

**Minutes of meeting of Newton Longville Parish Council
held on 15th January 2024 at Longueville Hall.**

Present: Cllrs Chapman (vice-chair), Coeshall, Collinge, Cookman and Hunter.

In attendance: Mike Galloway, Clerk to the Council,

Five members of the public in person

In the absence of Cllr Whipp, the meeting was chaired by Cllr Chapman.

210/23 Apologies

Cllr Whipp (chair), Welch and Young, Buckinghamshire Cllr I Macpherson.

211/23 Disclosures of interest

None.

212/23 Announcements

Cllr Chapman announced that in the 2024 New Years 'Peoples Honours' to be recognised at the Palace of Westminster. Local charity Curly Tails founder, Jane Scott, was honoured with the British Citizen Award for her services to the community and education. It was proposed and agreed that a letter be written to Jane Scott, congratulating her on the well-deserved award. The Longueville Hall floor has now been refurbished.

213/23 Minutes:

Resolved: that the minutes of the meetings on 18th December 2023 and 4th January 2024 be signed as a correct record.

214/23 To consider opening additional bank account for holding Warm Spaces funds

(with same arrangements/signatories as the current accounts)

Resolved to open an additional bank account as proposed.

215/23 To consider application(s) to Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Community Funds

The fund is £200,000 for the whole of Thames Valley Police area. Any applications must conform with the PCC's "Police and Criminal Justice Plan 2021 – 2025". For the parish council the most likely priority that may apply would be "Strong local policing".

Cllr Cookman consideration is given to additional street lighting (to deter criminal activity); to support and promote Neighbourhood Watch and Speedwatch; and ANPR cameras to deter both speeding and criminals generally. It was agreed that a potential application should be explored.

It was resolved that it be delegated to the Clerk, in consultation with the chair and vice-chair to explore options and if considered appropriate make an application by the closing date of 29th January 2024.

216/23 Public Involvement

Questions asked and answered about dog waste bin emptying, poor surfaces on footpaths and roads, tree works, and lack of action (by Buckinghamshire Council) about potholes.

Planning, Highways and Environment

217/23 Planning Application 23/03939/APP

For: Householder application for part single, part two-storey rear extension

At: 31 Westbrook End, Newton Longville, MK17 0DL

Concerns were expressed about how close to neighbouring properties. At present no objections have been submitted by any nearby residents.

It was resolved that the decision on a final decision on the application be delegated to the Clerk in consultation with Chair and Vice-Chair, to comment before the closing date of 1st February, taking into account any resident objections.

218/23

Neighbourhood Plan

To consider report and recommendations following the Regulation 14 Pre-Submission consultation.

Verbal update by Cllr Chapman and clerk. All comments considered by a working group. Buckinghamshire Council have not raised any objections to the principles for the policies, including those for the Settlement Boundary, Housing Mix, Housing Allocations, Areas of Separation and Local Green Spaces. The comments they have made have been very helpful. Overall, valuable feedback given from consultees has been used to modify the plan. Unfortunately the SEA Report from AECOM was only received after the end of the Regulation 14 consultation.

A number of changes to the Plan based upon the feedback received were recommended and agreed. A change to the Local Green Space allocation between Stoke Road and Drayton Road was discussed and following a vote it was agreed that the area in the draft emerging plan would be amended. It was noted that Buckinghamshire Council Planning Policy had recommended that the Community Actions/Aspirations section were removed. This had been discussed with the Buckinghamshire Council Neighbourhood Plan team who said it was entirely appropriate to include this section and a vote was held and it was agreed to retain this. It was noted that other feedback had been received with suggested changes to the Plan but it was agreed that those amendments were not appropriate or required.

Resolved to: Approve recommended changes to the plan as agreed and delegate to Clerk in conjunction with Chair and Vice-Chair to finalise the Submission Version of the Plan and produce Consultation Statement, Basic Conditions Statement and other documents necessary for submission. To consult on SEA Report for six weeks.

219/23

Salden Chase/Park (15/00314/AOP) - Update

The next meeting with Taylor Wimpey is on 25th January and there is a meeting with the Buckinghamshire Council case officer and team leader at the end of January.

A new Design Code has been submitted to Buckinghamshire Council. The changes are currently being assessed. Ongoing delegation to Clerk, in conjunction with Chair and Vice-Chair, to continue to make any further comments on the Design Code as considered appropriate.

Property

220/23

To consider energy options.

Deferred to be considered at next meeting.

Finance

221/23

To consider budget and precept for 2024/25 [BC require by 31/01/2024]

Noted that Buckinghamshire Council is insisting on a precept notification by 31st January, which is over a month earlier than required by law. Given this and the ongoing pressures due to inflation and cost of energy predicting available funds as at the end of 2023/24 is difficult to predict.

In discussion, whilst in cash terms a greater cash increase in the precept would be ideal, it was recognised that it has to be limited to minimise impact on residents.

As was done last year when the council had only recently taken over running of Longueville Hall directly, the predicted income and expenditure for the hall is being treated as being cost neutral. Currently it is likely that over 2023/24 as a whole, the income from Longueville Hall will both cover the hall running costs and leave surplus income which may be used for more community activities.

A more detailed budget based on the precept will be presented to the next meeting and further revised as necessary once the final end of year position is known.

It was resolved that the precept for 2024/2025 be set at £128,800, an increase of £5,954. Proposed by Cllr Coeshall, seconded by Cllr Hunter.

(With the Tax Base set by Buckinghamshire Council as 778.65 for 2024/25, unchanged from 2023/24, gives a Band D equivalent figure of £165.41, an increase of 4.84% compared with the Band D equivalent of £157.77 in 2023/24.)

222/23 To consider grant applications

None

223/23 To agree accounts and payments in line with presentation of invoices for payment and any payments made between meetings.

Deferred.

224/23 Update on External Audit

Update received, no significant issues, report to be considered at next meeting.

225/23 Exclusion of Press & Public

Resolved to exclude press and public

226/23 To consider personnel matters

Update noted. To be discussed further at next meeting.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 22:10

Signed: _____ Date: _____