

## Longdon Parish Council

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Highways and Open Space Committee held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at WI Hall, Longdon.

**Parish Councillors;** Cllr N Stanfield, P Couchman, K Taylor, H Meere, A Fullwood  
**Apologies;** Cllr K Morgan  
**Non-Attendance;** Cllrs, C Kemp, John Watkins-Smythe  
**Clerk;** H Goodreid  
**In Attendance;** Will Rose, Gina Duckett, Cllr Martyn Tittley  
**Public;** D Howell

Min No.	Item	Action
22 22.1	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Cllr Morgan's apologies were accepted.	
23 23.1	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> Cllr Fullwood submitted a revised form.	
24 24.1	<b>Chairman to close meeting for public session</b> No members of public were in attendance.	
25 25.1	<b>Minutes from the Meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017</b> These were agreed and accepted. <b>Proposed: Cllr Taylor; Seconded: Cllr Meere</b>	
26 26.1          26.2	<p><b>Matters Arising on the Minutes</b> Matters arising from the meeting have been actioned or would be dealt with on the agenda with the exception of:</p> <p>7.16 Land Opposite Gentleshaw School – Cllr Stanfield was in touch with Lichfield Council re the ownership of the part of Gentleshaw Common opposite the school. LDC have written asking that the transfer of ownership to the parish council be considered. This and will be heard in February's full council meeting. Cllrs were in support of taking on ownership of the land providing that it does not cost the parish council any money for the land although there may be a legal cost associated with the transaction. There will be insurance implications on the land.</p> <p><b>It was agreed to recommend to the full council that council give consideration be given to the acquisition of this land.</b> <b>Proposed: Cllr Meere; Seconded: Cllr Couchman</b></p> <p>7.17 Longdon Green Signs – The sign proposed to identify the land at Longdon Green as being a Site of Biological Interest should be a proper information sign. Clerk to make enquiries to the Wildlife Trust to see if they have archive photos which could be used copyright free to develop a sign. If no photos were available, then it was noted that S Welch had agreed to take the appropriate photographs at no cost.</p> <p>10.1 Gateway Signs: The quotes for the two styles of gateway signs were discussed. It was agreed that all councillors would look in more detail at the possible signs and that this matter would be considered at the next</p>	<p>Matter to go to full council in February.</p> <p>Clerk to obtain photos.</p> <p>For next agenda</p>

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	<p>meeting. Cllrs were mindful that there will be installation fees and possible survey fees involved in the erection of the signs. In addition, should planters be put at the base of the features, this would have additional cost and maintenance implications</p> <p>10.3 Reflective posts Borough Lane It was noted that the signs had not yet been put in place by Staffordshire County Council.</p> <p>10.7 Speed Cameras: Cllr Tittley advised that the chance of speed cameras being put into the area are very low unless there have been fatalities. Cllr Tittley did however agree to request a radar check at Bradley Lakes.</p> <p>11.4 Dark Lane. The County Council have responded that they were aware of the issues involved and would proceed to take the appropriate action to resolve this matter.</p> <p>19.5 Placement of temporary cameras at various locations. Cllr Tittley advised that the cameras were for HS2 analysis</p> <p>19.6 Sewer Connection Stockings Lane. The Clerk reported that she had not received a reply from Staffordshire County Council about this matter. Cllr Tittley advised members that a permit would have been required to carry out the work and informed the Clerk who should be contacted at the County Council</p> <p>19.8 Footpaths 38/39 and 68/69 - Members noted that the work on the stiles had been completed</p> <p>19.9 Footpath 0.402. It was noted that this work remained outstanding</p> <p>19.11 Ford Way missing Road Sign. The Clerk advised Cllrs that she was awaiting a reply from the County Council but Cllr Tittley suggested that this could be a matter for the District Council and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the appropriate officer at the District Council</p>	<p>Cllr Tittley to request radar check</p> <p>Clerk to write to SCC</p> <p>Clerk to write to LDC</p>
<p><b>27</b> 27.1</p> <p>27.2</p>	<p><b>Mowing Contract</b></p> <p>Three quotes had been received for the mowing contract for 2017/2018. TGM: £2,615 Branch Walkers: £7,120 G C McCulloch: £3,310</p> <p><b>It was agreed to recommend to full council that the mowing contract for 2017/2018 be let to GC McCulloch. Proposed: Cllr Taylor; Seconded: Cllr Couchman</b></p>	<p>Recommendation to be made to February full council.</p>
<p><b>28</b> 28.1</p>	<p><b>Risk Assessment</b></p> <p><b>4.1:</b> Need for a complete survey of ditches. Member reported problems with the ditches in Batesway and Lysways Lane (responsibility of golf course) which needed clearing. Clerk to notify the County Council who will write to the owners.</p>	<p>Clerk to write to SCC</p>

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28.2	4.4 – under continuous review	
<b>29</b>	<b>Best Kept Village</b>	
29.1	The application form for BKV has been forwarded to Cllr Fullwood. 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb is the closing date for entries It was agreed to enter Longdon Green/Longdon and Upper Longdon as two entries and that the Clerk would notify BKV that this was the Councils intention. This would cost £32.00 plus reasonable expenses for posters. <b>Proposed: Cllr Taylor; Seconded: Cllr Meere</b>	Clerk to notify them that we will enter and request old map
29.2	Full entry details and the map are needed by BKV by 27 <sup>th</sup> March. Cllr Tittley informed Members that Cllr Pritchard may be able to provide the base map. Cllr Fullwood to complete.	Cllr Fullwood to action.
29.3	Poster competition – Cllr Taylor to contact the school and set the deadline of 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2017. Cllrs Fullwood, Taylor and Mrs Eva Overton from the Post Office will judge the posters.	Cllr Taylor
29.4	Clerk to purchase tubs and compost from Wyevale Garden Centre and seek vouchers for the poster competition.	Clerk to complete
<b>30</b>	<b>Item for Discussion</b>	
30.1	<u>Repair of Stiles</u> There was discussion re the possible streamlining of minor repairs to stiles so that there was no need to wait for each committee meeting. It was agreed Will Rose compile a list of usual works to stiles and fences etc. Clerk will then take this out to contractors to obtain general prices for the works. Approval could then be given to the prices and a budget fixed for the works.	Will Rose and Clerk to action.
30.2	<u>Footpath 72</u> at Longdon end of footpath, there is a stile in need of repair. Cllr Tittley suggested that this could be the responsibility of the landowner and therefore it was agreed that Will Rose and if necessary the Clerk should contact the Principal Rights of Way Officer at SCC – Paul Rochford to clarify the legal situation re responsibility for making repairs and replacements in respect of these and other stiles throughout the District.	Will Rose to speak to SCC
30.3	<u>Footpath 72</u> – at Hood Lane end, is in need of complete replacement.	
30.4	<u>Footpath 46</u> - Giddywell Lane – footplate need replacing.	
30.5	Email received from owner of land at Red Hill – need for footpath markers to be correctly sighted and added to. Will Rose agreed to contact the landowner.	Will Rose to contact landowner
30.6	<u>Lichfield Ramblers Association</u> . Will Rose informed members that the Association are doing a survey of all the footpaths in the district.	
30.7	<u>Footpath 52</u> - SCC has received a response from the landowner regarding	

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	the new fencing which did not correctly define the line of the footpath as shown on the Definitive Right of Way Map. Cllr Tittley informed Members that he would not support any legal action by the County Council to secure the repositioning of the fence. Two votes were taken re the response to be made to SCC:	
30.8	Cllr Taylor proposed that the new fencing and line of footpath be removed and the declared line of the footpath be maintained. <b>Cllr Taylor; Seconded: Cllr Stanfield – this was not carried.</b>	
30.9	Cllr Meere proposed that whilst it was understood that the new fenced footpath was not in accordance with the definitive map of the footpath across the land, it was accepted that the new marked footpath allowed for access across the field and no further action to be taken. <b>Proposed: Cllr Meere; Seconded: Cllr Fullwood</b>	Clerk to write to SCC and advise
30.10	<u>Longdon Green - Commons Registration Act 1965</u> – Cllr Stanfield had obtained documentation advising of the registration of the land as common land and details of ownership in 1969. Cllr Stanfield agreed to investigate further to hopefully find the current owner(s)	
30.11	<u>Lengthsmans Agreement</u> - An application has been made to the SCC for funds for 2016/2017 year. Clerk will advise if application has been successful.	Clerk to report back
30.12	<u>A51 Cycleway</u> – SCC had confirmed that we are unable to classify the pathway as a mixed path/cycle route unless improvement works were undertaken. In addition, there is a pinch point at Brereton Cross House and Cllr Stanfield informed the meeting that he had written to the County Council in an attempt to clarify the extent of their land ownership in this area.	
30.13	<u>Sign on Longdon Green</u> – this had been dealt with earlier in the evening.	
<b>31</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
31.1	Stockings Lane – hedge has been cut back.	
31.2	An email had been received advising that the path between St James car park to St James Close, was overgrown. Clerk to write to Cllr Tittley to request that the work be undertaken by SCC.	Clerk to write to Cllr Tittley
31.3	Mrs Belbeck had emailed the parish council with concerns about the speed of traffic in Upper Longdon. It was agreed to pass details to Cllr Butler to share information. Cllr Tittley had responded separately to the email.	Clerk to pass query to Cllr Butler
<b>32</b>	<b>Councillors Reports</b>	
32.1	Cllr Stanfield had attending a meeting of the Beaudesert Trust who were to submit an article for the next addition of Longdon Life to explain inter alia the history of the land.	
32.2	Cllr Duckett is writing an article to go in Longdon Life reviewing work of	

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	the Parish Council over the past year. This includes: work to stiles and footpaths, mowing, noticeboards, grants, walking leaflets, up to date website, Ring and Ride bus service etc. If councillors have any additional items, Cllr Duckett requested these be forwarded by end of the week.	
<b>33</b> 33.1	<b>Suggested Date of Future meetings</b> None were agreed	

**There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting 9.18pm**

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