



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on 14 October 2024
At 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Those present:

L. Heren, S. Wise, H. Shepherd, J. Durrant, P. Burkinshaw, C. Doel, S. Gregory (part time), P. Shaw, P. Glen, P. Holliday.

Also present: Derek Walters and Sonya McMillan, NT.

1 Apologies for Absence:

Apologies were received from J. Boldon

2 Public Question Time:

There were no members of the public present

3 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items:

PG declared an interest in Planning Application PL/2024/08632 – Phase 4 of Development at Rowden Park

4 Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 9 September 2024:

It was agreed (HS/SW) that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2024 be signed as a true record.

5 Update from Minutes/Action Log:

AL13. EV chargers - will be installed in Hither Way car park, NT anticipate x12EV chargers to be installed within the next 8 months, although they are reliant on SSE activity, no precise detail to date on specific location, query route of electricity supply.

AL20. Stoggy Lane – no update, to be reviewed Feb 2025

AL126. Flooding above common – requires review by NT

AL132. It was confirmed that road closure notice for Remembrance Sunday had been approved

Bus shelter cleaning – It was agreed PG/PB cleaning to go ahead with Mark Anstie £150 Noticeboard for Corsham Road – Lana to seek quotes (PB supplied email with suggested suppliers)

6 National Trust update:

SMc noted new signage in Red Lion and Hither Way car parks asking visitors to respect residents' privacy. JD asked if sheep fence in Abbey Field is switched on, SMc to check. CD

queried investigation into theft from allotment shed within Abbey perimeter. PG queried those attending traffic meeting scheduled for 6 Nov 2024; PS responded that only x1 rep from LPC required to be there. SMC agreed they are quarterly meetings hosted by NT with remit to discuss all traffic issues, not just coaches and parking. PH complimented NT on progress with previously void properties.

7 Areas of Responsibility:

P Burkinshaw – Face Book page now live and the website events/news page is now a feed from the social media. Reminder to all councillors to use LPC email addresses, noting that by end December 2024 Parish Council business should be exclusively dealt with using LPC e-mail accounts. Corsham Road RoSPA report to be scrutinized and challenged with respect to the completeness of the report, with a response to RoSPA on additional works; report to be written and costed proposals for necessary works to be ready for Precept review Nov 2024.

H Shepherd – Lackham College has had a positive start to the year especially the Business School. Christmas tree will be delivered and sited (query S142 permission?). Bad driving through village and rear entrance to Lackham being monitored, appears improved. School is conducting updated Travel to School Journey plan with Ruth Hopkinson advice, 'strategic parking' by headmaster and teachers is currently compensating for loss of planters protecting children's access. Building work has started with fence with peep holes at children's height and hard hats provided. Intake numbers are good, Head has a new 'walk around' open day approach. All councillors are invited to visit school 1900 prior to January 2025 meeting. Wise Owls attendance is now virtually at capacity and new committee anticipated to be in place soon. PS queried muster point which is village hall.

J Durrant – Finances are healthy. Precept additions / proposals are required for November 2024 meeting. It was agreed to review costs to date of cemetery grass cutting. Last cut thought to be w/end of 12-13 October. Village Hall has conducted an asset audit; Manor Room boiler requires replacement – LPC to assist with invoicing. There are leaks ongoing – SMC to chase with Lindsay at NT Estate. The Village Hall has a newly formed management committee.

C Doel – thefts from allotment shed at Abbey; Allotment Society has a new Code of Conduct for Rosie to forward to LPC; school eco group has an allotment, query maintenance during school holidays; Amanda promises to cover (group leader); Peter Self has agreed to donate seeds and tools. Flood management of trees in river – still unclear who is responsible for removal, although Environment Agency confirms that if stuck against bridge stanchions they will remove. Flood signs – still seeking advice from other council authorities who have them. Water pollution – query where EA is taking samples? DW responded that sewage works may be overflowing at Westwells; request for upstream sampling above established sampling point.

L Heren – Lacock RoSPA report no significant concerns with the Recreation Ground Children's play area; with the imminent handover to NT it was anticipated that no further

expenditure would be required, other than the potential need for slide repairs if handover of responsibility is delayed into 2025. It was agreed that ROSPA reports for these facilities would be shared with the NT (James Bradshaw).

S Wise – Footpaths being updated on My Wilts, MyWilts cases raised citing safety concerns are being dealt with swiftly, but many other cases are not being updated; DW advised new MyWilts app being rolled out, will make sure open cases are migrated. Grit bins surveyed and reported to Wilts, they have confirmed receipt and agreed to action, including resolving damaged and overturned bins. Orchard growing nicely with cherry trees recently transplanted, being regularly used by school and Wise Owls, politely rejected offer of a free shed although rain cover for children has been suggested – intend to offer an outline proposal for discussion in conjunction with other precept bids in Nov 2024.

P Glen – Long’s Memorial Survey – Reported 57 graves in need of attention, outlined costs in expense groupings. Lana is reviewing who we are still in contact with regarding ongoing responsibility for specific graves and is seeking advice from Bromham PC how they proceeded with unclaimed repairs. Benches all in good repair.

P Shaw – Virtual paths being investigated by Sarah Dearden after LHFIFG meeting. Charlotte Owen, Occupational Therapist at Wilts notified of LPC decision to support disabled parking bay on High St. S96 discussed briefly; PS is of the opinion that it would be more trouble to administer, only mitigating and not solving safety issues.

P Holliday – playing field not recently cut due to being extremely wet.

S Gregory – reviewed written report – available on LPC website. Wilts request for LPC to support a zero-tolerance approach to verbal abuse of Wilts officers. Request for ideas from LPC concerning pedestrian safety in village. PH advised that ‘contentious’ sign had been removed. Discussion of stabilization of bank encroachment on pavement at Raycroft – to be updated. The need for an LHFIFG substantive bid in 2025 to support the installation of raised tables on access roads to the village centre was raised: SG agreed to provide estimates for Precept discussion in Nov.

8 Correspondence:

List reviewed and discussed under separate headings.

9 Play Park Lease & earlier revisions:

LH presented several plans dating from original 1949 lease plan and subsequent revisions (draft and agreed). It was confirmed and agreed that NT plan V6 with additional annotations requested by the playing field AOR (PH) is correct. LH to collaborate with NT to finalize Deed of Surrender and Variation. Two quotes for conveyancing solicitors were reviewed. A third solicitor was asked to quote, but would only provide an hourly rate with no limit or indicative total hours, and was therefore discounted. PG questioned the need for LPC to meet the legal costs, however it was clarified that this is a conveyancing activity and both parties need to appoint and fund their own legal counsel for impartiality. It was voted and agreed to appoint Awdry’s solicitors (JD/HS).

10 Public Meeting Report:

Brief discussion of S96; unsure if this would resolve matters significantly. The consensus view was that 'we need to return to previous position'. DW advised raising a petition to present to Wilts (Full Council) and to Cabinet Member for Highways Nick Holder.

PS reiterated discussion at LHFIG re: virtual footway, double yellow lines to be formalized with Highways.

11 Councillors' Code of Conduct:

SW presented the LPC revised CofC from September meeting and the Local Government Association CofC, the pros and cons of each were briefly discussed. It was agreed to adopt LPC revised CofC from September meeting. SW to clean-up documentation and post to website/Dropbox.

12 Weight Limit on C155:

It was agreed to review this at November's meeting.

13 Finance:

i) It was resolved (JD/HS) that the following accounts be paid:

S Steward	£ 472.10	(for September)
S Steward	£ 15.39	(office expenses - September)
Idverde Ltd	£ 279.94	(Village Mtce - September)
Idverde Ltd	£ 270.82	(PF mtce - September)
National Trust	£ 140.00	(Allotments Rent - 29.9.24-28.9.25)
Playsafety Ltd	£ 220.80	(RoSPA inspection Play Areas)
HM Revenue & Customs	£ 354.06	(PAYE)
PKF Littlejohn	£ 378.00	(external audit)

ii) To approve statement of account:

It was resolved (PH/JD) that the statement of account showing a balance of £38,605.44 as at 1 October 2024 in the Co-Operative Bank current account (statement no. 250) and £51,846.31 in the Cambridge & Counties deposit account should be signed by the chair as being correct.

14 Planning:

PL/2024/08632 – in JB's absence, PG explained the application.

Vote – **No Objection.**

15 Other Matters for Information/Discussion:

(i) HS invited councillors on behalf of Sune to tea/coffee after Remembrance Day service, 10 November 2024.

16 **Date of Next Meeting:**
Monday 11 November 2024

The meeting closed at 22.17.

Signature of Chair upon approval of Minutes

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11 November 2024