

ARLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on 5th September 2016

Present:

Cllrs J Burcher, D Merrett, N Rowntree, J Shaw (Chairman), M Smith-Lyons, K Withers, J Wilkinson and the Clerk Sheila Murray.

County Cllr T Blackburn (joined the meeting at 8.30pm)

District Cllrs J Jones and S. Davies

There were 6 members of the public and Ian Williams the Headteacher of Lakefield School.

1/16 Parishioners' Forum

Sally Thornell addressed the meeting regarding the poor delivery of broadband services to the area. Fastershire are yet to respond but there appears to be no current 'roll out' planned for some of the more isolated areas of the Parish away from the main village settlement of Arlingham.

Mike Pugsley raised concern on behalf of the PCC about the sustainability of upkeep of the graveyard and gave a number of options which were not financially viable. He requested help from the village. The Chairman suggested that the issue be contributed to the current Parish Assets and Amenities consultation and debate to which Mike Pugsley agreed.

Mike Pugsley left the meeting.

2/16 Apologies None

3/16 Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 4th July, 2016 were amended as follows: item 1.4 spelling 'Apologies', 7.1 spelling changed to 'pot hole' and 7.2 change to read .. 'is' .. not .. 'in' .. at the end of the paragraph.

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Council.

4/16 Declaration of members interest

- Cllrs Burcher and Merrett declared an interest in planning item S16/1721/FUL Overton Farm.
- Cllrs Burcher and Withers declared an interest in agenda item 7-Village Hall matters
- Cllr Withers declared an interest in agenda item 6-Lakefield School but was requested by the Chairman to speak on the matter.

Agenda item 6 was now taken.

5/16 Lakefield School Extension

Cllr Withers gave an overview of the history and current situation regarding the school capacity and admissions policy and confirmed the management change to Academy status effective from 1st September 2016. Plans are going ahead for the extension of 3 classrooms in the infant section and that in coming months the Governing Body of Lakefield would need to determine its own admissions policy. Cllr Withers said that a few months ago he had briefed Cllr Shaw and asked him as Chair of the Severn Voice school admissions sub-group to draft school admissions policy for Lakefield and that the Governing Body had received this. The Governing Body's choice will be between adopting such a revised policy to give greater priority to children for whom the school is their nearest school over those for whom it is not; or to retain a simple 'nearest first' priority. Cllr Shaw noted that the latter approach will give higher priority for admissions to Lakefield to children of the new 'Westington' development than Arlingham children. Cllr Shaw reminded the Council that earlier this year the relevant Cabinet Member at

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Gloucestershire County Council published a decision to consult this autumn on changes to admission policies for Lakefield to recognise Arlingham's rural isolation. This is no longer within the County Council's policy remit to further given Lakefield's Academy status. The question will be for Lakefield to decide whether or not to continue that direction of travel agreed by the County Council. Cllr Withers noted that all three local schools were oversubscribed this year and that Severn Voice's attention should be on sufficiency to lobby for adequate capacity. Cllr Shaw confirmed that in November 2015 the Severn Voice sub-group did make a projection on insufficient capacity to the County Council and stood ready and willing to continue to check capacity planning projections, but had made clear at the last Severn Voice meeting that it would only continue that role provided Lakefield moved to propose a revised admissions policy i.e. that Severn Voice would not undertake a role on forecasting and lobbying for appropriate sufficiency at Lakefield if the Governing Body chooses an admissions policy that gives higher priority to children from the new 'Westington' development than it gives to Arlingham children.

Mr Williams left the meeting

6/16 New Parish Clerk

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Sheila Murray to the appointment of Clerk.

Mrs Murray brought to the attention of the council that they had responsibility to set up with HMRC as an employer and had forwarded evidence to support this.

The Chairman proposed that Mrs Murray registers Arlingham Parish Council with HMRC and to adopt their PAYE scheme. Vote: unanimous

7/16 Holding Trustee for the Village Hall deeds

Cllrs Burcher and Withers left the table.

Cllr Shaw had received a letter from Graham Tucker, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee requesting if the council would be prepared to consider being a candidate to be the Holding or Custodian Trustee for the Village Hall. The remaining Councillors debated the issue and Cllr Smith-Lyons proposed that the Parish Council would be willing to be considered but more information is required to give clarity to the role and its responsibilities. Seconded Cllr Rowntree vote 4 in favour.

Cllrs Burcher and Withers returned to the table.

Graham Tucker left the meeting

8/16 Arlingham roads

8.1 Pot holes were reported in Church Road near the Church. The clerk to report to Highways.

8.2 Obtaining a bill of quantities for Verge Cutting remains an issue and Cllr Shaw will follow up with County Cllr Blackburn regarding ongoing email exchanges between the County Council, Amey and the chairman of Longney Parish Council Roger Godwin on behalf of Severn Voice.

9/16 Planning

9.1 Applications

- **9.1.1** S16/1606/DISCON Arlingham Free Church discharge of condition 3 Glazing – council advised.
- **9.1.2** S16/1721/FUL Overton Farm, Erect Agricultural building.
Extension to response date : 6th September 2016

Cllrs Burcher and Merrett left the table

Cllr Shaw gave a summary of the detailed plans and his research.

Cllr Shaw proposed that council support this application.

Seconded: Cllr Rowntree Vote 4 in favour

Cllrs Burcher and Merrett returned to the table

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- **9.1.3** S16/1441/LBC Slowwe Cottages, Renovation works.
Cllr Burcher gave a full description of the renovation works and proposed that councillors support this application. Seconded Cllr Wilkinson
Vote unanimous

The Clerk will submit council's response to SDC regarding the planning decisions on the above applications.

9.2 SDC Decisions

- **9.2.1** S16/1182/LBC and S16/1180/HHOLD Slowwe House, Single Storey Extension – **Application Permitted**

10/16 Correspondence

10.1 A letter was received from the Neighbourhood Watch Services requesting a financial contribution. Cllrs decided not to contribute on this occasion.

10.2 A Police Report was received which included a resident being approached by two Irish speaking men trying to sell a generator. Also, a rabbit hutch was stolen from a farm on the High Street. Enquiries are on-going.

10.3 Dates for the diary:

- The Autumn Neighbourhood Police meeting will be held on 27th September 2016 at Frampton Village Hall 7pm to 8.30pm.
- The next Severn Voice meeting will be held on 12th October 2016 at Saul Village Hall 7.30pm.

11/16 Financial Matters

11.1 Cheques for signature: Clerk's salary

11.2 SDC invoice for Election Costs £154.88

SDC have funded 50% of the costs for the election and submitted their invoice for payment. Cllr Shaw proposed from the chair that the invoice be paid. Vote unanimous.

11.3 The Clerk tabled a monthly performance sheet for September 2016 with year to date variances to budget. The total closing bank balance £6107.33 included uncleared cheques. The income figures included receipt of £80 for gate repairs and a VAT refund of £85.04

12/16 Action Log

12.1 – 3 Website Cllr Rowntree confirmed he was progressing well with the website and would have more information for the next meeting. He will go ahead with the provision of facilities for the clerk, domain name and Microsoft software which has already been agreed by council.

12.2 – 12 Playground Update from Cllr Wilkinson was circulated. This item will be added to the Agenda for the next meeting.

12.3 – 21 Defibrillator Cllr Smith-Lyons advised that he has been contacted by the Village Hall Management Committee to discuss the possibility of the 200 club supporting this initiative. Cllr Smith-Lyons will follow up and report back for the next meeting.

12.4 – 24 Parish Assets and Amenities Consultation Ongoing. Consultation closes 30th September 2016.

13/16 Councillors' submissions

13.1 Councillors extended their thanks and good wishes to Andrea Welby for all her efforts and support as Clerk/RFO over the past seven and a half years.

13.2 Cllr Withers requested Broadband/Fastershire be added to the Agenda for the next meeting. Cllrs noted that superfast is not being rolled out in the

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immediate future and need to understand how this service can best be achieved for the village.

13.3 Cllr Rowntree advised that the gateway to the children's playground is overgrown. Cllr Shaw will follow up to arrange hedge trimming.

13.4 Cllr Shaw raised the question as to how future Parish Newsletter articles on Parish Council meetings should be produced and presented. It was agreed that the clerk would produce the monthly draft after each meeting and that each councillor would take it in turn to finalise the article and provide their personal flavour to it. Agreed that for the article following this meeting that the clerk will liaise with Cllr Smith-Lyons to write an article. Deadline for submission is 16th September 2016.

14/16 County Councillor's Report

County Cllr Blackburn gave an update on the road safety action for the A38. He also reported that the CART automatic bridge opening scheme are currently running their pilot trial at Sandfield Bridge. He has requested a report of their findings when completed.

Cllr Shaw confirmed that both these issues are being addressed by the Severn Voice Group.

District Councillors' Report

District Cllr John Jones confirmed that an enforcement notice to Lower Milton End Farm gave them six months to either appeal or apply for retrospective planning. Fastershire to outer reaches of rural areas is not being rolled out due to lack of funding.

A Youth Funding Scheme is available through the District Council and applications are required by the end of October. The play area would meet the criteria and application should be made to steve.mills@stroud.gov.uk for funding.

As a point of interest election costs should be amortised over the period and included in the precept as costs incurred can exceed £1000.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm