

## Longdon Parish Council

**Minutes of Annual Parish Assembly held 7.45pm on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at Longdon Village Hall, Brook End Longdon.**

**Present:** **Parish Councillors:** T.Johnson (Chairman), C Stevens Vice-chairman), H Hulme, Gladys Crowe, Nick Betteley, Louise Cotter, Brendan Cooper  
**Other Councillors:** County Cllr. R Cox, District Cllr. R Strachan  
**Clerk:** C Gracey  
**Public Attendees: 5**  
**Apologies:** John Watkins-Smythe, Alan Juxon

<b>Min No.</b>	<b>Item</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>The Chairman Cllr. Trevor Johnson</b> welcomed members & residents.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies &amp; Acceptance of Absence</b> John Watkins-Smythe and Alan Juxon submitted apologies for the assembly.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Chairman's Report:</b>  <b>Parish Council Membership</b>  During the year we have lost Mr Jim Howells but gained Louise Cotter and Brendan Cooper. Sadly two members, Mrs Helen Hulme and Mr John Watkins-Smythe have not registered as candidates for the forthcoming elections on 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2023. The remaining members, six in number have and so will compile the new council which will have 3 vacancies.  <b>Year 2022-23 Achievements on-going projects</b>  H M Jubilee celebrations, the forthcoming Coronation. It is pleasing to note how individual volunteer groups are working more closely together to make these events a success.  Stiles Projects – A number of broken stiles have been repaired or replaced, Cllr. Craig Stevens is heavily involved with a new SCC footpath improvement project. It is rewarding to register the co-operation and support of the land owners.  Flooding – The gully cleansing exercise first carried out in December were repeated in January this year with additional sites also attended. These have proven successful with the notable exception of Stockings Lane which SCC are dealing with, hopefully soon.  HS2 Phase 2a – It's just a year since the effect the construction traffic will have on the Parish, was identified. The latest update from HS2 is that despite the two year construction pause the preparatory works, land acquisition and road safety measures will proceed.  Calendar – Although not a universal success we converted c£600 into £1000 which will be distributed to the Longdon Community Group, St. James Church, The PTFA at St. James School and St. Giles Hospice.

Signed.....

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	<p><b>Proposed Objectives for 2023-24</b></p> <p>Improve community engagement  Fill the PC vacancies with talent/interests to achieve our objectives  Improve the awareness of why dog poo collection is so important and costly  Make our villages safer, more attractive, desirable place to live  Solve the children’s play space problem  Mount a campaign to reduce speed limits (and vehicles on all our rural roads/lanes</p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>Cllr. Craig Stevens (Vice-chairman) updated the meeting on the accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 reporting a carryover figure of £1000 more than 2021-22. A Financial Statement will be published on the website from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. He asked residents to come forward with any projects the council could undertake to enhance the parish.</p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>County Councillor Report</b></p> <p>Cllr. Richard Cox reported on the following:</p> <p>Stockings Lane will be closed during May for investigative work on blocked gullies to alleviate the flooding problem.</p> <p>SCC are investing an additional £30m extra over the next 2 years to deal with potholes and other highways problems, Borough Lane towards A51 is in need of work and it is hoped that it will be carried out.</p> <p>Community Fund – has been helpful for the Jubilees Events and although it is not open until shortly after the Coronation, these events will be considered retrospectively.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>Why is Shaw Lane being resurfaced? It may be that it is due for work on the programme.</p> <p>Discussion about the contractor’s work.</p> <p>National Highways are responsible for trunk roads and motorways.</p> <p>A resident questioned Borough Lane over the last 20 years there has been a poor road surface and poor drainage with water running down the side of the road, response – the water is coming off the land and is the landowner responsibility.</p> <p>A resident asked about the HS2 traffic calming.</p> <p>A resident thank Richard for his contribution towards community events and groups.</p> <p><b>District Councillor Report</b></p> <p>Cllr. Rob Strachan reported on the following:</p> <p>Planning -enforcement on Cherry Orchard appeal has been deferred</p> <p>Hay Lane &amp; Giddies – ongoing.</p> <p>Change to recycling commenced with teething problems but has settled well, there is a review planned.</p> <p>The old Debenhams building may become a cinema.</p>

Signed.....

Date:.....

	<p>Register to vote is still open if you are personally voting you need to take photo ID.</p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Resident's Open Forum</b></p> <p>Question – A resident asked about designated land for a play area, a brief discussion was held on the viable land.</p> <p>A resident thanked Cllr. Craig Stevens for all his help with arranging the tree planting at the Cathedral School, WI also donated a tree to the project.</p> <p>Question – Church Hollow is in state of disrepair, and the Church carpark which is not owned by the church needs weed treatment, the Chairman commented that he will make a site visit.</p> <p>The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance &amp; closed the meeting at 8.35pm</p>

Signed.....

Date:.....