

LONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Longham Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 23rd January 2023 in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Sue Douglas (Chair)
Cllr Donna McLeod (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Roddy McLeod
Cllr Clare Mitton
Cllr Paul O'Brien
Cllr Alan Farrell

District Cllr Roger Atterwill
District Cllr Richard Duffield
County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris
Six Members of the Public
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

Prior to the meeting commencing, the Chairman of Breckland District Council presented Cllr Sue Douglas with a well-deserved Unsung Hero Award for the many years of hard work she has carried out in Longham for the community.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from Cllr Dye were approved by Council.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were none received.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21st November 2022.

Cllr Douglas proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Mitton and agreed unanimously by Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

4. Meeting open for public participation.

A member of the public thanked Council for taking action when they had been unable to get a response from the police in relation to an arson attack, they had now received a response.

5. To receive County and District Councillors reports.

C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris congratulated the Chairman on their award and said it was richly deserved. He went on to say the council tax was likely to rise by 5% in the coming year. If it was not increased by the maximum amount permitted, further monies from Government was much

harder to obtain. The Mobile Library service is likely to be cut back. He also reported issues with school transport, due to the high cost of fuel and a lack of drivers.

D/Cllr Duffield reported that grant money was available for the King's Coronation and Village Halls could apply.

D/Cllr Atterwill reported that the recent call for sites had identified three sites in Longham which will now be assessed by Planning Officers for suitability, before going out for consultation, when the Parish Council would be able to comment.

He also said the bus service contract is out for tender and if the local company is successful then they will look at providing a twice-weekly service to Dereham for Longham.

The two Breckland bids for Levelling-Up had been unsuccessful and Breckland will now look for alternative ways to deliver the initiatives, which related to the Market Towns.

The Leader of the County Council will be attending Breckland to give a presentation regarding the Devolution Deal for the county and D/Cllr Atterwill will update Council when he has more information.

6. Planning issues.

a) Applications for consideration.

There were no applications for consideration.

b) Decisions to note.

Council noted that no decision had been made on the following application.

- 3PL/2021/1460/F – Meadow, Hoe Road - change of use of land from Agricultural to residential & the erection of 1No. self-build home and provision of 1No. Self Build Plot with associated car parking and landscaping.

7. Highway issues.

a) To receive updates on matters previously reported and to consider any new highway issues.

- It had not yet been possible to identify the new owner of the Pig Farm on the Bittering Road but efforts will continue to be made as mud on the road continued to be a problem.

b) To receive an update regarding the pull-in on Hoe Road.

Cllr O'Brien reported on a site meeting he had attended with a Highways Officer and C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris. They had agreed that it was not practical to provide a pull-in at this location due to the expensive works required to do so, particularly as parking was available at the nearby Village Hall. However, some help may be available in the future to create a pedestrian entrance off the road onto the boardwalk.

c) To receive an update from the County Cllr regarding the grass cutting on Chapel Road (responsibility of County Council).

The C/Cllr had no update but will chase this up.

8. To receive a report in respect of the Playing Field and Play Area.

The Chairman reported that no work on the football pitch had taken place due to the bad weather, however, there were a lot of flints on the pitch and something must be done to rectify this before the pitch can be used again.

9. To receive an update regarding the Clay Pits (a county wildlife site).

Cllr O'Brien reported that an activity day was planned towards the end of February/March to clear the ponds and prepare the area for Spring.

10. To receive an update regarding the planting of the Jubilee Tree.

Cllr Donna McLeod reported that she had the Jubilee Tree which would be planted when the ground was not frozen. The Chairman suggested a second tree be planted for the Coronation and Council were all in agreement.

11. To consider any commemoration/celebration for the Coronation.

The Chairman suggested a tea party in the Village Hall, with a Best Crown competition. She invited other ideas be sent to her.

12. To receive a report from the County Cllr regarding recycling.

The C/Cllr reported that there was just one open day per year and this was normally in June. He will notify Council members when the booking system is open.

13. To receive an update regarding the proposed Village Appraisal.

The Chairman reported that she was preparing a draft questionnaire and this should be available for consideration at the March meeting.

14. Finance and Governance

a) To receive a financial report for the year ending 31st March 2023.

Council noted the report (attached).

b) To approve the purchase of replacement pads for the defibrillator.

Cllr Douglas proposed the approval of the purchase of replacement pads, this was seconded by Cllr Donna McLeod and unanimously agreed by Council.

c) To authorise financial payments as set out below.

Cllr Douglas proposed approval of the following payments, this was seconded by Cllr Donna McLeod and unanimously agreed by Council.

• Clerk – Salary/Allowance (Dec)	£144.22 (SO)
• Clerk – Salary/Allowance (Jan)	£155.72 (SO)
• HMRC PAYE	£2.20
• Norfolk PTS (Training)	£44.00
• Grass Cutting – Church (x6)	£537.50

15. Correspondence for circulation

The Chairman confirmed she had completed the Breckland Design Guide survey on behalf of Council.

16. To note the meeting dates for 2023.

The meeting dates for 2023 were noted.

- Monday 16th January
- Monday 20th March
- Monday 15th May (Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Council Meeting)
- Monday 17th July
- Monday 18th September
- Monday 20th November

17. To receive any new items for the next agenda.

There were no new items received for the next agenda.

18. To note the next meeting of the parish council will be held on Monday 20th March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Council noted the date of the next meeting and the Chairman then closed the meeting at 8.00pm.

Signed:

Date:

LONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL							
YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2023							
FINANCIAL REPORT - JANUARY 2023							
BUDGET UPDATE	Budget	To	%				
	2022/23	date	Spend				
PAYMENTS*							
Admin	1,132	711	63%				
Salary	1,649	1463	89%				
Open Spaces	1,000	658	66%				
Clay Pit Maintenance	1,000	0					
Donations	1,925	1000	52%				
Defibrillator	100	0	0				
TOTAL	6,806	3832	56%				
RECEIPTS							
Precept	7000	7000	100%				
Bank Interest	0	18					
Wayleaves	0	0					
Salary/HMRC	0	22					
Recycling	100	110	110%				
TOTAL	7100	7150	101%				
SURPLUS/DEFICIT***	294	3318					
<i>*includes payments as listed on agenda.</i>							
				Bank Reconciliation			
				Balance at 01.04.2022		6,233.81	
				Plus Receipts at 31.12.2022		8,693.75	
				Less Payments at 31.12.2022		5,188.28	
				TOTAL		9,739.28	
				Bank Balance at 31.12.2022			
				Unity Trust Current Account		4,721.58	
				Unity Trust Instant Access		5,017.70	
				TOTAL		9739.28	
				including:			
				Clay Pits Reserve		248.33	
				Village Hall Reserve		1,700.00	
				General Reserve		7,790.95	
				CLAY PIT PROJECT as at 14/01/2023			
				Income		9,100.00	
				Expenditure		8851.67	
				Balance		248.33	