

LIGHTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of The Ordinary Meeting of Lighthorne Parish Council - Held at Lighthorne Village Hall -
On Tuesday 11th July 2023 At 7.30pm

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Cllr Lewis, Cllr Langhorn, Cllr Driver, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Mills (WDC) & Cllr Parry (SDC).

IN ATTENDANCE: 12 members of the public.

- 1. Apologies**
Cllr Reynolds.
- 2. Declarations of interests and consideration of dispensation requests**
None.
- 3. Acceptance of minutes from June.**
The minutes were agreed.
- 4. To elect a new Chair and Vice Chair.**

Cllr Langhorn proposed and Cllr Driver seconded that Cllr Lewis be Chair – unanimous and duly elected. Cllr Lewis proposed and Cllr Langhorn seconded that Cllr Driver be Vice Chair – unanimous and duly elected. *Item closed.*

5. Public Participation

Residents attended with regard to the boundary fence to the 3 properties adjoining both the Playground (Parish Council Land) and the Village Hall (Under authority of VHMC). They thanked LPC for clearing the brambles etc from the playground. There was a request for a maintenance plan going forward. There is a request to repair some fence posts believed to have been damaged by the brambles prior to removal, initial view of LPC was that it is not liable but Cllr Lewis agreed to meet the resident to discuss further and try to come to an agreement. LPC has the grass in the playground cut regularly and the newly cleared area will be maintained by the grass cutter. *Carried forward.*

Representatives from Khalsa Cricket Club attended to put forward their plans going forward. Cllr Lewis agreed to meet with them to discuss what their requirements are and what LPC might be able to do to assist. *Carried forward.*

6. Potentially dangerous tree on Old School Lane.

A professional view is required regarding the tree. Cllr Lewis undertook to instruct a tree surgeon to view the tree. *Carried forward.*

7. To consider purchasing Swift boxes.

A resident addressed LPC as to the current plight of Swifts and their demise nationally. Efforts are now being made to provide suitable ‘homes’ for them during the 3 months a year they might spend locally. Harbury have already undertaken such a scheme and have 50 suitable swift boxes. They require elevated and north facing locations. Estimated 25 boxes could be installed in Lighthorne. They would undertake a full survey of the village to locate suitable houses. Each box is approx. £30 fully installed. Another resident offered to organise an info and fundraising event for the scheme. LPC offered its full and unanimous support to the scheme. *Carried forward.*

8. Report from GLH New Village Centre Exhibition 15th June 2023 – 3:30 to 19:00.

Andy Smith attended on behalf of LPC. The developers of the Upper Lighthorne development held an exhibition in Lighthorne Heath regarding the Upper Lighthorne Village Centre Design Brief. There was a printed survey soliciting feedback. Information regarding surveys was circulated on social media and to the LPC email after the event. *Item closed.*

9. Report from volunteers re: the coppice behind the Pavilion Café.

A representative from The Heart of England Foundation has visited the site and prepared a report with suggested actions going forward for maintenance etc. The group would like to fully consider the recommendations and cost any scheme before presenting a scheme to LPC for consideration. The rep from The heart of England Foundation is happy to attend LPC's next meeting to assist. The group did request that the Pavilion Café and Cricketers clear all and any of their belongs and clear and tidy the area so that volunteers can then assist with any scheme proposed. *Carried forward.*

10. To consider submitting a scheme to SDC to retain the £19,000 CIL grant.

The pavilion car park has been completely cleared of dead shrubs and undergrowth, this has created a huge area which can accommodate far more parking. The refurbishment of the area will not require planning permission. With the increased area, an area can be created for use by cricketers/football etc where there can be double and triple parking. SDC have confirmed in writing that this will not affect the grant as they believe it still fits the fundamental description of the project, as soon as we have a start date, they will release the funds. Cllr Lewis has obtained a quote, a resident offered details for a second quote, Cllr Parry made a suggestion for a 3rd quote if needed. The proposal will be to paint marked bays once the area has been resurfaced. *Carried forward.*

11. To consider a new webpage provider.

Unanimously agreed to switch to the new webpage provider. Cllr Driver is undertaking the switch and has offered to maintain the new webpage. *Item closed.*

12. To consider not holding a meeting in August.

Unanimously agreed. *Item closed.*

13. Matters arising from the minutes and previous meetings

(a) David Wilson & Barrett Homes.

Cllr Reynolds and Andy Smith are arranging to meet contractors on site to discuss the scheme, how much they can provide for LPC and timings etc. *Carried forward.*

(b) To consider LPC's response to the issue of Primary Healthcare at GLH

Andy Smith reported: The ICB opened a period for Expressions of Interest from GP practices wishing to run the permanent health centre at Upper Lighthorne. This closed on the 7th July. The ICB have given themselves until 30th October 2023 to make their selection of GP practice, and until 2027 to establish a GP service in Upper Lighthorne. Radway has joined the parishes signed up to the Statement of Objectives, so we are now 24 parishes. We will seek to engage with those GP practices who are in the frame to run the permanent facility with the objective of persuading them to consult with the developers over the provision of a temporary GP service in Upper Lighthorne as soon as possible. *Carried forward.*

(c) To consider the issue of parking on Bishops Hill

WCC have agreed to paint white lines encouraging appropriate parking on Bishops Hill,

this should have been completed in March. Cllr Langhorn will pursue. WCC have been commissioned to look into having small/short wooden bollards positioned at intervals along the pavement to prevent any future parking on the pavements, without being visually obtrusive - the £500 fee to look into the works has been paid and confirmed as received. We await WCC to send out an engineer to check the feasibility of the works. Cllr Langhorn will pursue. Cllr Langhorn has a site visit re: outstanding works with Graham Stanley in a couple of weeks. *Carried Forward.*

(d) To consider a residents request for LPC to purchase private land for use as a village green

There has been correspondence between the group and the Butler family. The Butler family have questions regarding future use of the land etc. The group wish to hand the matter back to LPC. Cllr Lewis, Cllr Langhorn and the group will arrange a meeting with a representative from the family. *Carried forward.*

(e) To facilitate a new ‘kissing gate’ at the end of Post Office lane at the entrance to the footpath.

Cllr Langhorn wrote to the footpaths department who have confirmed receipt of the email but not replied with any guidance or indication as to who is financially responsible. Cllr Langhorn will pursue this issue. *Carried forward.*

(f) To consider agreeing a new lease for the pavilion café with a new tenant.

There have been no approaches to LPC with a suggested new lease, it is believed that discussions are ongoing between the current tenant and potential purchaser. *Carried forward.*

14. Planning

(a) Applications for comment since last meeting

- i. 23/01054/OUT Land to the south of J12, M40 and adj to Banbury Rd, Gaydon.
Extensive Industrial Units and associated works. It was unanimously agreed to object to this development and to offer our full support to Gaydon PC in their objections.
- ii. 23/01562 Bishops Gorse Farm New agricultural building
- iii. 23/01738/FUL 11 Verney Close New garage and store

(b) Decisions to note since last meeting

- i. 23/00740/FUL Land opposite Southview Granted
- ii. 23/01249/FUL 15 Verney Close Granted

(c) Enforcement

None

15. Parish Council Reports – To receive reports on:

(a) Playground – The damaged bench has been removed save for the ‘stays’ in the ground. The clerk has applied for a grant to fund a new bench, we are awaiting news of whether the application has been successful. The brambles and undergrowth at the end of the playground have been completely cleared.

16. Reports from Ward Representatives of SDC and WCC – on website.

17. Financial Administration

(a) Lighthorne cash book balances at 6 th July 2023	
i. Current account	£6,756.22
ii. Allocated reserves account	£22524.67
Total	£29280.89
(b) Income since last meeting	
i. July rent from Pavilion Café	£740.00
ii. CIL payment from MM Lane	£3,361.18
(c) Expenditure since last meeting	
i. Clerks wages 30 hours @ £16.50	£495.00
ii. Water Plus	£52.19
iii. Nick Jenvey – Grass 6 th & 7 th June	£470.50
iv. Nick Jenvey – Grass 28 th & 29 th June	£520.50
v. Hazard Tape	£4.99
vi. Email Dodo subscription	£10.07
vii. Wicksteed Playground inspection	£144.00
viii. Matt Bray – playground clearance	£270.00
(d) Agreeing accounts for payment	Cllr Driver is in the process of adding Cllr Reynolds & Cllr Thomas to Lloyds bank.

18. Correspondence.

None.

19. Other reports and items for future agendas

20. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12th September 2023 at 7:30pm.

MEETING CLOSES at 8:36pm