

Lighthorne Parish Council

Draft Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Pavilion Café on Tuesday, 12th February 2019 at 8pm

Present: Cllrs. A. Archer (Chairman), H. Archer, M. Langhorn (until 8.45pm), A. Smith, L. Steele, District Cllr. C. Mills (from 8.20pm until 9.10pm), County Cllr. C. Williams (until 9.10pm)
5 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

No apologies.

2. To consider co-opting Mike Langhorn to the Parish Council

The Chairman proposed that we co-opt Mike Langhorn to the Parish Council, seconded Cllr. Steele and carried unanimously. Cllr. Langhorn signed the declaration of office form.

3. To take any questions from the floor

A resident asked about the speed device. The clerk explained that Gaydon Community Speedwatch currently have the device. They will be passing the device to the Police at the end of February. The Police will be calibrating the device free of charge. A representative from Gaydon will collect the device and then contact Lighthorne Parish Council to arrange delivery. Cllr. Steele said that she has the signs. The resident said that he has 3 jackets which need storing. Cllr. Smith said that if we have enough volunteers then they could resume speedwatch. The resident said that it is difficult to get the Police to support this. County Cllr. Williams assured residents that the Police are still maintaining the training sessions. JLR will follow up on management vehicles but we need the registration numbers to report to them.

A resident asked for an update on the Home Farm appeal. Cllr. Smith said that he has been unable to access the documents on the appeals site.

Access to the documents is at the discretion of the District Council. The District Council is in the process of drafting a letter to the Parish Council.

An update on extending the 30mph speed limit was requested. Cllr. Smith said that there is no clear cost for this work. It depends on the consultation.

Cllr. Smith has enquired about funding. County Cllr. Williams said that he has £36,000 starting in April.

8.20pm District Cllr. Mills joins the meeting.

Cllr. Smith asked County Cllr. Williams if he could commit funding. County Cllr. Williams said that he would look into this. A resident asked if the developer has been asked to assist with funding. Cllr. Smith explained that we have written to the developer and he is not willing to contribute but he agreed to approach him again regarding funding towards cameras.

A resident said that he was very disappointed that the County Council will not do anything about the verges. Conditions should have been placed on the developer to ensure that the damage caused by his lorries is repaired. Cllr. Archer said that she would contact County Highways again to see if anything can be done.

4. Declarations of interest

Cllr. Steele declared a pecuniary interest in item 10(xi) as a relative is receiving a payment.

5. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Smith proposed that the minutes be approved, seconded Cllr. Archer and carried unanimously. The Chairman signed the minutes.

6. To consider the following planning applications

(i) 19/00122/FUL - Jaguar Land Rover

No comments or objections were raised.

(ii) 18/03307/REM (amendment) - land west of B4100

Cllr. Steele said that she has met with the District Council regarding this application. There are no changes that affect this parish.

(iii) 19/00115/FUL - Home Farm

This application was briefly discussed. Councillors agreed to object as the previous application is at the appeal stage and if both applications are approved this would be an overdevelopment of the site.

ACTION: Cllr. Steele to draft a response and submit.

8.45pm Cllr. Langhorn leaves the meeting.

(iv) 18/03776/FUL - Pippin Cottage, Post Office Lane

It was agreed that Cllr. Smith would speak to the applicant regarding his questions. He would then liaise with councillors to agree a response.

ACTION: Cllr. Smith to liaise with the applicant and then liaise with councillors before drafting a response for councillors to approve.

(v) 18/03777/LBC - Pippin Cottage, Post Office Lane

See item (iv) above.

Planning notice 18/03341/FUL - The Beeches, Lighthorne Rough; granted

Planning notice 18/03618/FUL - Lighthorne Rough; granted

7. District Council Matters

(i) To receive report

District Cllr. Mills asked if any Orbit properties had been sold recently. Cllr. Steele said that she believes one was sold last year. The District Council is looking into long term empty properties. The owners will have to pay double council tax.

The cost of opening up the River Avon was too high.

Cllr. Steele asked Cllr. Mills about a smaller refuge van for Mountford Rise.

ACTION: District Cllr. Mills to follow up on this.

(ii) Planning enforcement investigation update - Home Farm (17/00558/CRIT)

See item 3.

(iii) Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment

Cllr. Steele said that this does not impact on this parish.

8. County Council Matters

(i) To receive report

County Cllr. Williams read out his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. Cllr. Steele asked about the community grant. County Cllr. Williams said that grant application forms will be out in May.

(ii) Highways; traffic calming

Cllr. Smith reported that we now have the data from the surveys. This will be forwarded to a resident who has taken a strong interest to see if there is anything of significance. It was noted that one of the strips was placed by a 90 degree bend where vehicles will have to slow down.

9.10pm Cllrs. Mills and Williams leave the meeting.

9. Parish Maintenance

(i) Sports Pavilion/Sports Ground; update

The Chairman reported that a contractor will be carrying out work on the allotments tomorrow. It was agreed that the Chairman should attend a meeting with the allotment holders.

(ii) To consider funding towards protection for the septic tank
Still waiting for quotes.

ACTION: March agenda item.

10. Contracts and Finance

(i) Bank balance

The treasurer account bank balance was reported as £5,366.73 with the business bank account at £11,092.61. Cllr. Smith reported that he is now able to view transactions on-line.

(ii) Café lease; update

No new update.

(iii) Income - £520.00

(iv) Village Hall grant update

Cllr. Smith said that he will be meeting with members of the Committee to discuss further.

(v) To consider the risk assessment

The risk assessment had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Steele proposed that it be approved, seconded and carried unanimously.

(vi) To approve revised standing orders

It was agreed that the Chairman and Cllr. Steele would review these orders.

(vii) To approve revised financial regulations

The Clerk to forward the regulations to councillors.

(viii) To appoint a clerk

Councillors agreed to appoint Desmond Thomas from 1st March. Des was welcomed to the Parish Council.

(ix) Footway Lighting Maintenance Contract

Councillors agreed to continue the contract with the County Council.

(x) Grass Cutting Contract

Councillors agreed to continue the contract with Nick Jenvey.

(xi) To authorise the signing of orders for payment

Cllr. Steele proposed that the following accounts be approved for payment, seconded Cllr. Smith and carried unanimously.

Payee	Amount
Mrs. C. Hill - Salary (January)	£189.85
e.on - street lighting	£194.05
Mr. J. Newberry - printing	£55.00

11. Correspondence

(i) Damage to verges

See item 3.

(ii) Invitation to event on 28th January; feedback

Cllr. Steele said that this event was very disappointing and shouldn't have been called a consultation.

(iii) WALC newsletter

Circulated.

(iv) Speeding device

See item 3.

12. Date of next meeting

12th March 2019

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

Lighthorne Parish Council 12th February 2019

County Councillor's Report

Please accept my apologies for not being with you over the past few months. I still have some 19 weekly chemotherapy treatments to undergo but hopefully I will be able to attend future meetings.

I would like to thank the Parish Council for their good wishes for my recovery. It is much appreciated and please feel free to contact me by email should there be any issues requiring my attention.

Administration – December and January were quiet months at the County Council. The mild weather at the end of the year meant that the gritting teams were able to enjoy their Christmas at home. However, the recent spell of very cold weather has meant that the Highways team have now been fully utilised ensuring that the roads have been kept clear and the stock of grit salt is sufficient to meet any future demand. The recruitment of senior staff is in the process of being implemented and posts are slowly being filled. The long-awaited report on the County's Fire & Rescue service has at last been released and generally our Fire Service meets all required standards although there is room for improvement in some areas (predominately back office). Warwickshire's Youth Justice Service is a beacon of which we are rightly proud. They have just undergone an inspection which has rated the service as Good with areas that are Outstanding.

Budget - The Budget was set by the full council for the next financial year on 7th February 2019. The overall riding strategy has been two-fold: to grow the economy and look after the most vulnerable in our community. The economy in Warwickshire is strong and is now recognised to be the fastest growing region in the country. At 30% growth since 2009, this is double the rate in England and 10% higher than the midland region. The unemployment figure is at a record low of 1.8% and our employment rate is also at a record high of 80.7% which is 5% higher than the national figure. The task facing the local authority is to create an environment that is pro-business and an attractive place to live and work. By working with our partners and the districts and boroughs as well as maintaining excellent relationships as a non-constituent member of the West Midlands Combined Authority we have been very successful in attracting businesses and people to Warwickshire.

One example of this wider influence is the £80 million investment in the UK Battery Industrialisation Centre located on the Coventry/Warwickshire border which translates into jobs and rateable value for Warwickshire. In the autumn statement announced by the government Warwickshire will receive a one-off Social Care grant of £6 million plus £1.2 million for vulnerable pupils. With the principle of protecting the most vulnerable in our communities and the investment that requires we shall increase the Council Tax by 3% with

an additional Social Care precept of 2%. There have been no controversial reductions in the budget spending for next year.

We are about to start the third year of a three-year plan which was originally set in 2017 where we mapped out how WCC was going to deliver services to the high standards our residents are used to and at the same time making savings of £67 million. To date we have achieved this target. Be assured that Warwickshire County Council has a sound financial basis and problems that have affected authorities such as Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire will not occur in Warwickshire.

HS2 - Road closures will continue around the proposed route for the first part of 2019. Kineton School and Stagecoach are liaising over School bus disruption. To date WCC is paying for extra buses when needed. Under the terms of the Hybrid Bill, HS2 and the contractors are responsible for keeping us all informed of their plans and they will continue to hold drop-in and information meetings during this period.

Buses – Stagecoach’s revised timetable has been published and although it does not suit everyone at least the village has a service. Any new route takes time for the operators to iron out problems and for the drivers to learn that route. I will ensure that the County Council Officers are liaising with the operators to minimise any inconvenience caused.

Highways - Major works as well as HS2 around our district, particularly on the A423, will create major disruptions over the next few weeks. A programme for utilising the extra government money for pothole repairs is being prepared. Please report significant potholes as soon as possible as they will be repaired on a priority basis and the money spent in this financial year.

I will keep the Parish Council informed if there are any decisions that will have an affect on the Parish Council.

Cllr Chris Williams

Member for Kineton and Red Horse Division

11.02.2019