



# Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Milford, Bishopdown Farm, Old Sarum & Longhedge

## Virtual Parish Council Meeting held at 6.00pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020

### MINUTES

**Councillors present:** Baker (Chair), Bussereau, Dean, Hayes, Hilliard (Vice-chair), Lovibond, Waller.

**Wiltshire Councillors present:** WCllr McLennan (until 6.55pm).

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

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.05pm.

The Chairman welcomed four members of the public and invited them to address the Council. A resident of Longhedge spoke about the gates to Pheasant Drive Play Park. He said that they were dangerous and had caused injury to several children. The Clerk responded that the gates did comply with the British Standard and were regularly inspected by qualified personnel. He would nevertheless investigate the issue further.

A resident of Laverstock Park spoke in objection to planning application 20/04371/FUL. He said that he was speaking on behalf of nine other residents who had all submitted objections online.

The Chairman recorded that the applicant for this planning application was attempting unsuccessfully to join the meeting. He invited the applicant to join by telephone but there was no response. Another member of the public also joined by telephone.

The formal meeting started at 6.11pm.

**20.049 APOLOGIES.** Apologies had been received from Cllr Birkett.

**20.050 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** There were no Declarations of Interest.

**20.051 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR.** The Chairman welcomed Tom Maskell and explained the process of co-option. Tom Maskell addressed the Council and answered questions from Councillors. The Chairman then moved him and other members of the public into the virtual waiting room while his co-option was discussed. The Chairman proposed the co-option of Tom Maskell.

**Resolved:** To co-opt Tom Maskell to the Ford, Old Sarum and Longhedge ward of the Council.

Cllr Maskell and all members of the public were returned to the meeting. Cllr Maskell read out and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Councillor, witnessed by the Clerk.

**20.052 APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

**Resolved:** To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

**20.054 PLANNING.**

**20/04371/FUL – Construction of detached garage at Cranbrook, Laverstock Park.**

Cllr Hayes said that this application had been discussed in detail by the Laverstock and Milford Ward planning team and they propose that the Council OBJECT to the application for the following reasons.

“The proposed double garage to be sited in front of the main dwelling house Cranbrook, would be prominently visible in the surrounding street scene and completely at odds with the distinctive character of Laverstock Park; being positioned closer to the road than any of the existing dwellings on this estate. By reason of its scale, mass and siting its prominence would have a detrimental impact on the character and setting of the street scene.

There is an existing drive way and garage serving this plot which would be a far more appropriate design solution for a double garage.

The proposed development is therefore considered contrary to the aims and objectives of CP57 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy and the aims and objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework.

An Arboriculture Impact Assessment has not been undertaken on the mature trees behind the property and there is concern that a Lime tree currently protected by a TPO might be at risk. There are also a number mature trees not protected with a TPO which are considered at risk. (Core Strategy 51 and 52 apply)

The Parish Council considers that PA 20/04371 is contrary to the objectives of Core Plan 57 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy and therefore wishes to register an Objection to the application.”

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

WCllr McLennan said that in view of the overwhelming opposition to the application he would call it in. This means that if the planning officer is minded to approve the application using delegated powers it will have to be referred to the planning committee.

**Planning Application Log.** A redacted version of the Log is available online as Report 20.054 (2). The following responses have been made since the last Council meeting.  
20/05170/TPO. Work to TPO trees. Oak – crown reduction & prune back overhanging branches & remove deadwood. 63 Lindford Road, Bishopdown. SUPPORT.  
20/04116/FUL. Remove temporary porta-cabins and workshop and replace with a 2-storey office with full height workshop. Linden Plant Hire, Castlegate Business Park, Old Sarum. SUPPORT subject to Condition.

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

**Neighbourhood Planning Update.** Cllr Bussereau gave a brief report to Council.

**20.053 MATTERS ARISING.** Cllr Bussereau had previously circulated a table of outstanding actions. This was available online as Report 20.053. The Chairman asked that action PC339 (Investigate new method of displaying ceramic discs produced for Whitebridge Spinney) is closed.

**20.055 HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT & TRAFFIC SURVEY REQUEST.** Cllr Bussereau had sent both requests to Councillors with his recommendations. They are available online as Reports 20.055 (A) and (B). A Traffic Survey had previously taken place in February 2020 and he recommended that it is not repeated at present. He reminded Councillors of previous efforts to reduce speed through Ford by building three traffic-calming features. These have not been entirely successful in reducing the speed of traffic. The next step would be to introduce a Speed Indicator Device (SID) and/or a Community Speed Watch. Wiltshire Police do not have the resources at present to train a speed watch team and it would require 3 or 4 volunteers including a team manager. He recommended that the Council reconsider this issue in September when more should be known about the availability of a SID.

**Resolved:** To support Cllr Bussereau's recommendations.

**20.056 LGRC (Local Government Resource Centre) REVIEW.** The Chairman reported that there was a consensus for holding a meeting of Councillors and Staff in August to discuss the LGRC Report prior to a workshop session with the author later in September or October. The proposed dates for the two meetings were Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August, and either the 26<sup>th</sup> September or 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The August meeting will be a virtual meeting. It is hoped that by the end of September it will be possible to have a face-to-face meeting with LGRC.

**WCllr McLennan** left the meeting at 6.55pm. He reported briefly on discussions that have taken place regarding the allocation of parishes and wards to Area Boards following the recent Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral Review. There will be a consultation with parishes before a decision is taken.

**20.057 COUNCILLOR RESPONSIBILITIES & SUBGROUPS.** The Chairman raised this matter because it is likely to be several months before a new Committee structure will be in place. He will join the Human Resources Subgroup. He invited all other Councillors, especially Cllr Maskell, to look at the list and fill the vacancies. Cllr Lovibond said that he thought it was important that Subgroups met regularly. In particular he was concerned that the Business Management – Communications subgroup had not met. He would like to discuss changes to the Parish Newsletter.

**20.058 LIBRARY CONSULTATION.** Cllr Waller had drafted a response to the Wiltshire Council Reopening Libraries Public Consultation. This had been Circulated to Councillors and was available online as Report 20.058.

**Resolved:** To approve the response to the Wiltshire Council Consultation on libraries reopening safely during COVID-19 pandemic.

**20.059 PREMISES LICENCE APPLICATION. McColls, Longhedge.** There was some discussion about the hours of the application, which on Sundays end at 23.00. This is contrary to the Planning Notice, which only permits the store to open until 22.00 on Sundays. This has been drawn to the attention of the Licensing Officer. It was proposed that no further comment should be made.

**Resolved:** To make no response to the Licence application at McColls, Longhedge Local Centre.

**20.060 ANNUAL REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTING DOCUMENTS.**

The Clerk gave a brief summary of the reasons for the Council to review and note the four documents viz. Financial Regulations, Financial Risk Assessment, Asset Register and Asset Risk Assessment. These were available online as Reports 20.060 except for Financial Regulations that remain unchanged since last year. They are published online with Standing Orders and Policies. He answered a more detailed question on the method of reviewing the Council's Insurance.

**Resolved:** To note and accept Financial Regulations, the Financial Risk Assessment, the Asset Register and the Asset Risk Assessment.

**20.061 FINANCE.**

**Adoption of Monthly Accounts.** The Financial Statements had previously been circulated by email and were available online as a combined Report 20.061. A statement of Financial Reserves was also included. The total funds held at the end of June 2020 were £2,037,331.92 of which £1,954,969.65 were earmarked or restricted reserves.

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

**Cheque, Debit Card & Direct Debit Payments.** The list of payments had been circulated by email and was included in Report 20.061. Total cheque payments in July 2020 amount to £39,376.05. Debit card & direct debit payments in June 2020 amounted to £366.54.

**Resolved:** To approve the cheque, debit card and direct debit payments

**Treasury Deposit Report.** The Clerk had circulated a Treasury Deposit Report as part of Report 20.061. This listed one Fixed Term Deposit of £508,112.00 that matures in March 2021. The balance on the 32-day Notice Account at the end of June 2020 was £1,430,650.03, which includes interest of £4,837.15. There was a total of £1,938,762.03 on deposit at the end of June 2020.

The meeting closed at 7.22pm.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020. This will be a virtual meeting and will start at 6pm.