

LONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Longham Parish Council held on Monday 15th July 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Sue Douglas (Chair)
Cllr Anne Kerry
Cllr Margaret Dye
Cllr Roddy McLeod

D/Cllr Roger Atterwill
C/Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris (who arrived later in the meeting)
Five members of the public
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Collins and Cllr Donna McLeod. Apologies were also received from C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris who would be late attending.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were none received.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20th May 2019.

Cllr Douglas proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr McLeod and agreed by Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

4. Meeting open for public participation.

It was reported that the kerb at the Honeypot Woods bends was damaged and this will be reported.

5. To receive County and District Councillors reports.

D/Cllr Atterwill reported that he was attempting to ensure that planning decisions were made more consistently in small villages. He has arranged for a review of services and amenities to be carried out to ensure Breckland information is up to date. He believes that small developments should be permitted in order for villages to survive. Match funded grants are available to parishes who wish to have a Neighbourhood Plan.

In addition, he has reported the poor service currently being delivered by the new verge cutting contractor.

The Chairman thanked D/Cllr Atterwill for his input.

6. To discuss planning issues:

a) Applications for consideration.

There were no applications to consider.

b) Decisions to note.

The following updates were noted:

- 3PL/2018/1324/F – New dwelling – land off Ostrich Lane – appeal to Secretary of State – awaiting decision.
- 3PL/2019/0414/VAR – Meadow Drift, Hoe Road – variation of conditions – APPROVED. Council were disappointed that their comments in respect of ecology were ignored by Breckland and D/Cllr Atterwill will look into this matter.

7. To discuss Highway issues.

a) To receive updates on matters previously reported.

The hedge in Hoe Road continues to be a problem and a further letter will be sent to the landowner.

b) To consider any new issues.

There were no new issues raised.

8. To discuss any issues relating to the Playing Field.

a) To receive an update re the purchase of additional seating for the Playing Field.

The Chairman is obtaining quotes to fit the new seating.

b) To consider any new issues.

There were no new issues to consider.

9. To receive a report regarding the refurbishment of the football pitch.

The Chairman confirmed she had raised £11,000 of the £14,500 required for the refurbishment. It is anticipated that it will be possible to obtain the remainder from further grant applications.

10. To discuss issues relating to the Clay Pits.

a) To receive an update regarding the application to register the right of way access route.

Cllr Douglas proposed approval of the £40 cost + disbursements for the registration of the access route, this was seconded by Cllr Dye and agreed by Council.

b) To consider any new issues.

There were no new issues to consider.

11. To receive an update re the registration of Parish Council land.

Council noted that the process is ongoing.

12. To discuss any issues regarding the Village Hall.

The Chairman was pleased to report that the Village Hall is now registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

13. To receive an update regarding the installation of a defibrillator.

An informed local resident gave an input and advised that an automated external defibrillator is essential for the village and can be a matter of life or death; with just CPR treatment the survival rate is 8% but with a defibrillator this increased to between 75 and 80%. The unit would be registered with the Ambulance Service and emergency callers would be directed to it if required. The resident was also willing to provide free training for local residents.

There will be ongoing servicing costs, new pads and batteries and the cabinet will require an electric supply. The unit will also need to be checked weekly.

The Chairman confirmed that the pub location had been selected because it was a central location with people present at most times.

It was agreed to confirm costs for consideration at the next meeting. This will be funded by a donation and the parish council.

At this point in the meeting, C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris arrived.

14. To receive a report regarding the Hastings Charity Land.

There was no report received although it was noted that the wildflowers were abundant with many orchids present.

15. To view the Longham Definitive Map in respect of any lost footpaths.

Council will view the definitive map and identify any lost or under-recorded rights of way in the parish. On 1st January 2026 the public will no longer be able to submit definitive map modification orders based on historic evidence and any rights of way which have not been 'claimed' by this date will be lost forever.

16. Finance and Governance

a) To receive a financial report for the year ending 31st March 2020.

Council noted the financial report.

b) To consider Council attendance at a Planning Matters training session.

Cllr Douglas will attend the training session and it is hoped more councillors will be available to attend.

c) To consider approval of an Equality Policy.

Cllr Douglas proposed approval of the equality policy, this was seconded by Cllr Kerry and agreed by Council.

d) To consider a request for a donation from Norfolk Age UK.

It was agreed to consider the request for a donation at the budget meeting in November.

e) To consider approval of an annual play area inspection.

Cllr Douglas proposed approval of the play area inspection, at a cost of £45.00, this was seconded by Cllr Kerry and agreed by Council.

f) To authorise financial payments as set out below:

Cllr Dye proposed approval of the payments as set out below, this was seconded by Cllr Douglas and agreed by Council.

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| • Clerk – Salary/Allowance (June/July) | £257.84 |
| • Longham PCC (grass cutting) | £900.00 |
| • Village Hall donation | £1,000.00 |

17. Correspondence for circulation

- Police Parish Newsletter – June edition – noted by Council.
- Breckland Council – new leader – noted by Council and a query was raised re recycling and where our waste goes to. The D/Cllr and C/Cllr will investigate.
- Breckland Local Plan consultation – noted by Council.
- NCC Parish Partnership Scheme – highway improvements – consideration had previously been given to a speed sign on the Litcham Road but this would not be permitted as there was not enough housing on the route. C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris confirmed that any applications must be submitted by December 2019.
- Western Link Update – noted by Council. C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris reported that the A47 dualling was not likely to take place until 2020 but it was hoped that this would link up with the Western Link Road.
- Vattenfall – Boreas application – noted by Council. C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris reported that the sub-station in Necton would cover a site of up to 90 acres.

18. To receive any new items for the next agenda.

It was noted that PC Gilluley, the Community Engagement Officer, will be giving an input at the September meeting.

19. To note the date of the next meeting which will be held on Monday 16th September 2019 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The date of the next meeting was noted.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed:

Date:
