



## LIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on  
**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 at 7pm in Liddington Village Hall**

**Present:** Councillors Bunney, Cripps, Hill, Lomax (Chair), Moore, and Wilson

Also in attendance: Mr Kevin McNamara, Ward councillor Sumner, Val Curtis (Clerk) and five Members of the public

### **1. GUEST SPEAKER – KEVIN MCNAMARA – INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE, GREAT WESTERN HOSPITAL**

Kevin McNamara opened his presentation by sharing a chart that showed the different areas that are inspected by the Care Quality Commission and where the rating had improved from 'requires improvement' in 2016 to 'good' in 2018. The overall rating remains as 'requires improvement' so there is still work to be done. Accident & Emergency was designed to support 48,000 attendances per year when it first opened in 2002, however that figure has now doubled and continues to increase. Routinely bed occupancy is above 100% when the ideal should be around 89%. The hospital has recently been awarded £30m from the Treasury which is effectively an IOU as it has conditions attached to it for improvements.

The issues with IMH had created a 20% increase in visits to GWH from the affected practices, that had 30,000 patients registered. This has led to the decision to take control of two of the practices as the situation can only be improved and would also be a good test to see how Primary care, Community care and Acute care could work together. Lack of GP numbers is not the only issue, as part time working is the preferred option. GWH are trialling a portfolio career option; three days in practice and two days in a hospital specialist role, e.g. dermatology, to develop additional expertise that is then used back in the community. Other roles such as therapists are also in short supply.

The Way Forward Programme comprises of three elements:

Integrated front Door – bringing together the Emergency Department and Urgent Care Centre as a more joined up environment for people arriving to hospital or via ambulance. This integration will improve patient flow and help to reduce wait times.

Integrated Rehabilitation Services – 5.5 hectares of land to be purchased for expansion and development of a unit designed to offer intensive rehabilitation to patients that integrates services across primary, secondary and community care.

Private Patient Facility – a stand alone unit for privatised, personal care to patients which will allow beds in the main hospital to be freed for NHS patients. The current private patient unit contributes £1.2m to hospital funds which is a significant amount.

### **2. APOLOGIES**

**Resolved:** To approve Cllr Spillane's reason for absence (business related).

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Hill declared an interest as the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee.

### **6. PUBLIC SESSION**

At the request of Cllr Lomax, the Public Session was brought forward.

A Resident complained about the installation of the defibrillator on the outside wall of the Village Hall. He explained that the Village Hall had been carefully designed to fit in with the area. Placing the bright yellow defibrillator on the front of the building was aesthetically inappropriate. Furthermore, it had been placed over the horse ring whose historical significance was now hidden. The resident proposed that the defibrillator be repositioned around the corner but still attached to the Hall. Cllr Lomax confirmed that further consultation with the Village Hall Committee has shown that the majority of members were in favour of the unit. Cllr Lomax asked for the Village Hall Committee to discuss and come back with a formal reassessment.

A second resident raised the issue of a tree at the side of their property that was overgrown and in need of some attention. Cllr Sumner asked for photographs to be sent to him and he would escalate the issue to Swindon Borough Council. The resident had also been regularly cutting the grass on a piece of council owned land and was no longer able to do it.

A complaint was made about the lack of Police presence in the Village as the amount of anti-social behaviour was increasing with stone throwing, cars being scratched and number plates stolen. These comments would be fed back to the Police at the next Community Safety Forum.

#### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Resolved:** The Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019 were approved and signed as a true record.

#### **5. MATTERS ARISING**

Highways Meeting – A letter had been received from the Corporate Director – Communities and Housing, requesting details of any additional work that the Parish Council wanted to undertake. The meeting agreed that details of the flashing speed sign should be forwarded in response to the request.

Trees at the top of Liddington Hill – Cllr Moore had distributed a full report, attached to the minutes in the minute book, confirming the ownership of the land and details of a conversation held with the landowner. It was agreed that the area would be tidied, using sensitivity as it was seen as a spiritual and memorial space for some. A sign would be erected asking for respect to be shown to the trees at the natural entrance. **Action – Cllr Hill**

The clean-up would take place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 10am, meeting in Jubilee Gardens

Commemorative Oak Tree – The cost of a replacement tree would be £120 + VAT

**Resolved:** Cllr Lomax proposed that a replacement tree be ordered. Cllr Moore seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed. **Action - Clerk**

Security Camera over the defibrillator – to be discussed at the next Village Hall Committee Meeting

Footpath & Hedge B4192 – SBC had accepted responsibility and acknowledged that in hindsight it should not have been approved. Highways Officer currently working with Streetsmart to look at removing it. Cllr Wilson to advise the owner of the Rectory. **Action – Cllr Wilson**

Lyden Magazine Project – The project lead had been informed of the Parish Council's decision which has been acknowledged.

Parish Council Allowances – SBC informed of the decision by the Councillors not to take the allowances as recommended by the IRPP.

Wanborough Junior Football Club – informed that the defibrillator had been installed and that only the Liddington Parish Council grass cutting contractor permitted to cut the playing field – Chair and Secretary had both responded confirming they understood.

Spinney Close – Cllr Spillane had spoken to the owner of the wall that had been reported as being in a dangerous condition. The Owner will inspect the condition every 3 months and update the Parish Council, as there is no cause for concern currently.

Wales & West Utilities – Cllr Cripps had spoken to one of the engineers as he was concerned about the lorries parking on a piece of land where the medium pressure gas main was laid. The engineer was asked to quantify if the vehicles are having a negative impact on the pipework.

#### **7. PLANNING MATTERS**

##### **(a) To consider any planning applications:**

**Application:** S/19/0703

**Location:** Land East Of The A419, Between Commonhead Roundabout And Land North of Wanborough Road, Swindon Wilts

**Proposal:** The construction of a new road, to link the A419 Commonhead Roundabout to the proposed New Eastern Villages (NEV) development including improvements to the existing Commonhead Roundabout and Pack Hill, new junctions with Pack Hill, The Marsh and Wanborough Road, new footway/cycleway and associated earthworks, drainage works and landscaping.

**Resolved:** The Meeting agreed that it had no comments to make.

##### **(b) The meeting noted that the following application had been granted permission:**

S/HOU/19/1083 – 39 The Street, Liddington SN4 0HD – Erection of a two-storey rear and single storey side extensions – Granted

## 8. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Wales & West Utilities upgrade work – Medbourne Lane. Taxis were picking up school children. Meadow Way had been forgotten about.

Bids submitted to the Government for funding for Highways improvements had been successful

Swindon has been allocated funds from the £3.6bn Towns Fund to improve broadband across England.

Cllr Sumner left the meeting at 8.20pm

## 9. FINANCE

- (a) **Resolved:** Cllr Moore proposed to approve payment of the following invoices. Cllr Wilson seconded the proposal which was unanimously agreed.
- Members expense – Unlimited webhosting - £3.59
  - Chairs Allowance - £75.00
  - Clerks Remuneration - £594.00
  - Administration allowance - £43.75
- (b) **Resolved:** Cllr Moore proposed to approve payment of the following Standing Order. Cllr Wilson seconded the proposal which was unanimously agreed.
- Adams & Watt – Annual grass cutting contract – October instalment - £478.65
- (c) **To receive the monthly accounts reconciliation** – the Meeting agreed that the accounts were in a good position
- (d) **To receive Q2 Budget monitoring statement** – the Meeting noted that the Council was keeping within budget

## 10. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS 2019

**Resolved:** Cllr Bunney proposed the approval and adoption of the NALC Model Financial Regulations 2019. Cllr Lomax seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed.

**Action - Clerk**

## 11. VILLAGE MATTERS

- (a) The purchase and installation of a new noticeboard board – further research as to the location of the board to be carried out. One property owner to be asked if he would give permission to use his boundary wall.
- Action - Clerk**
- (b) Church Road triangle – measures to prevent parking across it.  
The Meeting agreed that using sarsen stones would be an ideal preventative measure. The Landowner who had supplied some stones for use in Jubilee Gardens to be contacted.

## 12. DEFIBRILLATOR

- (a) To discuss a complaint received concerning where the unit had been sited – The Parish Council to discuss once a formal response had been received from the Village Hall Committee.
- (b) To consider opting for a Support Agreement at a cost of £126 per year  
**Resolved:** Cllr Bunney proposed that the support agreement would make sense financially as future costs would be known. Cllr Cripps seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed. **Action - Clerk**
- (c) To consider alternative arrangements for the familiarisation session  
**Resolved:** The Meeting agreed that the familiarisation session would be held on the alternative date of 29<sup>th</sup> October. **Action - Clerk**

## 13. SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTION CYCLE CONSULTATION

The Consultation is asking for all residents and stakeholders views on changing the election cycle from thirds to all out every four years, commencing in 2022. Implications to the Parish Council were discussed at length as it would mean an election as planned in 2020 with a choice of whether to fall in line and have another election in 2022 or to continue with the current cycle which had cost implications.

**Resolved:** The Meeting agreed that it would fall in line with any decision made.

**Action - Clerk**

## 14. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Community Safety Forum – Cllr Wilson had circulated the minutes from the last meeting held,

Swindon Area Committee – Cllr Moore had circulated the minutes from the last meeting held

Cllr Spillane provided a written update on completed actions.

All reports and documents provided to be added to the Minute book.

Playing Field – Cllr Bunney confirmed that the fortnightly safety inspections had been carried out on 10<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September. He had no issues to report.

**15. PARISH MAGAZINE**

The Meeting agreed to put the following into the Parish Magazine:

- Defibrillator Awareness Session
- Replacing the Commemorative Oak Tree
- Kevin McNamara, Interim CE of GWH

**16. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Meeting noted that no correspondence had been received for information:

**17. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/FUTURE AGENDA**

To receive information on matters not covered elsewhere & to receive future agenda items

The Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed.....

Date.....