



Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Milford, Bishopdown Farm, Old Sarum & Longhedge

**Meeting held at the River Bourne Community Farm
at 7.00pm on Monday 17th February 2020**

MINUTES

Councillors present: Baker, Birkett (Chairman), Bussereau, Dean, Hayes, Hilliard, Lovibond, Lynn, Tucker.

Wiltshire Councillors present: WCllr McLennan (until 8.13pm).

In attendance: Prince (Clerk), Deane (Assistant).

The meeting started at 7.12pm. There were 3 members of the public present.

20.019 APOLOGIES. Apologies had been received from Cllr Waller.

20.020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Cllr Lovibond declared an interest in item 20.022, the Grant Application by the Milford Preservation Group of which he is the Honorary Secretary. He would address the Council on the application but abstain from voting.

20.021 APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2020.

The Clerk said one word that had been changed in the draft Minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2020.

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2020 as amended.

20.022 GRANT APPLICATION – Milford Preservation Group

Cllr Lovibond described the project to restore part of the River Bourne in Milford. This will happen in two phases. First the clearing of the undergrowth on the island just below the bridge and second the restoration of the riverbank adjacent to the bridge. The work will be supervised and assisted by the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. The total cost of the project is £4,410 and grants of £1,000 have been received from both the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Area Boards. Cllr Lovibond introduced a representative of the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and they both answered questions from Councillors.

Resolved: To grant £1,000 to the Milford Preservation Group for the River Bourne and Island restoration project.

20.023 MATTERS ARISING.

Action PC307 Purchase a SID with Alderbury PC. Cllr Bussereau reported that the issue of insurance of the equipment was nearing resolution, which would enable the project to proceed. Open.

Action PC331. Traffic issues on Church Road, Laverstock. Cllr Bussereau reported that the next Community Area Transport Group meeting had been delayed until 15th April, and that the Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineer has replied that action should be taken first by the “Taking Action on School Journeys’ process rather CATG. Open.

Action PC333, PC335, PC338. Closed.

Cllr Baker raised the issue of the ceramic discs, which had been produced by Leehurst Swan School for the Whitebridge Spinney boardwalk. Most had been removed during the rebuild and the posts on which they were mounted are rotten. The Assistant to the Clerk was asked to investigate a new method of displaying them. **Action Assistant.**

20.024 PLANNING.

Confirmation of final response to 19/1119/FUL. The third response of the Council to this application had been confirmed by email only and was included with Supporting Papers for the meeting.

Resolved: To approve this response.

Longhedge update. The Clerk reported that a Community Infrastructure Levy of £7,108.76 had been received from the construction of the new care home at Longhedge. This was tranche 1 of 3 for this development. He also reported that a strip of unregistered land had been identified between Old Sarum and Longhedge. This was still in the ownership of the original owner of Longhedge. The Council had been asked if it was prepared to take ownership of this land. There would be legal fees. There was a consensus in favour of accepting the land transfer.

Castle Hill Country Park update. A report from the Ranger had been circulated and was included with Supporting Papers. Cllr Bussereau reported on a minor change to the location of the shelter and cycle racks near the Roman road car park. Practical completion of the Country Park is forecast for August 2020.

Planning Application Log. The following responses have been made since the last Council meeting.

19/11819/FUL. Erect a PVCU conservatory to side of property at 51 Norman Drive, Old Sarum. NO COMMENT.

19/11910/VAR. Variation of Condition 3 of 14/05719/FUL. (Change of use from B1, B2, B8 to Class D2 with conditions) to allow another use within Class D2. Unit 2, Sarum Business Park. SUPPORT.

20/00522/TPO. Work to TPO Trees. 9 Green Lane, Ford. NO COMMENT.

20/00648/TPO. Work to TPO trees, Cranbrook, Laverstock Park. SUPPORT.

Resolved: To approve the above responses.

Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group update. Cllr Bussereau reported on two surveys. The Landowners Survey had six returned out of thirty so far. Cllr Hilliard reported on the online Student Survey that had commenced in December with an anticipation of up to 800 responses. So far there had been just 136 and the survey will stop at the end of February. Cllr Bussereau said a Landscape Architect had been appointed and the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment was underway.

20.025 RIGHTS OF WAY RESPONSIBILITY – Terms of Reference.

Cllr Lovibond gave a brief report on progress with the Rights of Way volunteers. Draft Terms of Reference had been circulated and were included with Supporting Papers.

Resolved: To approve the Terms of Reference of the Councillor with responsibility for Public Rights of Way.

20.026 STREET NAME SIGNS. Cllr Baker had produced and circulated a comprehensive report on the condition of street name signs in the Laverstock and Milford Ward. The report was included with Supporting Papers. 92 signs had been identified of which 35 were in poor condition, broken or missing. He recommended that the Council should aim to replace all of these over a 3-year period. Cllr Baker reported that he had also contacted a resident of Salisbury who had been repainting signs in the City. This resident had offered to extend his work into Laverstock and Ford. It was agreed that work should start now on repainting signs using the limited amount of Community Infrastructure Levy funds that had emanated in the Laverstock and Milford Ward. Cllr Baker agreed to get more detailed costs for new signs so that a budget could be set for either grant funding or a future precept requirement. He also asked other Councillors to carry out a similar survey in their wards. The Chairman thanked Cllr Baker for his work.

20.027 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 January 2020 were £2,395,739.00 of which £2,287,783.45 were earmarked or restricted reserves.

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

Payment to G Farwell Ltd. The Clerk briefly explained the events that had resulted in the Whitebridge boardwalk rebuild being delayed from June until November to avoid the Water Vole breeding season. When the delay had been imposed on them G Farwell Ltd had said that their costs might increase by up to 10%. In the event, in spite of an extremely wet autumn, their cost overrun was just £5000 or 5.46% of the original tender value.

Cheque & Debit Card Payments. The list of payments had been circulated by email and copies were provided. Total cheque payments in February 2020 amounted to £277,066.66. This includes the overrun payment to G Farwell Ltd. Debit card payments in January 2020 amounted to £84.39. The Clerk explained that the large payment to the Land Restoration Trust had been split in two for cash flow reasons.

Resolved: To approve the cheque and debit card payments.

Treasury Deposit Report. The Clerk had provided a Treasury Deposit Report that listed two Fixed Term Deposits. The balance on the 32-day Notice Account at the end of January 2020 was £916,677.87, which included interest of £3,794.46. There was a total of £2,142,759.45 on deposit at the end of January 2020.

20.028 CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE.

Wiltshire Council Play Areas. The Clerk reported that £1000 per play area, a total of £6000, had been received from Wiltshire Council as their contribution for play area improvement.

Bus Shelters. The specification for two bus shelters in Bishopdown had been approved at the last meeting of the Facility Management Subgroup. The order has been placed and installation is expected in early April.

Great British Spring Clean 2020. The campaign runs from 20 March to 13 April and is supported by Wiltshire Council who will assist with equipment and by collecting rubbish. Litter picks are known to be happening in Laverstock (Scouts), Old Sarum and Longhedge. Organisers needing rubbish collection should contact the Clerk.

20.029 LATE NOTICE ITEMS

LGRC – Draft Review Report. The Chairman spoke about the draft Report and the responses from Councillors that he had seen so far. He requested that Councillors who had not yet done so submit comments by 24th February. The Clerk would collate them and send them to LGRC. The aim is for LGRC to submit a final report and attend to present and discuss their findings.

Former Assistant Mr Barry Stay. Having just completed the last play area inspection for the Council the Chairman expressed the appreciation and thanks of the Council and the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group for the work that Barry Stay has done in the three years that he has been employed.

20.030 EXEMPT BUSINESS. There being no exempt business this item was cancelled.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

The next meeting of the Council will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 16th March 2020 at the Old Sarum Community Centre.