

LIGHTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of The Ordinary Meeting of Lighthorne Parish Council - Held at Lighthorne Village Hall -
On Tuesday 13th February 2024 At 6.45pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies

The clerk & Cllr Eason.

2. Declarations of interests and consideration of dispensation requests

None.

3. Acceptance of minutes from January (both).

The minutes were agreed.

4. Public Participation

A resident inquired about the PC's position regarding the proposed Deeres Leap Solar Farm. The Chair confirmed that the PC does not yet have a position because Councillors have not met with Innova, the developers, nor attended the Community Consultation Event scheduled for Wednesday 21st February from 5pm –8pm at Lighthorne Village Hall. Innova and/or their representatives have been invited to attend the March LPC meeting also. *Carried Forward*.

5. To confirm the precept 2024/2025.

The precept of £16,000 was unanimously approved. This is the same as 2023/24. *Item Closed*.

6. To consider the terms of the annually renewable agreement with Khalsa for 2024 re: terms of use of the outfield and facilities.

The agreement was approved with one modification viz the removal of timing restrictions for junior matches on Sundays. Cllr Lewis and the Khalsa representative signed the agreement which Cllr Lewis will now take to the Pavilion Café owner for their signature. *Carried forward*.

7. To consider repair of the millennium sign.

Agreed unanimously. *Item closed*.

8. To consider reviewing the Clerk's salary for year 2024/2025.

It was unanimously agreed to increase the clerk's salary in line with guidance from NALC. *Item closed*.

9. To consider instructing Trevor Gill to conduct the internal audit.

Agreed unanimously. *Item closed*.

10. To ensure that Lighthorne is included in the “lightning fast” broadband being promised to Warwickshire by 2025.

A member of the public pointed out that the coverage in Warwickshire will be very limited (38,600 houses across Warwickshire and Leicestershire www.gov.uk) and does not include Lighthorne. *Item closed*.

11. To consider a Beacon for D Day 80th Anniversary June 2024.

The beacon was unanimously agreed. It is hoped to use the same site as was used for the Queen's Jubilee. *Item Closed.*

12. Matters arising from the minutes and previous meetings

(a) David Wilson & Barrett Homes.

Cllr Lewis and the clerk met with representatives from Barrett Homes and DWH they are engaging with a 3rd house builder to see if they can also assist with the project. *Carried forward.*

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

Andy Smith reported: SDC's Deputy Chief Executive advises The ICB's Primary Care Group have endorsed the Tandem Projects report. He further reports that the ICB are seeking to appraise applications during March 2024 and appoint a GP practice in April 2024. SDC continue to progress.

The immediate priority is to ensure the selection of a GP practice for Upper Lighthorne as soon as possible. That practice will then be encouraged to explore, with the developers, how a temporary GP service can be introduced at Upper Lighthorne to bridge the gap until a permanent facility can be delivered. A web site has been created as a one-stop-shop for the background and current status of this issue - smithdom.uk/ulnhs.

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

No new update. *Carried forward.*

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

Outstanding is the moving of the large container to the far side of the outfield and creation of further spaces where the container had previously been. *Carried forward.*

(e) To consider purchasing swift boxes.

Andy Smith reported: Eight houses in Lighthorne Village, and a further three at Lighthorne Rough, have been identified as suitable for swift boxes. The craftsman who manufactured the boxes for Harbury is preparing a quote for the Lighthorne boxes. Unfortunately the tradesman who did the installations at Harbury is no longer trading. Enquiries seeking someone good working at heights and is insured have begun. A new design of stand-alone swift boxes supported on 4m poles has come to our attention and is being investigated. *Carried forward.*

(f) 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 / netball area. *Carried forward.*

(g) To consider repairing or replacing the bus shelter roof.

Cllr Hickman is leading a working party from within the village to fix the roof. They are looking for donations of suitable materials. *Carried forward.*

(h) To consider the budget for 2024/2025.

The proposed budget was unanimously agreed – a copy can be found on the website. *Item Closed.*

13. Planning

(a) Applications for comment since last meeting

- i. 24/00282 Hill Cottage Reduce Ash Tree

(b) Decisions to note since last meeting

- ii. 24/00100/DDT Low Wood Fell Cherry Tree
- iii. 24/00144/TREE Sunny Bank Fell Hawthorn

(c) Enforcement

None

14. Parish Council Reports – To receive reports on:

- (a) Playground – Once weather improves a team will cut back overgrowing vegetation.

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

16. Financial Administration

(a) Lighthorne cash book balances at 8th February 2024	
i. Current account	£5963.29
ii. Allocated reserves account	£22672.61
Total	£28635.90
(b) Income since last meeting	
i. February rent from Pavilion Café	£740.00
ii. VAT return	£4,197.39
(c) Expenditure since last meeting	
i. Clerks wages 30 hours @ £16.50	£495.00
ii. Water (Jan)	£35.14
iii. Water (Feb)	£50.35
iv. Yu energy (Jan)	£15.26
v. Yu energy (Jan)	£131.30
vi. Yu energy (Feb)	£15.57
vii. Yu energy (Feb)	£139.43
viii. Gallons Ltd - Resurface Pavilion Car Park	£2,820.00
ix. Strimmer service/repair	£131.99
x. Wicksteed playground inspection	£158.40
(d) Agreeing accounts for payment	

17. Correspondence.

None

18. Other reports and items for future agendas.

19. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 6:45pm.

MEETING CLOSES at 7:45pm