



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Longdon, Queenhill and Holdfast Parish Council Held on 6 September 2021

Present: Chair Cllr Austin, Cllr Gray, Cllr Mullins, Cllr Cook, Cllr Young.

In Attendance: Cllr Behan (MHDC), K Swindells (Clerk)

1. **Apologies:** To receive apologies and to approve reasons for absence. Cllr Griffiths, Cllr Thatcher.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** No declarations on interest were made.
3. **Public Session:** No members of the public were present.
4. **Minutes:** To consider for adoption the minutes of the last meeting of the council held on 8 July 2021 (previously circulated). It was proposed by Cllr Mullins, seconded by Cllr Gray and RESOLVED unanimously to accept the draft minutes as a correct record.
 - a) **District/County Councillor Reports:** (Routine item omitted from the published Agenda) Cllr Behan (District Cllr) drew attention to ward boundary changes affecting Longdon, Queenhill and Holdfast Parish Council. The Boundary review is still under consultation and no changes have currently been made. One of the proposals is to merge Queenhill and Holdfast Councils with the Ripple ward. The purpose of the Boundary review is to reduce the number of ward Councillors in Malvern Hills District Council. It will be finalised at the start of next year 2022. It was suggested that residents in Queenhill and Holdfast should be informed of the proposed change by a notice on the Queenhill noticeboard. More Information can be found online on Malvern Hills Boundary Changes <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/media/have-your-say-on-a-new-political-map...>
 - b) Cllr Behan offered £200.00 from her District Allowance towards a project of the Parish Council. A suggestion was made that the money go towards purchasing play equipment for younger children on the Village Green. This was agreed unanimously with thanks to Cllr Behan.
5. **Progress Reports:**
 - a) The VAS Units are currently in use at various points on the B4211. Early results may suggest the volume of traffic is higher than anticipated. More will be known at the end of the assessment period when a full report will be presented to the Parish Council. More VAS posts may be installed in the future to allow for different locations to be used for monitoring traffic.



- b) **Community Website:** Progress had been made on the general format of the website the Parish Council would like to see. However, the main issue was how was it to be maintained. It was decided to use the village WhatsApp group to ascertain whether there would be persons in the community who had the knowledge of running/updating a website or who would be willing to learn how to do this. Appropriate research on the website which would represent and serve the community best is ongoing.
- c) **Parish Council Website:** Requests have been made to the webmaster for advice on taking down the existing out of date website. Whilst keeping the current email system working. The Parish Council's legal obligations regarding the publication of documents is met by using the County Council website.
6. **Finance: Bank Signatories:** It was recommended that after reviewing the list of current signatories, all past bank signatories should be removed and that the current Chair, Vice Chair and Cllr Gray would be the current signatories for the rest of the year.
7. **Finance Working Group:** RESOLVED Chair, Vice Chair, and Cllr Young would be the current group.
8. **Council Standing Orders:** New Model Standing orders were published in 2020. Existing Council Standing orders from 2018 need to be revised and amended as necessary. RESOLVED That the Chair and vice chair undertake this task and report back to the parish council in due course.
9. **Flower Barrels or Stone Trough:** It had been suggested some time ago that the following the refurbishment of the telephone box at the end of Bear Lane the immediate area would benefit from the addition of some sort of floral display. Initially half barrels were suggested but a stone trough might be a better alternative. It was agreed that the Chair contacts the person who refurbished the telephone box and ask them to obtain prices for a suitable stone trough for submission to the Parish Council.
10. **Old VAS Units:** It was agreed that one unit would be offered to Bushley Parish Council. The second unit would be retained by the Parish Council for use in conjunction with the new units.
11. **Residents' Concerns:**
- a) **Verges and Grit Bins in the Rampings:** A resident of the Rampings had written to the Council highlighting the problem of overgrown grass and the lack of winter grit bins in the area. The council agreed to seek further information about responsibility for gritting of rural roads and maintenance of verges.



- b) **Provision of a Bin specifically for Dog Poo:** A resident in Longdon drew attention to the fact that before the bus shelter was demolished there had been a bin specifically for dog poo immediately beside the shelter and requested that the bin be replaced. The council had sought advice from the District Council which confirmed that such “bins” were now not acceptable. A small amount of dog poo can be placed in the normal street refuse bins otherwise dog owners should take it home and place it in their black bin. The council confirmed the earlier decision not to install an extra street bin but to keep the situation under review.
- c) **New Footway in Longdon:** A resident in Longdon had written to the council highlighting the difficulty for pedestrians and families, walking safely from the Corner House to the point at which the footway re-commences opposite Bear Lane. The Council agreed to investigate this further with the Road Safety Partnership and the County Council to ascertain what action is possible.
- d) **Play Equipment:** Consideration to be given to the purchase and installation of play equipment for younger children on the Village Green. Cllr Behan District Councillor offered to provide £200 from her District Council allowance to go towards the purchase of play equipment for younger children (see 4a above).

12. Planning Application

Application Number	21/01469/FUL
Location	West Hill, Bear Lane, Longdon, Tewkesbury, GL20 6BB
Description of proposal	Demolition of existing dwelling and garage and erection of new replacement dwelling and garage

The Council considered the above application and offered no objection to the proposal.

The Meeting Closed at 10.20 pm.

13. The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as 4 October 2021

Clerk to the Parish Council

K Swindells