



Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Milford, Bishopdown Farm, Old Sarum & Longhedge

**Meeting of Finance and General Purposes Committee
held on Tuesday 6th July 2021 at 7pm at the River Bourne Community Farm**

MINUTES

Councillors present: Baker (Chair), Maskell, Waller, Schneider

In attendance: Deane (Deputy Clerk and Clerk for this meeting), Prince (Clerk)

The meeting commenced at 7pm.

FGP.21.010 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Tucker.

FGP.21.011 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

FGP.21.012 Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 27th May 2021

Resolved: to approve the minutes of the meeting of 27th May 2021

FGP.21.013 Review of Action List.

PC197 Hampton Park Pavilion – there was some discussion about the future of Hampton Park Pavilion when the current lease to Wiltshire Council expires in 2023. Wiltshire Council possibly hold S106 funds for the provision of a community centre in Bishopdown Farm. The Clerk agreed to contact interested parties and the Pavilions current owners, in order to prepare a report for full council regarding the future of the Pavilion. The Clerk reported that the developer of the Farmyard site believes that they hold sufficient title to provide the access road and passing places to the site, without encroaching on Castle Hill Country Park, and that they intend to fence the entire access road, providing crossing points.

PC342 Transfer of Wiltshire Council Land and Play Areas – the Chair queried the installation of play equipment on land that we will not own, and the risk if the land owner should try to appropriate them. The Clerk advised that the companies that own the land are dormant. The Chair agreed that the Clerk had considered the minimal risk and was happy to proceed as planned.

Cllr Waller queried whether an area from St Thomas Way to St Christophers Way, that is very overgrown, was on the transfer list. The Clerk replied that it was not.

PC348 Asset of Community Value at Ford – as this has been renewed, this action will be closed at the next full council meeting.

FGP.21.014 Response to WC Briefing Note 21-08 Enhancement of Bus Services.

The Deputy Clerk reported that following our publicity on social media, the comments raised included buses from the Park and Ride to the hospital, buses into the Longhedge estate and earlier/late and Sunday services for Old Sarum, Longhedge and Laverstock. Councillors believed Laverstock currently has one bus an hour in evenings and on Sundays up to 11.25pm, which they felt was acceptable. The Deputy Clerk agreed to investigate the current provision and circulate a draft response to councillors prior to the deadline of 14th July.

Cllr Waller asked that consideration be given of synchronising the bus times at the railway station with the London train arrival in the evening.

The Chair suggested that connectivity of services, including to the hospital and railway station should be requested.

The Chair suggested the council consider requesting a pedestrian crossing assessment for A345 if the bus route around Longhedge is not opened.

FGP.21.015 Silver Salisbury Older People's Consultation.

The Chair and Cllr Waller reported that they had circulated the information to groups they were aware of in the area.

FGP.21.016 and FGP.21.017 Draft Agenda and Review of Expenditure

Due to work pressures, the reports for these items were not available for this meeting.

The Chair requested that strategic reports for income and expenditure and performance against budget, be available for quarter 1 for the next FGP meeting. The Clerk reported that the introduction of the committee structure was currently resulting in increased workload for all officers. The Clerk agreed that Q1 figures would be available for the next FGP meeting. The Clerk and Deputy Clerk suggested that the scheduling of the FGP Committee and Full Council meetings should be reviewed to ensure timely figures and reports could be provided. The Chair suggested re-consideration of meeting schedules should take place after the introduction of the new accounting system.

FGP.21.018 Reports of Committee Chairs.

Cllr Waller, Chair of the Communication and Community Engagement Committee reported that they wished to meet 5 times per year. The committee have discussed how work would come into the committee, and holding meetings that ensured the community would be able to attend and engage. Their intention is to produce a 4 year work plan.

Cllr Maskell, Chair of the Operations Committee reported that first Operations Committee meeting would be the next day.

The Clerk confirmed that himself and/or the Deputy Clerk would be attending all committee meetings until other officers had been trained in local council meeting processes.

FGP.21.019 Project Reports.

The Clerk reported that the training for the new accounts system was due to be rearranged.

The Deputy Clerk reported that she was discussing solutions for Hybrid meetings with Cllr Maskell. The Clerk requested that whatever solution was recommended should be an easy 'plug and play system'. The Deputy Clerk and Cllr Maskell will look at a cheap short-term solution to assess the take up of hybrid meetings.

The Deputy Clerk had received a quote from one company for a cloud storage solution. Cllr Maskell will review and provide comments on the quote, and the Deputy Clerk will obtain comparable quotes from alternative companies.

The Clerk emphasised that consideration must be given to the budget available.

The meeting closed at 8.14pm.

NEXT MEETING. The next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee will be 7th September 2021 at 7pm (location to be advised).