

LONGNEY AND EPNEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8 MAY 2013

A MEETING OF LONGNEY AND EPNEY PARISH COUNCIL was held on Wednesday 8 May 2013, following the Annual Parish Meeting at Longney School

PRESENT: Cllrs. Chamberlayne, Finzi, Godwin, Harvie, and Williams; District Cllr. Littleton and three residents

APOLOGIES: County Cllr. Blackburn

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Chairman: Cllr. Godwin, proposed by Cllr. Chamberlayne, seconded by Cllr. Finzi; Vice Chairman: Cllr. Finzi, proposed by Cllr. Godwin, seconded by Cllr. Harvie; Internal Financial Checker: Cllr. Finzi, proposed by Cllr. Godwin, seconded by Cllr. Williams; Footpaths Officers: Cllr. Harvie, proposed by Cllr. Godwin, seconded by Cllr. Finzi, and Cllr. Finzi, proposed by Cllr. Godwin, seconded by Cllr. Chamberlayne; Snow Warden: R. Godwin. An Internal auditor is still to be appointed

DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA: None

THE MINUTES of the meeting of Monday 18 March 2013 were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting

MATTERS ARISING:

AFFORDABLE HOMES AT CAMBRIDGE: Following appeal these have now been given planning permission. Councillors expressed their disappointment that affordable homes are not being distributed throughout parishes rather than large developments in one or two sites in the District. Councillors opinion will be conveyed to SDC

SALTING OF HIGHWAYS AT CANAL BRIDGES: Severn Voice will be discussing this matter with the Canal and Rivers Trust

EPNEY TELEPHONE BOX: Enquiries will be made with Insurers about insuring the telephone box if the Parish Council takes responsibility for it

JOINT BUYING OF FUEL: Further enquiries will be made

PLANNING: Two new planning applications had been received for: a two storey extension and alterations to drive access at Bow Lane Farm, Longney; and a single storey extension to rear and side elevations at Willow Brook Cottage, Longney. No planning applications had been approved

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: None

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Cllr. Littleton reported that SDC is returning to a Committee system. Planning permission had been granted for 1750 new properties in the District, with the possibility of a further 500 at Hunts Grove, West End, Cam, and Sharpness. On the subject of the proposed Incinerator at Javelin Park, the problem of disposal of waste still needs to be resolved

FINANCIAL STATEMENT/ANNUAL RETURN: The financial statement showing an excess of income of £432 during 2012/2013 was accepted, proposed by Cllr. Chamberlayne, seconded by Cllr. Finzi. The Annual Return was completed

NEW SEVERN ESTUARY FLOOD RISK STRATEGY: Councillors have been engaging with the EA to produce a new strategy, over much of the past year. Consultation has taken place with County and District Councillors and Parish Councils, and there will be a twelve week consultation period to consider the draft copy, ending on 31 July 2013. Every property will

receive a notice about the drop-in sessions at which the strategy will be explained to individual householders. The consultation document will state that the EA will maintain river defences on a cost/benefit basis as long as funds are available; there is no plan to create salt marshes as previously planned; there is a possibility of the creation of wetlands with the agreement of landowners. In discussion it was agreed that there is a need for the cost/benefit ratio to be carefully considered. There will be an opportunity to take part in the consultation online. Hard copies will also be available. A message will be sent by the Parish e-mail system to bring this important consultation to the attention of residents. Mr Scriven raised the matter of the EA flood risk maps which currently show the area which would be flooded as if there was no flood defence. These still need to be updated

CORRESPONDENCE:

GAPTC - LAIS 1350: The possibility of bidding for community ownership of land was discussed

NEIL CARMICHAEL MP - NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING: This allegedly gives statutory powers. There is the possibility of a connection with flooding issues

COMMUNITY FIRST - INSURANCE POLICY RENEWAL: Councillor Harvie will check the cover required/given under the policy. Councillors agreed to the payment of the premium of £204.75 for 2013/2014 and a cheque was signed

SMITHS GORE - THE HENRY SMITH CHARITY: A request had been received for payment by standing order of the rent for the playing field, annually in March. Cllr. Godwin will request that the payment is made on or after 1 April to keep the transaction within the financial year to which it refers

WESTERN POWER DISTRIBUTION - POWER CUTS AND IMPROVING THE ELECTRICITY NETWORK: Information suggested by Western Power will be circulated in the September newsletter, as it is more relevant to the winter months

VILLAGE PLAN:

- a) **GARDEN GROUP/EQUIPMENT:** The garden equipment is being used. £30 had been received from those hiring the equipment
- b) **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE:** More potholes are in need of attention
- c) **EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM:** No further information
- d) **WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER:** No further information

OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR: No request had been received by SDC for an election to replace Cllr. Chamberlayne. Cllr. Godwin proposed that Mr. Graham Wingrove should be co-opted. This was seconded by Cllr. Finzi and agreed by all Councillors

STATIONERY: Councillors agreed to the signing of a cheque value £15.00 for a replacement ink cartridge for the Parish Council printer

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of Longney and Epney Parish Council will take place at 8.00pm on Tuesday 16 July 2013 at Longney School

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10.07p.m.