

LIGHTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of The Ordinary Meeting of Lighthorne Parish Council - Held at Lighthorne Village Hall -
On Tuesday 9th January 2024 At 6.45pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: 1 member of the public.

1. **Apologies**

Cllr Driver & Cllr Parry (SDC).

2. **Declarations of interests and consideration of dispensation requests**

None.

3. **Acceptance of minutes from December.**

The minutes were agreed.

4. **Public Participation**

A resident raised the issue of the public footpath 'right of way' at the pavilion again – LPC are not proposing to apply to divert the footpath, as we do not believe that the right of way is obstructed. The resident believes that it is and will be reporting LPC to the Council for obstructing the public right of way. *Item closed.*

5. **To consider the precept for 2024/2025.**

Unanimously agreed to fully review the finances at a separate sub-committee made up of Cllr Lewis, Cllr Reynolds and the clerk, who will present a recommendation for approval by LPC in time to submit the application for the precept. *Item closed.*

6. **To consider the budget for 2024/2025.**

Unanimously agreed to fully review the finances at a separate sub-committee made up of Cllr Lewis, Cllr Reynolds and the clerk, who will present a recommendation for approval by LPC at the February meeting. *Carried forward.*

7. **To consider contributing to a new door at the pavilion.**

The new tenant at the pavilion café wishes to install a new steel door at the rear of the property for added security for the cafe. LPC consents to the work being done, but in the current financial climate does not deem it appropriate to contribute parish funds to the scheme. *Item closed.*

8. **To consider buying BT red paint to paint the BT telephone box.**

The BT phone box is owned by LPC and is falling into a state of disrepair. Unanimously agreed to buy 2.5L of BT red paint at £40.50 + vat to repaint the outer shell. *Item closed.*

9. **To consider replacing the failed lighting column on School Lane.**

The light has failed and the column is degraded such that both need replacing. It was unanimously decided that a Lower wattage LED light will be requested and new column ordered. *Item closed.*

10. 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. LPC will also look into whether a netball unit would have greater use and potentially require a smaller area of hard surface. *Carried forward.*

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

Andy Smith reported: Representatives for the 24 parishes, including Cllrs Parry & Mills as our District and County representatives and Cllrs Rock and Coles as Deputy Leader and portfolio holder, will meet with SDC on Friday 12th where we will hopefully be given more details on the proposal for the Upper Lighthorne village hub emerging from the Tandem Projects study, and jointly proposed by SDC and the ICB. This proposal will be considered, and hopefully adopted at an SDC Cabinet meeting on 15th January. Details of the Cabinet meeting including the agenda and the Tandem Projects report are now available on the SDC web site. The ICB has a Board meeting on 17th January. We assume this report will be on their agenda but at the time of writing no details are available from the ICB web site. We hope that adoption of this report by both SDC and the ICB will finally see some tangible progress on the delivery of much needed services in Upper Lighthorne. *Carried forward.*

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

2 skips have now been provided by LPC to clear the area (together with the car park works) – the team continue to do great work clearing and tidying the coppice. *Carried forward.*

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

The car park area and entrance have now been re-surfaced. 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). *Carried forward.*

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

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

Carried forward.

11. Planning

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

- i. 23/03328/TREE Stonecroft Reduce 4 trees

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

- i. None

(c) **Enforcement**

None

12. Parish Council Reports – To receive reports on:

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

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

14. Financial Administration

(a) Lighthorne cash book balances at 2 nd January 2024	
i. Current account	£5018.34
ii. Allocated reserves account	£22649.22
Total	£27667.56
(b) Income since last meeting	
i. December rent from Pavilion Café	£740.00
ii. January rent from Pavilion Cafe	£740.00
(c) Expenditure since last meeting	
i. Clerks wages 30 hours @ £16.50	£495.00
ii. Yu energy (Dec)	£125.03
iii. Yu energy (Dec)	£14.77
iv. Nick Jenvey – grass 29/11 & 8/12	£520.00
v. Legal fees (lease for pavilion)	£616.80
vi. Alan Ferguson (Park bench work)	£250.00
vii. Greg Hickman (Speed gun)	£206.49
viii. Gallons Ltd - Resurface Pavilion Car Park	£16423.00
ix. Sam Lloyd – Xmas Tree	£40.00
x. Grays carpets – Pavilion toilets	£371.40

(d) Agreeing accounts for payment

15. Correspondence.

None

16. Other reports and items for future agendas.

17. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 13th February 2024 at 6:45pm.

MEETING CLOSES at 7:40pm