

LIGHTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of The Ordinary Meeting of Lighthorne Parish Council - Held at Lighthorne Village Hall -
On Tuesday 12th December 2023 At 6.45pm

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Cllr Lewis, Cllr Driver, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Reynolds, Cllr Eason, Cllr Hickman & Cllr Mills (WCC).

IN ATTENDANCE: 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies

Cllr Parry (SDC).

2. Declarations of interests and consideration of dispensation requests

None.

3. Acceptance of minutes from November.

The minutes were agreed.

4. Public Participation

A resident raised the issue of the public footpath 'right of way' at the pavilion – LPC are not proposing to apply to divert the footpath, as it is not anticipated that the right of way will be obstructed at all – if there is any obstruction, the situation can always be reviewed. *Item closed.*

A resident raised concerns about the private sewage plant at the pavilion (budgeted provision for funding, inadequate fencing, licensing, servicing, drainage etc). The council were reminded that LPC have always taken advice from experts and have been advised that there are no problems/issues re: licence, servicing, drainage issues etc. LPC are currently awaiting an expert report on any works needed on the unit as part of its most recent service. The budget is decided annually and LPC has these costs in mind. Re-fencing can be done as part of the car park improvements. Cllr Hickman agreed to form a sub committee to deal with any issues arising out of the sewage unit. *Item closed.*

A resident pointed out that the BT telephone box looks like it might be in need of painting. The clerk is to look into obtaining some appropriate paint. *Item closed.*

A resident raised concerns over the wood element of the millennium sign. Clerk to ask Alan Ferguson to have a look and advise. *Item closed.*

5. To consider purchasing a speed gun.

Unanimously agreed to purchase a new speed gun. *Item closed.*

6. To consider repairing or replacing the bus shelter roof.

Jim Newberry suggested that a team of villagers get together to build a new bus shelter, rather than keep patching up the existing one, requested that LPC provide materials and a team of locals provide the labour. Clerk to advertise and request volunteers. *Carried forward.*

7. To consider the annual playground inspection.

An inspection has been booked – usually early January. *Item closed.*

8. Matters arising from the minutes and previous meetings

(a) David Wilson & Barrett Homes.

Enquiries are ongoing to see if the project can be completed – Barrett are still engaged and the PR rep for DWH is enquiring whether they can assist. *Carried forward.*

- (b) **To consider LPC's response to the issue of Primary Healthcare at GLH**
Andy Smith reported: A further meeting between the ICB, SDC, and our MP to place on 23rd November. The ICB confirmed that the selection of a GP practice to run Upper Lighthorne may take six months, but may be completed sooner than that. An examination of ICB meeting minutes online shows many recent references to developer contributions being insufficient to fund new primary health estate. We hope that the imminent Options Feasibility Assessment commissioned by SDC will show that there is a viable option, and we are lobbying SDC to secure another meeting to go through this assessment in detail, and to understand what issues remain. Cabinet sign-off of the report is expected on 15th January. *Carried forward.*

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

The Antelope Inn has placed a large sign on the grass verge asking cars not to park on the pavement. LPC will monitor the situation going forward. *Item closed.*

(d) **Report from volunteers re: the coppice behind the Pavilion Café.**

A skip was provided by LPC to clear the area – the team are doing great work clearing and tidying the coppice. *Carried forward.*

(e) **To consider a scheme to use the £19,000 CIL grant.**

The car park area and entrance have been cleared of undergrowth, overhanging branches and dead wood – The car park is being re-surfaced - Parking spaces will then be marked out. The car park work is approx. half way completed and hopes to finish next week. The cricketers can move their container to the far corner of the outfield and screen it once the weather improves so as not to damage the outfield (currently over grown shrubland) this would be within budget. *Carried forward.*

(f) **To consider purchasing swift boxes.**

Appropriate styles of boxes specific to each house and quotes being obtained. *Carried forward.*

(g) **To consider a new fence and gate (with padlock) at the pavilion car park – adjacent to new basketball area, additional security for the outfield.**

No new progress as this linked to basketball area. *Carried forward.*

(h) **To consider upgrading Fire Doors at the Pavilion.**

Work completed. *Item closed.*

(i) **To consider a new lease with a new tenant at The Pavilion Café.**

New tenant has signed their lease and taken over the pavilion café. A resident asked if LPC are planning on publishing the lease, we are not – however, if anyone has any queries or specific questions about it, LPC will answer all such matters as best they can. Cllr Lewis wanted to thank the Clerk for all her work in finalising the lease. *Item closed.*

(j) **To consider replacing the failed lighting column on Church Lane.**

New column has been ordered and will be fitted as soon as possible. *Item closed.*

9. Planning

(a) **Applications for comment since last meeting**

- i. None

(b) **Decisions to note since last meeting**

- i. 23/02675/FUL Lakeside Granted

(c) **Enforcement**

None

10. Parish Council Reports – To receive reports on:

(a) Playground – Old footings of bench have been removed and the new bench is in its place.

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

12. Financial Administration

(a) Lighthorne cash book balances at 7th December 2023

i. Current account	£22890.83
ii. Allocated reserves account	£22623.44
Total	£45514.27

(b) Income since last meeting

i. December rent from Pavilion Café	£00.00
ii. CIL	£19,000

(c) Expenditure since last meeting

i. Clerks wages 30 hours @ £16.50	£495.00
ii. Water Plus	£54.04
iii. Yu energy (Nov)	£14.87
iv. Yu energy (Nov)	£110.04
v. Village Hall Annual Grant	£1,000.00
vi. Shrub clearance etc at pavilion carpark	£1,170.00
vii. Protective helmet (for LPC strimmer)	£19.95
viii. Skip for pavilion coppice clean up	£290.00
ix. Skip for pavilion car park enhancement works	£290.00
x. Date protection certificate	£35.00
xi. EPC cert for pavilion	£240.00
xii. New floor in toilets at pavilion	£371.40

(d) Agreeing accounts for payment

13. Correspondence.

Complaints have been received about dog fouling on the pavement and on private land (and disposed of in a private green bin) – request made for the problem to be highlighted in the next Parish Magazine Article. It was decided to print posters and place them around the village. *Item closed.*

14. Other reports and items for future agendas.

15. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 9th January 2023 at 6:45pm.

MEETING CLOSES at 7:25pm