



# Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Milford, Bishopdown Farm, Old Sarum & Longhedge

## Meeting held at the Old Sarum Community Centre at 7.00pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019

### MINUTES

**Councillors present:** Birkett (Chairman), Bussereau, Dean, Hayes, Hilliard, Lovibond (from 7.31pm), Lynn, Tucker, Waller.

**In attendance:** Prince (Clerk).

The Chairman welcomed eight members of the public and two representatives from the River Bourne Community Farm. Mr Ron Champion, a resident of Ford and previous Councillor and Chairman of the Council, addressed the Council about the proposed Salisbury to Porton Cycleway. He was closely involved while he was on the Council. He described three possible routes through Ford and gave reasons why he opposed the route by Spire View and LAF018.

The meeting started at 7.06pm.

**19.164 APOLOGIES.** Apologies had been received from Cllr Watson.

**19.165 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** Nil.

**19.166 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR.** The Chairman welcomed Nick Baker and explained the process of co-option. Nick Baker addressed the Council and answered questions. The Chairman asked him and members of the public to leave the meeting. Cllr Bussereau proposed the co-option of Nick Baker seconded by Cllr Hayes.

**Resolved:** To co-opt Nick Baker to the Laverstock and Milford ward of the Council. Cllr Baker signed a Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Councillor and joined the meeting.

**19.167 APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** Cllr Waller requested a minor amendment to the draft Minutes, which was made by hand.

**Resolved:** To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 as amended.

**19.168 GRANT APPLICATIONS.**

**River Bourne Community Farm – Defibrillator.** The Chairman explained that this was part of the Long Barn Renovation Project that was also being supported by the South Wiltshire Area Board. Representatives of the Community Farm answered questions from Councillors who also made suggestions for its use and maintenance.

**Resolved:** To grant £900 to the River Bourne Community Farm for the purchase a Defibrillator as part of the Long Barn Renovations Project.

**Carer Support Wiltshire – Time for Carers Appeal.** Cllr Hayes, being a trustee of Carer Support Wiltshire, spoke about the organisation and described all of its activities across the county. He answered questions from Councillors in particular about methods of referral to Carer Support.

**Resolved:** To grant £500 to Carer Support Wiltshire in support of their Time for Carers Appeal.

## **19.169 MATTERS ARISING**

**Action PC322. Defer grant application to St John Ambulance.** The Clerk reported there had been no response to his second reminder. CLOSED.

**Action PC323. Look at consultation documents for Wiltshire Council Tax Setting Programme.** CLOSED

**Action PC 326. Provide notes and resolution from Salisbury to Porton Cycle Route meeting.** This is covered under Agenda Item 19.173. CLOSED.

All other Actions remain open.

## **19.179 PLANNING**

**Old Sarum Update.** The Clerk reported that two bus shelters have been provided at last by the developer in the eastern half of the development. Virginia Way Play Park has also been completed and is open. In spite of assurances from Wiltshire Council, work has not started on the link path to Old Sarum.

**Old Sarum Skatepark.** The Chairman said that he would review the draft Invitation to Tender so that progress might be made.

**Old Sarum Airfield.** Cllr Bussereau gave a brief update. No decision on a judicial review has yet been made known. Wiltshire Council officers and the Ward Councillor are known to be pursuing options including enforcement action on the rapidly deteriorating Grade II Listed hangar. The Chairman reported that there had been a great deal of correspondence with the Council regarding the closure by Old Sarum Airfield Limited. All correspondents were critical of the closure and wanted to see the airfield re-opened and protected.

**Longhedge update.** The Clerk reported that the transfers of the Community Open Space and Hannah Way Play Park have still not been completed. The hybrid planning application for 65 dwellings and 29 industrial units has been approved but the decision notice and S106 agreement were not yet available.

**Castle Hill Country Park update.** An update from the Country Park Ranger had previously been circulated. Cllr Bussereau introduced the newly agreed Terms of Reference for the Country Park Subgroup.

**Planning Application Log.** The following response has been made since the last Council meeting.

19/07921/LBC. Listed Building Consent. Removal of 'mock Tudor' porch to front door. Manor Farmhouse, Laverstock. No Comment.

**Resolved:** To approve the above response.

**Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group update.** Cllr Bussereau drew attention to the next Steering Group meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> November. There would be a presentation on the analysis of the Residents' Questionnaire. All Councillors were invited to attend. Cllr Hilliard spoke about the School questionnaire that has just been circulated. The students have been asked to respond using an online 'survey monkey'. A Landowners' survey is being prepared. A Landscape architect is about to be appointed.

**19.171 WILTSHIRE COUNCIL ASSET TRANSFERS.** The Clerk reported on the two plots of land that it was hoped would be transferred to the Council and added to the leased area of Castle Hill Country Park. The first was an area that lies with the parish boundary of Salisbury City. A meeting has been arranged with the Leader of Salisbury City Council and the City Clerk to discuss this further. The second was the strategic buffer strip around Bishopdown Farm. This was being reviewed by Wiltshire Council.

**19.172 BUS SHELTERS.** Cllr Waller had circulated a paper describing the shelters that she would like to install at two locations in Bishopdown Farm.

**Resolved:** To approve the recommendations of the paper prepared by Cllr Waller dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

**19.173 CYCLE ROUTE: PORTON TO FORD.** Cllr Bussereau explained the background to this subject and the alternatives that were discussed at a 'stakeholder meeting' held on 16<sup>th</sup> October. He described the three options that were discussed for a route through Ford. The meeting had been in favour of a route linking Footpath 18 to Green Lane via Spire View and Roman Road but both he and Cllr Hilliard thought that this was too dangerous. Discussion followed.

**Resolved:** The Council does not support the proposed route linking Footpath 18 to Green Lane via Spire View and Roman Road, and would instead like Wiltshire Council to pursue the option of linking Footpath 25 to Green Lane across private land north of Roman Road.

**19.174 TRAFFIC SURVEY REQUEST.** Cllr Bussereau referred to a request for a Traffic Survey by a resident of Ford. There was a consensus among Councillors to support the request.

**19.175 COUNCILLOR RESPONSIBILITIES AND SUBGROUPS.** There has been one addition with Cllr Hilliard volunteering to join the Old Sarum Airfield Subgroup. Cllr Baker volunteered to join the Finance Subgroup. Cllr Lovibond said that he would accept the Individual Responsibility for Public Rights of Way and would produce draft Terms of Reference.

**Action Cllr Lovibond**

**19.176 FINANCE.**

**Adoption of Monthly Accounts.** The Financial Statement had previously been circulated by email and copies were provided. A statement of Financial Reserves was also included. The total funds held at the end of October 2019 were £2,514,151.13 of which £2,428,751.90 were earmarked or restricted reserves.

**Resolved:** To adopt the monthly accounts as a true record of the Council's finances.

**Cheque & Debit Card Payments.** The list of payments had been circulated by email and copies were provided. Total cheque payments in November 2019 amounted to £44,470.57. Debit card payments in October 2019 amounted to £371.16.

**Resolved:** To approve the cheque and debit card payments.

**Treasury Deposit Report.** The Clerk presented a brief report listing three Fixed Term Deposits and the balance of the 32-day Notice Account at the end of October. Since being opened on 19 July 2019 this has earned interest of £1,916.55. There was a total of £2,345,483.90 on deposit at the end of October.

**Draft Tax Base.** The Clerk reported that the draft tax base for the 2020-2021 financial year was 3803.85, which is a 3.176% increase on the current year.

## **19.177 CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE.**

**Pheasant Drive Play Park Damages Claim.** The Clerk reported briefly on the actions taken on receipt of this claim. Zurich Municipal Insurance have appointed a Claim Inspector.

**Complaint about Church Road Traffic.** The Clerk read out the contents of an email from a resident, which highlighted the extreme danger to schoolchildren due to traffic chaos on Church Road, Laverstock during the school run. The email recounted incidents of cars and busses mounting the footpath and reported that neither the police nor Wiltshire Council would accept responsibility for the situation. A long discussion followed. It was suggested that the Council should appoint an independent highways expert to assess the situation and advise the Council. Cllr Bussereau said that the Council should also engage with Wiltshire Council on this issue. Cllr Hayes added that the slow-moving and stationary traffic caused serious pollution and was poisoning the schoolchildren. The Chairman agreed that the Council should investigate the appointment of an independent highways and traffic expert.

**Action Clerk**

## **19.178 LATE NOTICE ITEMS.**

**Parish Newsletter Distribution and Delivery.** Cllr Bussereau raised the issue of the sorting, distribution and delivery of the next issue of the Parish Newsletter, which is due to be delivered to the Parish Office on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The sorting and distribution was previously carried out by the former Assistant to the Clerk. He also personally hand-delivered over 600 newsletters. The Chairman said that until a new Assistant is appointed Councillors will be asked to assist with these tasks.

**Milford Preservation Group.** Cllr Lovibond gave a brief summary of the activities of the Milford Preservation Group. The current major project is to restore the island in the middle of the River Bourne by the mediaeval bridge. Lorry watch is progressing well.

## **19.179 EXEMPT BUSINESS – EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Resolved:** That in view of the COMMERCIAL-IN-CONFIDENCE nature of the business about to be transacted the public and press be temporarily excluded from this meeting under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

**The next meeting of the Council will be held at 7.00pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at the River Bourne Community Farm.**