

LIGHTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of The Ordinary Meeting of Lighthorne Parish Council - Held at Lighthorne Village Hall -
On Tuesday 8th April 2025 At 6.45pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: 1 member of the public.

1. Apologies.

Cllr Parry (SDC).

2. Declarations of interests and consideration of dispensation requests

None.

3. Acceptance of minutes from March.

The minutes were agreed.

4. Public Participation

A member of the Village Hall Committee attended to update on the consultation and going forward. The overwhelming response from the consultation was option C to rebuild the back of the village hall, so the VHMC are pursuing this as an aspiration. They are obtaining plans and will in due course apply for planning permission. Applications for grants etc can then begin once there is a plan and a budget. A fundraising committee has already started organising fundraising events in the mean time. *Item closed.*

A resident attended to report on the works at South View. Thanks to neighbours and the village for their understanding during the works. The works are on schedule and are due to be completed: main house end of May; garage etc end of August. *Item closed.*

5. To agree the AGAR and internal audit.

AGAR was agreed and signed. Internal auditor will prepare letters re cash etc and the clerk will prepare letters re variations from last year. *Item closed.*

6. To consider any action required following flooding on 22nd March.

Different parts of the village were affected by the flooding with at least 10 houses seriously flooded. Clerk to make enquiries with WCC and Flood prevention Team and ask for advise re: whether anything can be done to prevent future flooding in similar conditions. *Carried forward.*

7. To consider a charge for Khalsa to use the outfield for 8 paid coaching sessions.

Proposed coaching sessions are for children, on a Tuesday evening, so the café would be unaffected. Course are 8 sessions and charge £50 per child. As this is additional to use agreed with Khalsa and they will be charging for the courses, it was agreed that it would be appropriate to charge them £20 a session for rent of the outfield for those specific dates. Khalsa have also asked if they can install a wooden gazebo type structure on the bank above the outfield (closer to tennis court) to provide shade or rain cover for their spectators. Agreed in principle, but final design and location must be notified for agreement in advance. *Item closed.*

8. Matters arising from the minutes and previous meetings

- a. **To consider LPC's response to the issue of Primary Healthcare at GLH**
 Andy Smith recapped and updated: Lindsay Ward, Practice Manager at St Wulfstan, was unable to make the last Upper Lighthorne Parish Council meeting. Their AGM is on the 14th May and I am lobbying for her attendance at that meeting, to explain the benefits of Social Prescribing. Meanwhile there has been no indication of progress towards the Homes England supported temporary GP facility. Planning application 23/01706/REM, remains without a determination, despite the extension of the target date from 31st October 2023 to 14th March 2025. We are told that this application is key to progress. *Carried forward.*
- b. **Neighbourhood Plan update.**
 A housing needs survey will be circulated in April. *Carried forward.*
- c. **To consider holding a Street Party for VE Day 80.**
 Agreed that a Street Party would be held on Sunday 11th May 2025 from 2pm to 5pm. Agreed that the barbecue format has previously worked best and encouraged community involvement, so this would be done again. There will also be pimms and fresh cakes etc available on the day. LPC to provide burgers/sausages etc. donations bucket to be available, and it was agreed that all donations would go to the Village Hall Extension Fund. Clerk has applied for road closure surrounding The Green, awaiting determination. There will also be a Beacon on VE Day itself 8th May 2025, timings etc to follow national guidelines and will be circulated. *Item closed.*
- d. **Update regarding Severn Trent works on Moreton Morrell Lane.**
 STW claim to have now completed the works but are awaiting a decision on who will be undertaking the repairs to the road and verges. Clerk has been chasing an answer to this but no response has been received from either WCC or STW. Clerk will continue chasing a response and a time frame for repairs. Moreton Morrell Lane remains technically closed until the road has been repaired. Noted that Grevaine will be starting the repair of the retaining wall behind the 3 houses on MM Lane and we do not want lorries using the village if MM lane is still closed. *Carried forward.*
- e. **Update from WCC Highways regarding clearance of obstructive over growth on Post Office Lane.**
 WCC had indicated that they would come out to inspect but the works might be delayed by nesting season. Cllrs did not believe that the over growth was such as could not be cut back now, also PO Lane due to be resurfaced, so cut back would be best before this happens. Clerk to chase again. *Carried forward.*

9. Planning

- a. **Applications for comment since last meeting**
 - i. 25/00529/TREE Bishops Farm House Fell Scots Pine
 - ii. 25/00699/TREE 1 The Bank Reduce an Ash
- b. **Decisions to note since last meeting**
 - i. 25/00314/TREE Lowbrook Granted
 - ii. 24/02072/FUL Solar Farm Granted Clerk to start negotiations re community funding, LPC would prefer a lump sum up front.
- c. **Enforcement.**

10. Parish Council Reports – To receive reports on:

- a. Playground – Further tidy/cut back during Easter holidays – clerk to advertise date.

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

12. Financial Administration

a.	Lighthorne cash book balances at 3 rd April 2025	
i.	Current account	£2006.96
ii.	Allocated reserves account	£16503.23
	Total	£18510.19
b.	Income since last meeting	
i.	April rent from Pavilion Café	£740.00
ii.	Allotment Assoc	£120.00
c.	Expenditure since last meeting	
i.	Clerks wages 30 hours @ £17.34	£520.83
ii.	Bank charges	£4.25
iii.	Water (March)	£68.16
iv.	Yu Energy (Final Bill)	£24.52
v.	Yu Energy (Final Bill)	£120.67
vi.	Alan Ferguson – sink at pavilion	£572.50
vii.	Mark Smith – repairs at pavilion	£334.31
viii.	Greg Hickman – weed killer	£20.49
ix.	Nick Jenvey – grass 21 & 24 March	£572.00
d.	Agreeing accounts for payment	

13. Correspondence.

Many thanks to our litter picking team who did an amazing job on Sunday 6th April collecting 10 bin bags full of rubbish from all of the roads and paths leading in and out of the village. Thanks to Chris Mills for arranging collection of the bags via Street Scene on Monday morning. The next litter pick will be on Sunday 1st May, meeting on the Village Green at 11am.
Item closed.

14. Other reports and items for future agendas.

Annual Parish Meeting is to take place on 13th May 2025 at 6:15pm before the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 13th May 2025 at 6:45pm.

15. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 13th May 2025 at 6:45pm.

MEETING CLOSES at 7:36pm