



**LIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

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## **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2015**

**PRESENT:** Guy Allen, Sid Bishop, Jane Howes, David Lomax, Adrian Moore, Gordon Wilson, Liz Carmichael (Clerk) and Andrew Bennett (Ward Councillor).

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Vince Jones

### **2. ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Adrian Moore completed and signed the declaration of acceptance of office. This undertaking was made and signed before the clerk.

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

David Lomax declared an interest in agenda item 11.2 as he is the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee

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

**Resolved** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 be approved and signed as a true record.

### **5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### Actions completed

Request details of Councillor training	Action: clerk
Ask if SBC can provide printed copies of code of conduct and protocols	Action: clerk
Contact Richard Polatch and request quote and advice regarding tree work	Action: clerk
Speak to James Garrad and find out who to contact regarding the issue of the broken manhole cover.	Action: GW
Write to David Hughes and request a copy of the annual statement of accounts	Action: clerk
Find out who Wanborough use to empty their dog bins and see if any other local Parish Councils are interested in joining together to employ the same dog collection company next year	Action: clerk

#### Actions ongoing

Contact SBC about the scope of the maintenance work they do in the village	Action: clerk
Draft letter regarding Liddington clump including feedback from arboreal officer	Action:GW/DL
Find out about requirements for event licenses	Action: clerk
Speak to John Kent about keeping receipts to submit to the PC for reimbursement	Action: DL

The meeting noted that the broken manhole cover outside The Hornbeams was the responsibility of Thames Water. Mr Wilson and Mr Fernandez will both chase the water company to ensure that it gets fixed as quickly as possible as there is a risk that the winter weather may cause further damage.

An email has been sent to James Garrad (SBC) with regard to clearing the footpath alongside the B4192 from The Rectory to Church road.

The Haydon Wick clerk is not going to look into providing a dog waste collection service until the end of January/early February as his timetable for employing staff, purchasing equipment etc. has been delayed. It was noted that Wanborough use their parish lengthsman to empty their bins.

David Hughes expects the trustees to approve the audited accounts for 2014 at the Village Hall AGM on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Once finalised the Treasurer will forward a copy to the clerk. It was agreed that the Parish Council as a whole constitutes the custodian trustee of the Village Hall and therefore, despite having a representative on the village hall committee, the accounts must be reviewed in a Parish Council meeting.

## 6. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

6.1 Consultation, Government's Proposals To Modernise Parish Poll Regulations The meeting discussed the proposed changes to the regulations which include:

- increased opening hours for polls
- providing the same facilities for disabled people as used in other polls/referendums
- tightening the criteria for the subject matter so that a poll can only be held on a parish issue
- revising the trigger point so that a poll shall not be taken unless it is demanded by the majority of local government electors present at the meeting, and the electors demanding a poll constitute not less than –  
10% of local government electors for the community, or  
60 electors (if 10% of electors exceeds 60)

**Resolved:** that the Parish Council is in agreement with all the proposed changes to the parish poll regulations.

6.2 CPRE Campaign The meeting discussed the CPRE campaign focusing on saving the countryside from major road building and supporting local transport. **Resolved:** that the draft letter from the CPRE will not be used, instead a bespoke letter will be sent to Robert Buckland MP setting out Liddington Parish Council's view that a well thought out transport plan in conjunction with the use of brown field sites rather than green field sites should be implemented.

Write to Robert Buckland about the road building and the impact on the countryside Action: clerk

6.3 Church Road Sign The design and costs for the proposed directional sign for the Church and village hall road were reviewed. **Resolved:** that a budget of up to £150 is allowed for the Church road sign and that Gordon Wilson will liaise with James Garrad to get the sign ordered.

Liaise with James Garrad to get Church road sign ordered Action: GW

6.4 Councillor Training Due to other commitments and a conflict with a meeting regarding the proposed closure of Dayhouse lane, no-one was available to attend the training course being held at Haydon Wick Parish Council offices on 14 January. **Resolved:** that Stephen Taylor is asked to run a Parish Councillor training course at Liddington.

Liaise with Stephen Taylor to get dates for a Councillor's training course at Liddington Action: clerk

It was noted that the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) can provide a Parish Councillor pack on a memory stick at £8 plus p&p, and the Good Councillor's Guide (4<sup>th</sup> edition) at £2 per book plus p&p. **Resolved:** that 7 copies of the Good Councillor's Guide be ordered at a price of £14 plus p&p.

Order 7 copies of the Good Councillor's Guide Action: clerk

## 10. WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

10.1 The intended date for the South Localities meeting is 20<sup>th</sup> January and it will cover a lot of planning issues including Redlands airfield and the development at Commonhead. The village hall committee is eligible to submit a grant application to the localities for renovations to the kitchen, however this must be done before the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January. It is proposed that the Richard Jeffries museum be an independent organisation with funding and support from Swindon Borough Council. WALC have revised the template standing orders. Liddington Parish Council is not required to adopt these in full and some Parish Councils have chosen to simply incorporate any statutory requirements in their existing standing orders. 27<sup>th</sup> January is Holocaust day – if anyone wishes to support it.

Andrew Bennett left the meeting.

## 7. PLANNING

- 7.1 There were no planning applications to consider.
- 7.2 It was noted that no consents or permissions have been granted since the last meeting.

## 8. FINANCE

- 8.1 The Account Summary was reviewed and approved by the Parish Council.
- 8.2 The breakdown of estimated expenditure for 2015-2016 of £8827.62 was reviewed. **Resolved:** that the budget be approved and that £1000 for grants come from unspent budget in 2014-2015 and that £1500 for projects come from reserves. Following a review of potential costs for jobs to be undertaken by a lengthsman, it was agreed that a small increase in the precept was justifiable. **Resolved:** that the precept be set at £5858, which together with the Council Tax Support Grant of £742 will make the total income for 2015-2016 £6,600.
- 8.3 **Resolved:** that the payment between meetings of £8 to Suffolk Fruit and Trees for delivery costs for 15 rabbit guards be approved.

## 9. CORRESPONDENCE

- 9.1 The meeting noted the following correspondence for information.
- Letter from Stratton St Margaret PC
  - SBC Members Bulletin Issues 742, 743, 744

## 11. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- 11.1 Playing Field – Sid Bishop advised the meeting that he had carried out his fortnightly safety inspections of the play equipment on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December and there were no issues to report.
- 11.2 Village Hall Committee – Nothing to report.
- 11.3 Neighbourhood Watch – No report as Vince Jones was unable to attend the meeting.
- 11.4 Community Speedwatch – Nothing to report. **Resolved:** that the Community Speedwatch scheme get going by 1<sup>st</sup> April.

## 12. PARISH MAGAZINE

**Resolved** – that the following items should be put in the Parish magazine:  
Guidance from trading standards and police on managing unwanted door to door sales people  
Details of precept that includes a small increase  
Parish Council looking to make the village a tidier safer place and is planning to employ a lengthsman

## 13. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

To discuss the village allotments

The meeting concluded at 9.05pm

Signed : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_