

LONG ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on Wed 4th February 2015, at 8.15p.m.

in the community centre, Stockton Road, Long Itchington

In attendance:

Ian Briggs (Chair IB)	Barbara Atkins (BA)
Richard Jackson (RJ)	Russ Wheatley (RW) delayed
Sally Shillitoe (SS)	Linda Clark (LC)
Liz Bonney (Clerk- LB)	

County Councillor: Cllr Stevens (BS)

District Councillor: Dave Riches (DR)

MINUTES

		Action
1.0	Apologies: Cllr Wheatley, Reeves and Charles send apologies. Cllr Wheatley is able to attend from 9pm.	
2.0	Questions from members of the public – John Davies a resident has been asking about the pond raft and how to sort it. Cllr Atkins has suggested putting John in touch with wildlife warden Phil with a view to setting up a working group to deal specifically with aspects of the pond. BA asked John to consider writing an article on the pond/ducks for the diary. Mr and Mrs Field are concerned about the hedges on the LILAC field as appear to have been pruned back rather hard, Clerk to investigate. James Briggs wanted to let everyone know it's 100 days to the carnival , more details to follow but it will be on Monday May 25th.	LB
3.0	Declaration of Interests Each member of the Council is responsible for determining if they have a personal interest in any item on the agenda and should declare it at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a prejudicial interest the member must withdraw from the room unless one of the exceptions applies. Councillors are reminded that they must act solely in the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person or act to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, friends or close associates:	None
4.0	Minutes of the meeting held on 4th February to be approved: Proposed by Cllr Jackson and seconded by Cllr Atkins – the minutes were approved as a true record.	
5.0	Police items/Neighbourhood Watch: P.C.S.O's Katrina and Amanda visited. Speeding is a priority and letters have been sent to those speeding along the Southam Road. Lots of speed checks have taken place around the Zebra crossing. There have been some burglaries of garages and outhouses in Southam and Stockton. A rogue trader has unfortunately caught someone on Collingham Lane out. The police have produced a newsletter with the current list of scams to try and educate residents, for example the Nottingham Knockers are a scam group who try and sell over inflated cleaning equipment with a view to potentially coming back at a later date to commit burglary. BA offered to introduce the police to the various groups around the village. BS asks how mobile are the police? They currently have 2 cars and a bike. IB talks about the dirt bikes on the Sustrans track, the number plate has been recorded but can the police keep an eye on them.	

6.1	Report from County Councillor Stevens: Little to report with many committees slowing down for the election. There will be a budget debate with a potential 1.9% increase. Lots of cost increase in social services and increased safe guarding. Bs was unable to attend the HS2 hearing but watched from home, it continues until mid February. CP adds in that we are waiting for the chairman of the HS2 committee to issue a statement. P.C offers it's thanks to C.P for all his work co-ordinating the HS2 campaign for the Parish. There is an idea floating round of creating a Greater Birmingham Authority, this would include Warwickshire, a seminar will be held looking at the facts. The damage at the Harbury cutting is fairly substantial, we are awaiting a report on how long the line will be closed.	
6.2	Report from District Councillor Riches: Simon from the Harvester has been discussing with SDC how the beer festival can help to mitigate the rubbish situation by emptying bins. The core strategy suggests the maximum number of homes for L.I Parish is 106, it is hopeful this will stay at this number, other authority have had the housing numbers challenged quickly but SDC was not challenged. Some adjustment to be made around the Canal area in Stratford but hopefully that is all. Jeremy Wright will be holding a public surgery on the 17th February 2-3:30pm at the community centre	
7.0	Committee Reports:	
7.1	Communications: 9 villagers have volunteered out of today's housing update to form a publicity group, BA to get them started.	BA
7.2	Community Centre: No meeting this month, CH and JR are looking at any changes needed for the website.	
7.3	Emergency Planning: Clerk to arrange a suitable meeting date.	LB
7.4	Finance - Cheque list for approval: The cheque list was presented for approval. Proposed by Cllr Atkins and seconded by Cllr Shillitoe. Agreed unanimously.	
7.4.1	Monthly Financial Report: Clerk explained report, position better than last year. Still need to spend more money. Lighting spends agreed for Collingham Lane and Stockton Road.	LB
7.4.2	Budget 2015-16: Precept vote, a meeting was called before the Parish meeting on Wednesday 4 th February (see attached notes), the general consensus of all residents present was an agreement to raise the precept above the 2% threshold. Cllr Atkins proposed a precept demand of £66,000, this was seconded by Cllr Clark and agreed by all. Clerk to submit precept demand 5th February 2015	LB
7.5	Environmental issues:	
7.5.1	LILAC Project: The first project to concentrate on is the wetland feature. A grant of £1900 has been received from Cllr Stevens fund, 1 quote received from Colin Constable and further required. Need to investigate if the wetland requires planning permission. Cllr Clark brought up the issue of the youth shelter, the Green end representation group have got quotes with regard to moving the shelter. Cllr Briggs feels it is a very tricky situation for the P.C the youth shelter was placed in its position after advice from the police. The residents feel it is not there place to have to police it and they have lots of volunteer interest in getting it moved. The group want a resolution and will keep coming back to the issue and Cllr Briggs assures them he will revisit the issue outside of this meeting.	RJ IB

7.5.2	Footpaths: see notes attached, no matters arising. Thanks to Brian and the team for their continued hard work.	
7.6	Planning- Monthly report: See note below. Response to village meeting: IB asked the P.C how they felt the public meeting had gone, LC felt it was positive, well attended and worthwhile. BA felt it showed the residents are becoming much more knowledgeable on the planning situation. DR felt this P.C work hard and the village is behind them. RJ was encouraged by the support, no opposition to the precept request and also it highlighted skills from the area which we need to tap into. SS felt we need to keep the momentum and public support going.	ALL
7.6.1	Neighbourhood plan/Village design statement: The P.C is collecting a list of names for a steering group.	ALL
7.6.2	Enforcement matters: SDC has contacted the P.C about some concerns around the beer festival, they will be contacting the P.C in due course with a consultation. Clerk asks P.C to start thinks about positives and negatives of the festival. DR feels the police did make a visible presence last year but issues around road safety and bouts of violent behaviour still remained. RW felt the festival does bring trade and could be a positive event and it would be a huge shame to lose it. IB feels we have to be clear it is not the P.C beer festival, <i>BA suggested that we offer our input. There were mixed feelings about this as if in trying to help them the PC might be liable when / if things went wrong.</i> The issue around drinking in areas of the village that can't be well monitored is a concern for underage drinking.	
7.6.3	Stratford planning meeting: No issues in relation to Long Itchington	
7.6.4	Planning rota: WC, RR and SS	LB
8	Meeting attended/forthcoming meetings: Solar Farm Consultation: Monday 26 th Jan 3-7pm. This was well attended by the village. Another is planned for the 23rd March. HS2: Monday 26th Jan, IB and CP presented for the Parish, it can be viewed on line. EWP: Monday 16th Feb 7:30pm Rosconn Appeal: Tuesday 27th-Friday 30th January, thanks to all the volunteers and speakers, very difficult to predict an outcome at this stage.	
9	Correspondence for circulation: Blue envelope	
10	Any other business- Information only Election: Begin to advertise for election and suitable candidates for P.C Helping Hands: Cemex have offered some help to village maintenance, IB to liaise. Annual Parish Dinner: The venue was chosen as the Green Man on the 20th February, Clerk to arrange. Suggestions of guests to be given to clerk, Chairman's allowance of £300 was agreed by all. War Graves: War graves commission want to put a plaque on the church and at the Bascote Heath memorial, Clerk to contact.	BA IB LB LB
11	Date of future Parish meetings: 4 th March, 21 st March APM, 1 st April, 6 th May, 3 rd June	

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10:20

Signed Date.....

Planning Applications – January 2015

5/00127/TREE

Address

STREET RECORD Chaters Orchard Long Itchington [View Map](#)

Proposal

- T1: Ash: 20% crown reduction - T2: Sycamore: 20% crown reduction - T3: Oak: 10% crown reduction - T4: Silver Birch: 20% crown reduction - T6: Silver Birch: 20% crown reduction - T7: Sycamore: 10% crown reduction - T8: Cherry: 10% crown reduction and lift crown to allow mowing. - T9: Sycamore: 10% crown reduction and lift crown for grass cutting.

LONG ITCHINGTON FOOTPATHS (Report To Parish Council –Jan. 2015)

- Fifty people turned out for the walks on New Year’s Day. It was good to also be able to welcome people from Coventry, Leamington, Kenilworth and Stockton. Press releases and local radio helped to raise awareness about the walks. Thanks to the Footpath Group for helping to organise and lead the walks and to Sharon and Mark at The Green Man for being excellent hosts before and after the walks were completed.
- We are aiming to start planning for a work day/half day in the Spring.
- Thanks to Keith for continuing to maintain the village footpaths website and to Andy for ensuring that details about our Rights of Way and their maintenance are on the new village website.
- I am away during February. My son/daughter in law are in residence and will forward calls to Andy who has kindly agreed to deal with any footpath issues