

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE JUBILEE HALL ON 19th AUGUST 2024

Present: Mrs Caroline Hjorth (Chair)
Mr Duncan Boulton
Mr Les Gordon
Mrs Margaret Poole
Mr John Poole
Mr Ray Hudson

Ms Barbara Drysdale (Clerk)

Also present were: Cllr Georgina Heritage (SODC) & Mrs Jean Senior (LPRG&H committee chair)

Item 1: MEMBERS’ DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None were received.

Item 2: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 10th July 2024 were accepted as being a true record of proceedings by councillors and signed accordingly by the Chair.

Item 3: MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no matters arising that are not covered under other items.

Item 4: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN SESSION

There was none.

Item 5: THAMES VALLEY POLICE

There was no police report.

Item 6: DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS

The meeting noted receipt of monthly reports from both District and County councillors. Cllr Heritage took part in all discussions: see specific items.

Item 7: FINANCE

a) The council received and noted a budgetary control report for the year to date from the RFO which showed balances as of 14th August 2024:

- Treasurers Account: £2,111.87
- Business Savings Account: £15,280.95
- Hall Account: £8,214.70

And noted that the RFO had transferred £1,000 from LPC’s savings to Treasurers acc

b) The council approved payment of the following outstanding accounts:

i) Pet Waste Solutions	Dog bin emptying	£92.95	S.111 LGA 1972	
ii) BGG	Grasscutting	£135.60	S.19 PG(MP)A 1976	Chair/ RH
iii) VisionICT	Website	£234.00	S.142 LGA 1972	
iv) VisionICT	SSL, emails, MOT etc	£438.00	S.142 LGA 1972	
iv) Allen Landscaping	Grasscutting	£192.00	S.19 PG(MP)A 1976	

Chair:

Date:.....

c) The council agreed to discuss the Internal Audit procedure, along with a full review of the Internal Auditor’s report for 2023-24 at LPC’s September’s meeting.

GH/
Clerk

Item 8: PLANNING

The council noted the status of the following applications:

- i) P24/S1542/FUL Lancing, 11A Weston Road, Lewknor Refused
Division of site. Construction of a new house and retention of existing bungalow
- ii) P24/S0837/HH Sheep Brook Cottage, Nethercote Lane, Lewknor Withdrawn
Two storey front and side extension and internal alterations
- iii) P24/S1948/FUL & P24/S1949/LB Knapp Farm, Weston Road, Lewknor Decision awaited
Conversion and extension of a barn, stable (including demolition of the stables lean-to) and garage block to create 4 dwellings together with a separate outbuilding, bin store, car and cycle parking and associated works, with a new (i) vehicular and pedestrian access and (ii) pull in area and field access, both off Weston Road
Plus amendment: Arboricultural Impact Assessment
- iv) P24/S2107/HH Poplar Cottage Box Tree Lane Postcombe Decision awaited
Replacement of outbuilding to form residential annexe

Item 9: SOLAR FARM

The council thanked Cllr John Poole for organising and leading the residents’ meeting on 14th August which around 70 residents attended. The parish council would continue to watch for developments with any possible formal planning application for the solar farm.

Cllr Heritage told the meeting that she met the new local MP, Freddie van Mierlo, and an OCC councillor in the parish to discuss the proposal.

Item 10: HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

It was noted that SODC had begun clearing the pavement on the A40 London Road in Postcombe; it was hoped this work would continue.

The Chair and Cllr John Poole told the meeting that they had had a site visit with OCC’s Highways Engagement Team to discuss issues in the parish. They were told that the council can email direct with any issues and that the FixMyStreet Superusers was now headed by Nigel Clark at OCC.

Cllr Margaret Poole told the meeting that the Speedwatch team had carried out another speed check session during which 14 motorists had been logged for speeding.

Item 11: VILLAGE HALL

There were detailed and comprehensive discussions about the village hall following a request for help from the hall committee. Present specifically for this discussion was the hall committee chair, Mrs Jean Senior, along with SODC councillor Georgina Heritage.

LPC councillors, the clerk, Mrs Senior and Cllr Heritage brought together all the information that they had been researched over the past few months in the hope that the boilers could be repaired or replaced and that a long-term solution could be found for the funding issues at the hall.

Vice Chair

To this end, the council formally accepted Mrs Senior’s request for help and with her approval, the council formally agreed the following action:

Clerk

- Boilers: Vice Chair Duncan Boulton (a trained oil-fired boiler technician) would work with Heat Industrial of High Wycombe to ascertain whether one boiler could be repaired. Cllr Boulton

Chair:

Date:.....

would report back to LPC at its September meeting; grant offers of up to £1,000 from Cllr Heritage and £900 from OCC councillor van Mierlo would be held until then.

- Solar panels: the council considered quotes from 3 companies, all for 26 panels: UK Solar Generation at £12,200, Energy My Way at £13,705 and NGRE at £9,477.72. It was formally agreed that given the various warranties included, the energy diverter and the positive impression from their site visit, LPC would formally accept the quote UK Solar Generation; the council noted that a deposit of 25% may be required on acceptance of the quote (to be paid for out of LPC's LPRG&H account). The Clerk would inform all 3 companies of the council's decision.

Clerk/
All

- Grant applications: the council formally agreed that the Clerk, with help from councillors, would make funding applications to SODC's Capital Grant scheme (closing 2nd Sept) and SSEN (closing 31st Aug) for the solar panel project. It was noted that SODC's grant would only be to cover 50% of the project.

Clerk

- Energy Audit: as recommended by SODC grant officers, LPC would seek to get this audit done as such a report could help any grant application. On the instruction of SODC, LPC had got a quote from the Low Carbon Hub of £975 +VAT.

Item 12: DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

The Chair told the meeting that she had booked the defibrillator awareness course for the parish for 2nd October at 7pm in the village hall at a cost of £175 +VAT to be paid in September, along with payment for new pads for the two defibrillators at a cost of £93.95 +VAT. Both these payments had been formally approved at LPC's May meeting.

Clerk

Item 13: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

There was none.

The meeting closed at 9pm

Chair:

Date:.....