

LONGNEY AND EPNEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18 MARCH 2013

A MEETING OF LONGNEY AND EPNEY PARISH COUNCIL was held on Monday 21 March 2013, at 8.00pm. at Longney School

PRESENT: Cllrs. Chamberlayne, Finzi, Godwin, Harvie, and Williams; and one resident

APOLOGIES: County Cllr. Blackburn

VICE-CHAIRMAN Cllr. Finzi chaired the meeting as Cllr. Godwin had previously been attacked and injured by three youths whom he had found riding motorbikes without permission on agricultural land which was already planted with a crop. Police are following up the incident and will hopefully prosecute the offenders

DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA: None

THE MINUTES of the meeting of Monday 21 January 2013 were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting

MATTERS ARISING:

EPNEY TELEPHONE BOX: This project continues to make progress

LITTER SIGNS: It was agreed that the new litter signs need to be bigger and bolder. The possibility of holding a 'litter pick' were discussed, but was thought that at present, people individually making themselves responsible for various areas within the Parish was probably sufficient

PLAYING FIELDS SURVEY: This had been completed by Cllr. Godwin

JOINT BUYING OF FUEL: Cllr. Godwin will progress this matter. To date the Clerk had received three responses, two from outside the Parish, and one from within

SEVERN VOICE LETTER RE: AFFORDABLE HOMES AT SLIMBRIDGE: This action by the joint Parish Councils had resulted in planning permission being refused for this proposed development

CANAL AND RIVERS TRUST: A reply had been received stating that the Trust was not responsible for the road surfaces at the canal bridges. It will be necessary to contact GCC Highways on the matter of treatment of road surfaces when they are affected by winter weather

PLANNING: A new planning application had been received for a proposed security office with welfare and toilet facilities and with covered storage for agricultural plant at the Grain Store, Epney. This is in response to the request for a new application for the building already under construction in a position for which planning permission had not previously been granted. There are no outstanding applications awaiting approval

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: County Cllr. Blackburn had sent a report with his apologies, asking for a volunteer to act as Governor to Longney C of E Primary School; stating that the County rate is at the same rate for the third year running, and that an extra £3m had been found for potholes and £1m to help adoptions. He also stated that over four years, the County Council will have to cut the number of Councillors from 63 to 53, and senior officers from 7 to 4, saving £114m, but still be able to increase spending on the elderly and vulnerable children. Cllr. Blackburn is up for re-election on 2 May 2013

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: None

NEW SEVERN ESTUARY FLOOD RISK STRATEGY: This should be available by the end of

April 2013, when it will be presented to Parish Councils for approval, and will then be circulated for consultation. A request will be made for the promised e-mail contact for insurance flood liability

CORRESPONDENCE:

SEVERN VOICE - MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING: Issues raised at this meeting are still being discussed, and achieving results. The subject of a Severn barrage is still under discussion, with the possibility of private funding, and flood protection must still be pursued until any change is made to the Severn estuary which might affect the tide

SEVERN VOICE - SPEEDING ON A38: This is outside the Parish, but does affect access to our Parish, so backing from this Parish Council is justified

GAPTC - ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP 2013/2014: Councillors agreed to payment by cheque value £66.61 for the coming year

CLERK'S FEE AND EXPENSES 2012/2013: Councillors approved payment of £146.90 in expenses and a fee of £2398.33 (201 hours @ £11.932) gross. The net amount payable to Colin Squire being £2318.73, and a cheque payable to HMRC of £79.60 in tax deducted

VILLAGE PLAN:

- a) **GARDEN GROUP/EQUIPMENT:** The garden equipment is being used
- b) **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE:** Pothole damage is being reported and dealt with
- c) **EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM:** No further information
- d) **WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER:** No further information

OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

LITTER PICKING DAY: The idea of an organised litter picking day was discussed, but it was decided instead to request more individual voluntary help to keep the Parish free from litter, with the possibility of a co-ordinator to ensure that all areas are covered

BURGLARY DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS: Following an example of this happening in the Parish, the possibility of CCTV cameras on canal bridges was discussed

RESIGNATION: Cllr. Chamberlayne stated his intention to resign from the Council as from the Annual Parish Council Meeting in May. Officially, a notice will have to be displayed allowing for an election to be held, but if no request is received by SDC, co-option will be allowed to fill the vacancy

CLERK'S TRAINING: A cheque value £85 was signed, as agreed at the January meeting, for the Clerk to attend a GAPTC training day on 26 March

HENRY SMITH CHARITY: Councillors agreed to the signing of a cheque value £50 for the playing field rent for 2013/2014

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The Annual Meeting of Longney and Epney Parish Council will follow the Annual Parish Meeting which will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 8 May 2013 at Longney School

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.50p.m.