked to re-instead the ground.

It was resolved to write to Western Paviments Ltd of Oxford Chambers, St Stephen Street, Bristol, asking them to re-instead the ground to its original condition forthwith.

#### Fenswood Road

It was reported that there were several drainage spaces in the path fronting the hoses on the main road which required gratings placed on them to render the path safe for pedestrians.

The Clerk was directed to draw the attention of the Housing Manager of this.

#### Clerkencombe – Junction with main Bristol / Weston Road

Mr Harley raised the question of the provision of a halt sign at the bottom of Clerkencombe, and it was resolved that the County Surveyor be requested to provide a Halt Sign.

#### Ridgeway Road / providence Lane

The Clerk was directed to ask the County Surveyor if he would consider providing some form of warning sign on the Ridgeway to ward motorists of the cross roads at the junction with Providence Lane. It was also reported that there were no "School Crossing" signs and the Clerk was directed to point this out to the County Surveyor.

#### Payment of Accounts

The following cheques were ordered to be drawn:

Somerset County Council	£ 2. 3. 0.	Superannuation
Ashton Court Estate	4. 3.	Tithe Rent Annuity.
A. R. Harper	£12.10. 0.	Salary

Insoll Co. Ltd.	£10. 0. 0.	Typewriter
G. E. Hancock	£5.11. 8.	Printing
North Somerset	£88.10. 8.	Lighting Expenses
Electric Co. Ltd		

Next meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> March 1947