

Long Wittenham Parish Council meeting held on 18th May 2023

Present: Chairman Steve Brown, Cllr Steve Bolton, Cllr Sally Duff, Cllr Peter Rose, Cllr Liz Yuille, RFO Clifford Bosley.

In attendance: Martin Elliff (clerk) and 3 members of the public.

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2023/083 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Ron Carter, Cllr David Corney, District Cllr Sam Casey-Rerhaye.

2023/084 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

2023/085 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

2023/086 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Parish Council resolved to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2023.

2023/087 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- The Village Map has been updated by the map maker. It will be printed and laminated for display outside the village hall.
- Unsung Heroes. Clerk to liaise with the chairman to complete the 'Thank you' letters.
- Cllr Yuille has been advised by Peter Hutson of Elivia:
 - Regarding the issues of the Didcot Road hedge frontage and the boundary on Fieldside, he is awaiting information from his team.
 - The Didcot Road electricity works are expected to be completed on 19th May.
 - The fencing off of the SSEN substation on the Didcot Road is awaiting equipment.
 - The safety of the swales is to be reviewed with his team.
- Cllr Duff reported that Mr & Mrs Jarman are happy for the deep holes in Fieldside to be filled.

Actions: Clerk to arrange printing and lamination of the Village Map.
Chairman to liaise with clerk to complete 'unsung heroes' letters.

2023/088 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Casey-Rerhaye sent no report this month owing to the election in which she was returned as councillor for Sandford and the Wittenhams.

2023/089 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

None.

2023/090 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P23/S1356/DIS Land to the north east of Didcot NRR
P23/S1409/HH 7 Fieldside Long Wittenham NSV
P23/S1474/FUL Community Hub Long Wittenham SUP

- It was agreed that the PC should respond to the application with support.

Actions: Cllr Rose to draft response to the Community Hub planning application.

2023/091 COMMUNITY HUB

The consultation on the planning application commenced on 5th May and runs until 8th June. Cllr Rose reported that there have been 13 responses so far. Flyers urging all household to respond have been distributed.

There have been comments asking why there is no shop included in the plans. A response has been posted on Facebook. A similar response will be posted on the website.

Cllr Rose has estimated that the cost of equipping the new village hall will be approximately £60,000. This will leave approximately £100,000 of the CIL funds from the Elivia development to be spent on infrastructure projects.

Actions: Clerk to post on website regarding shop comments.

2023/092 GRANT REQUESTS

Two grant requests had been circulated prior to the meeting.

- Pre-School: to fund the purchase of equipment as recommended by the OFSTED inspector. The Pre-School treasurer was present to answer questions. The council agreed to fund up to 50% of the total cost - £1,049.00
- The Friends of Long Wittenham School: to fund a whole school trip to the Winchester Science Museum. The chair of The Friends was present to answer questions. £410 approved.

2023/093 LONG WITTENHAM SCHOOL TRANSITION TO ACADEMY

Catherine Harrison, the chair of the school governors was present to brief the council on the plan to move the school towards becoming an academy with the Ridgeway Education Trust.

2023/094 EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr Yuille had circulated the final draft of the plan. Approved. It now needs to be updated with the names of zone co-ordinators etc. It was suggested that a 'job description' is published on the website and volunteers requested.

Actions: Cllr Yuille to draft Emergency Plan post for website.

2023/095 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Some users of the Village Hall had raised issues with Chairman Brown. The council has no authority over the Village Hall Committee (VHC) but it was agreed that the PC should write to the secretary of the VHC to inform him of the concerns.

Actions: Clerk and chairman to draft letter to the secretary of the VHC.

2023/096 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS

- No Mow May
Cllr Bolton had received complaints from residents on Saxons Heath about the height of the grass on the verges at the Didcot Road junction. It was agreed to ask Logs Unlimited to do an extra cut as soon as possible. In the absence of Cllr Corney, Chairman Brown agreed to do this.

Actions: Chairman to ask Logs Unlimited to do an extra verge cut at Saxons Heath.

Long Wittenham Parish Council meeting held on 18th May 2023

2023/097 MATTERS ARISING FROM CHAIRMAN

- The Perspex on the cover on the new noticeboard on Fieldside has become disconnected from the frame. A repair will be attempted.
- The chairman reported that he is in the process of updating the CIL Project List and will circulate it along with a suggested list of projects to be actioned this year for the June meeting.

Actions: Chairman and clerk to liaise on the repair of Fieldside noticeboard.
Chairman to update the CIL Project List and compile a list of key CIL projects the June meeting.

2023/098 FINANCIAL REPORT

- The RFO asked the council to approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2022-23. Agreed. Signed by chairman and clerk.
- Income during April

06/04/2022 SODC (Precept 1st payment)	£11,109.00
06/04/2022 HMRC (VAT Repayment)	£3,082.10
April Income Total	£14,191.10
- Expenditure during April

13/04/2023 Bosley Expenses (Payroll)	£193.00
13/04/2023 Clerk's Salary April 2023	£336.73
April Expenditure Total	£529.73

2023/099 ANY MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

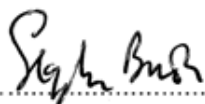
The current grounds maintenance contract with Logs Unlimited expires at the end March 2024. It was suggested that the process of reviewing the contract begins in September.

The clerk reported that he has been advised by RoSPA that the annual playground checks have been schedule for July.

Meeting Closed at 9:25pm.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 15th June 2023

Signed:



Date:

