



## LIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7pm in the Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors Aftelak, Bunney, Lomax (Chair), and Murphy  
Also present: Laura Evans (Clerk), Ward Cllr G Sumner

### 1. CONSIDER CO-OPTION OF A PARISH COUNCILLOR

**Resolved:** Cllr Lomax proposed that James Murphy be co-opted onto the Parish Council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Bunney and unanimously agreed.

### 2. APOLOGIES

**Resolved:** To approve Cllr Hyatt's reason for absence (unavailable) and Cllr Wilson's (Unavailable)

### 3. PUBLIC SESSION (15 MINUTES)

As no members of the public were in attendance or had made representations, the Parish Council continued with the meeting.

### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Lomax reminded Members that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and during the meeting if it comes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

### 5. PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

S Hill has now resigned from the Parish Council, LPC wished to thank her for her many years' service to the Parish Council. The Clerk will now be updating the website with Parish Council business.

Cllr Lomax explained that a volunteer from LPC is now needed to sit on the Village Hall Committee, Cllr Murphy will be taking this role. Cllr Lomax to contact the Village Hall Committee to make them aware of the new LPC representative.

**Action- Cllr Lomax**

A discussion was held on the best way to proceed with responses to any planning applications received. The meeting agreed it was best to continue with the applications being sent to all Councillors.

### 6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

**Resolved:** The Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were approved and signed as a true record.

### 7. MATTERS ARISING (10 MINUTES)

Football Club Contract- The contract has been sent to the Football Club and agreed. The fixture dates of the matches have been received. The dates will be published onto the website.

**Action- Clerk**

Speed Indicator Device- The new Speed Indicator Device has been installed, so now there are devices at either end of the Village. It has been noted that since the new device was installed the traffic seems to be going slower.

Churchyard Grass Cutting- The PC has agreed to pay for the Churchyard grass cutting. With the recoverable VAT from this total, the Closed Churchyard payment and the PCC agreeing to meet the shortfall between the addition of the Closed Churchyard Payment from SBC and the recoverable VAT from that total, the Church is saved several hundred pounds annually while there is no overall cost to the PC.

Fencing off the play area – Deferred until the next meeting

### 8. PLANNING MATTERS (10 MINUTES)

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

The meeting noted that no planning applications received.

(b) **To note any decisions:**

**Application:** S/TWC/22/1000/LAND

**Location:** The Old Rectory, Church Road, Liddington.

**Proposal:** Works to 4no. conifer trees within a Conservation Area- No objections.

## 9. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT (10 MINUTES)

Grass verge cutting- Ward Cllr G Sumner explained that SBC are no longer doing blanket cuts of the verges, within the Borough, and these are now left to grow wild unless the overgrowth prevents signage being seen or it obstructs the line of sight on the roads.

Cllr Lomax countered this by observing that under the Transfer Agreement between LPC and SBC the maintenance of overgrown hedging which impedes the safe pedestrian use of the pathways adjacent to the main road and the clearing of debris along the curb edges remained part of SBC's responsibilities that were not transferred to the LPC. This was clearly laid out in a letter from the SBC at the time of the Transfer Agreement. Ignoring the undertakings of this letter, Cllr. Sumner asserted that such services could only be provided by the LPC self funding them by increasing the precept.

After Cllr Lomax raised the issue of the build-up of kerb debris, Ward Cllr.G. Sumner stated that this type of issue is now only being dealt with reactively rather than proactively by SBC. If an issue is a danger or urgent, LPC are to contact Ward Cllr G Sumner directly. Cllr Bunney explained that LPC are a small Parish with a large area to maintain.

Gigabyte Fibre- No dates have been confirmed for Phase 2. Residents are urged to contact the provider if their vouchers are expiring as they will then be re-issued.

Ward Cllr G Sumner left the meeting at 7:50pm

## 10. CHURCHYARD GRASS CUTTING

Covered under item 7

## 11. FINANCE (10 MINUTES)

(a) **To approve payment of the following invoices:**

**Resolved:** Cllr Lomax proposed approval of the invoices, standing order, recurring payment and ratification of the payments made between meetings. Cllr Aftelak seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed.

- HMRC- Tax Month 5- £27.20
- Adams & Watt Ltd- Additional Works- £522.24
- Adams & Watt Ltd- Churchyard grass - £2,308.80

(b) **To approve payment of the following Standing Orders:**

- Adams & Watt – Annual grass cutting contract – July instalment- £604.87

(c) **To approve the following Direct Debits:**

- Three Mobile phone bill - £3.00
- Microsoft 365 – Annual Subscription- £59.99

(d) **To approve payment of the following recurring payments**

- Unlimited webhosting – (18/08/2022- 17/09/2022) - £4.79

(e) **To ratify payments made between meetings**

- Salary July - £185.40
- Salary August – £185.40
- Tax & NI Month 4- £27.20
- Village Hall – Hall Hire for Jan, Feb, March - £18.00
- Village Hall – Hall Hire for April, May, June, July- £24.00
- Members Expenses- L Hyatt - £48.14
- Village Hall- Defib Training- £16.00

(f) **To receive the monthly account reconciliation**

**Resolved:** The meeting noted that the accounts were in good order but it was noted that LPC are still awaiting the invoice for the Speed Sign Indicator for approximately £2,545.00

## 12. VILLAGE MATTERS (15 MINUTES)

- a) Clay Pigeon Shooting – Cllr Aftelak shared the email response, with the Councillors, received from the shooting club following an incident that occurred up at the playing field. The email included the Licence held by the club for shooting. Cllr Aftelak explained that after visiting the shoot regarding the incident, that there were concerns about how close to a public footpath the clays are being fired. Cllr Aftelak to speak and arrange a site meeting with the local Police Officer to share the concerns raised. **Action- Cllr Aftelak**
- b) Operation London Bridge – The meeting discussed whether to have a book of Condolences when the event occurs, but this would prove hard to manage due to LPC not having an office space.  
**Resolved:** The meeting agreed not to proceed with the condolence book instead direct residents to All Saint's Church and the Civic Offices.
- c) Liddington Clump/Platform – Cllr Aftelak has now taken over the project of securing the funding to help clean up the area. Cllr Lomax to aid Cllr Aftelak and discuss a plan of works for the clearing up of the area and a facility for Memorials. A Communications plan is also required, with history of the site, which will help visitors to the site to conform to the rules as it is private land. Any work will only be undertaken with the landowner's approval.
- d) Use of Football Pitch- Covered under item 7

## 13. TO DISCUSS EMAIL FROM STRATTON ST MARGARET PARISH COUNCIL

A further email had been received from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council confirming that any issues will be taken up within the Swindon Local Council Forum. Clerk to respond to the question regarding road sweeping.

**Action- Clerk**

## 14. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (10 MINUTES)

Councillors who have attended meetings on behalf of the Parish Council or who are responsible for local schemes, amenities and projects will have the opportunity to provide an update on progress made.

Allotments (LH) – 8 allotment plots are now being used with 5 plots still available.

Playing Field (CB) – Cllr Lomax thanked Cllr Bunney for the brilliant renovation on the bench. There has been some recent graffiti on one of the tables in the playing field. Cllr Bunney confirmed that the fortnightly safety inspections had been carried out on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022. The gate into the Churchyard needs to be fixed, G Hales has volunteered to source the materials required and help install the new gatepost. Clerk to write to G Hales to confirm.

**Action- Clerk**

Village Hall Committee – No update provided

Town Fund Board (GW) – No update provided

Swindon Local Council Forum (DL & GW) – The next meeting is being held on 29th September 2022.

Parish Chairs/Clerks Engagement Meeting (DL) – The next meeting is being held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022.

NEV Meeting (DL) – The next meeting is being held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022

## 15. PARISH MAGAZINE (5 MINUTES)

The meeting agreed to put the following into the Parish Magazine

- New Noticeboard in Spinney Close
- Speed Monitors – Now at each end of the Village
- Clean up – Thank you
- Thank you message to S Hill
- Parish Councillor Vacancy

## 16. CORRESPONDENCE

The meeting noted that no correspondence had been received.

## 17. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/FUTURE AGENDA

No items were raised for information or future agenda items.

The meeting closed at 9:10pm

Signed.....Date.....