

LIGHTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of The Ordinary Meeting of Lighthorne Parish Council - Held at Lighthorne Village Hall -
On Tuesday 12th September 2023 At 7.30pm

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Cllr Lewis, Cllr Langhorn, Cllr Reynolds, Cllr Thomas & Cllr Parry (SDC).

IN ATTENDANCE: members of the public.

1. Apologies

Cllr Driver & Cllr Mills (WCC).

2. Declarations of interests and consideration of dispensation requests

None.

3. Acceptance of minutes from July.

The minutes were agreed.

4. Public Participation

None.

5. To consider To consider co-opting Sarah Eason as a Councillor.

Proposed by Cllr Lewis, seconded Cllr Reynolds, unanimous decision to co-opt. *Closed.*

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

Awaits outcome of basketball area. *Carried forward.*

7. To consider goodwill repair of fence adjoining the play park.

No information received from resident. *Carried forward.*

8. To agree Roles and Responsibilities for Councillors.

To be agreed by email between Cllrs. *Item closed.*

9. To consider engaging Matt Bray to cut back bushes at The Broadwell.

Local residents have volunteered to undertake the works. Thanks given to them for volunteering. *Item closed.*

10. To consider allowing Khalsa Cricket Team to undergo improvement works at the pavilion outfield.

Representatives from Khalsa attended to present their plans for the outfield and pavilion going forward. Unanimously decided that they have permission to undergo the improvements. *Item closed.*

11. To consider a request from Khalsa Cricket Team for a contribution to funding a new wicket at the Pavilion outfield.

Khalsa have set up a crowdfunding page and have raised approx. £4,000 so far. They would like contribution in kind from LPC to help out with works as and when they arise rather than money per se. LPC agreed in principle to help where we can. *Item closed.*

12. To consider upgrading Fire Doors at the Pavilion.

The fire brigade's fire inspection report recommended that fire doors be installed/upgraded. It was agreed that the work should be done, and doors replaced/upgraded. Cllr Lewis will look into who is responsible. *Carried forward.*

13. Matters arising from the minutes and previous meetings

(a) David Wilson & Barrett Homes.

Correspondence and meetings with Barrett Homes had reached the point of arranging a start date for the basketball area to be installed by Barrett Homes' team – in current economic conditions they have concerns over costs. Andy Smith has agreed to continue encouraging them to complete the works, including enquiries as to the extent of their current proposed financial commitment to the scheme. *Carried forward.*

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

Andy Smith reported: The ICB's process for selecting a GP practice began mid July and was stated as ending in October. As such we are more than half way through the process. We understand from SDC that four GP practices are participating. We are engaged with three of those but are not certain of the fourth. The ICB is scheduled to appear before the SDC Oversight & Scrutiny Committee on 3rd November. We will ensure that the chairman of that committee is fully briefed on the latest situation so that pertinent questions can be asked. Tandem Projects of Newbold on Stour have been engaged by SDC to complete an options feasibility study for the village centre at Upper Lighthorne. This is scheduled to be complete at about the same time as the ICB's GP selection. We engaged with their lead consultant very early to ensure that the objectives of the 24 parishes are fully understood. We continue to lobby SDC to keep up the pressure on the ICB. *Carried forward.*

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

The only outstanding issue now is the construction of short bollards along the pavement to prevent vehicles continuing to park on the pavement. WCC have advised that LPC would need to fund this (approx. £7,000) and works would include widening the pavement into the existing grass verge. Cllr Lewis will advise WCC that we are not in a position to proceed currently – Cllr Langhorn noted that if we can wait until the next financial year then Cllr Mills may be able to assist from his WCC funds. It was noted that water continues to pour from a flood drain adjacent to the south entrance to the VH car park down Bishops Hill. Clerk to report to Severn Trent in case it is a burst pipe. *Carried Forward.*

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

No further progress. *Carried forward.*

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

WCC still haven't responded. Should LPC wish to install new kissing gates, it is anticipated that we would have to fund them. There are currently no gates and the two entrances to the footpath were not considered dangerous. LPC has decided not to replace them ourselves and not to pursue WCC to replace them. Should the area become dangerous this can be reconsidered. *Item closed.*

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

The sale of the café is not proceeding so there is now no prospective new tenant. *Item closed.*

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

Representatives from the group attended and thanked LPC for agreeing to fund a skip as required and for the bulbs which have now arrived. A group of volunteers will continue to clear the area. LPC agreed to help where we can. It was noted that the digester appeared to need emptying – it is due its 6 month emptying, Clerk to arrange this. The engineer who has dealt with the system is to attend at the same time to inspect and ensure that it is operating correctly. *Carried forward.*

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

Quotes are being obtained for all of the proposed works – as it is improving the area, planning permission is not required (SDC have confirmed). Works will include moving the metal container and creating a grass area of overflow parking between the current parking and the coppice. It is hoped that funds can stretch to assisting Khalsa with some of their improvement works. It was explained to Khalsa that nothing can be done re: drainage at the outfield until the ownership of the old quarry has passed to the management company (and it becomes a managed ecological reserve) – it is hoped that arrangements to prevent cattle damaging the drainage pipes can then be agreed and the works to restore the drainage system can then be considered. *Carried forward.*

(i) To consider purchasing swift boxes.

The article in the parish magazine elicited a couple of responses. In Harbury it took directed mail shots to properties with potential to get buy-in. Amanda Randall (Swift expert) and Andy Smith walked the village trying to assess suitable properties, and would like to mail drop those that look to have potential. There could be around 40 suitable properties - print cost of approx. £30 – the cost of printing was agreed unanimously (exceptional miscellaneous expense). *Carried forward.*

14. Planning

(a) Applications for comment since last meeting

i. 23/01813/TREE	Bishops Farm	Numerous tree works
ii. 23/01560/FUL	Bishops Gorse Farm	New agricultural building
iii. 23/01561/FUL	Bishops Gorse Farm	New agricultural building
iv. 23/02176/FUL	New Place, The Bank	Pitch roof to replace flat roof

(b) Decisions to note since last meeting

i. 23/01016/FUL	Farm Services	Granted
ii. 23/01813/TREE	Bishops Farm	Granted
iii. 23/01390/LBC	Curacy Farm	Granted
iv. 23/01389/FULL	Curacy Farm	Granted

(c) Enforcement

None

15. Parish Council Reports – To receive reports on:

(a) Playground –The application for a grant to fund a new bench was partly successful - £150 received. New bench purchased. To be assembled when the old ‘stays’ are removed and it

is installed. Discussed whether it could be positioned next to the village hall with a chain of some description. Clerk to email VHMC to discuss if this is possible.

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

17. Financial Administration

(a) Lighthorne cash book balances at 6 th September 2023	
i. Current account	£2,975.69
ii. Allocated reserves account	£22556.64
Total	£25532.33
(b) Income since last meeting	
i. August rent from Pavilion Café	£740.00
ii. September rent from Pavilion Café	£740.00
iii. Grant for park bench	£150.00
(c) Expenditure since last meeting	
i. Clerks wages 30 hours @ £16.50	£495.00
ii. Water Plus	£66.74
iii. Yu energy (July)	£94.90
iv. Yu energy (July)	£14.44
v. Nick Jenvey – Grass 10 & 11 July	£520.50
vi. Andy Smith – domain name fee	£9.59
vii. Nick Jenvey – Grass 26 & 27 July	£520.00
viii. Cathy Stacey – Bulbs for pavilion coppice	£294.99
ix. Roger Frogley & Co – allotments fence	£756.05
x. Laura Newberry – bench for play park	£299.00
xi. Clerks wages 30 hours @ £16.50	£495.00
xii. Nick Jenvey – grass cutting 23 & 24 August (pending)	£520.00
xiii. Yu Energy (August)	£14.87
xiv. Yu Energy (August)	£96.83
xv. Water plus (Sept)	£54.04
(d) Agreeing accounts for payment	

18. Correspondence.

None.

19. Other reports and items for future agendas.

Cllr Langhorn steps down from LPC. Thanks given for all his hard work over the last years.

20. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 10th October 2023 at 7:30pm.

MEETING CLOSES at 8:40pm