

Longdon, Queenhill & Holdfast Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Monday 6th February 2017**
at **8.00pm** in the **Village Hall, Longdon**

following the public open meeting about Village Green play equipment

Present: Chairman Cllr. R. Thatcher, Cllrs. B. Mansbridge, Mrs J. Beswick, W. Austin, G. Inchbald, C. Taylor-Hall, J Unwin, Mrs N Inchbald, M. Taylor

Attending: District Cllr. Mrs B Behan, County Cllr. T. Wells,

170206SEC – Secretary: Cllr. J. Beswick was appointed Secretary to the meeting, no votes against.

170206MES – Meeting status: Council affirmed the actions of Cllr. J. Beswick as an unpaid temporary Proper Officer in preparing and circulating the Notice, Summons and Agenda for the meeting.

170206AAD – Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest: No apologies were received. Cllr G Inchbald declared an interest relating to the appointment of a Clerk and would abstain from voting on this item [170206ADM a)]

170206ADP – Adoption of Minutes: Council agreed and adopted the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 9th January 2017.

170206CRS – Reports from District and County Councillors

- a) Councillor Mrs Behan gave a brief report and updated the Council on District Council matters with regard to dog fouling and littering on public land and car parking strategy
- b) County Councillor Tom Wells gave a brief report about consultation meetings about the Mineral Plan and imminent County Council decisions on Council Tax increases and the CC social care budget.

170206PLA – Planning Matters

The planning application concerning Queenhill barn was briefly discussed

170206ADM – Administration:

- a) There were 5 responses to the advert for a new Clerk. Cllrs Thatcher, Taylor-Hall and Austin shortlisted and interviewed three candidates and recommended the appointment of Ms Hazel Robinson. Proposed by Cllr J Unwin, seconded by Cllr B Mansbridge and unanimously agreed.
- b) The meeting unanimously agreed to accept the vote of the public meeting on play equipment (9 votes for, none against one particular item in the public meeting).
- c) The VAS unit was discussed. Bushley PC have agreed the purchase of a new unit with 60% of the balance of the cost from LHQPC, 40% from Bushley and a grant of £1500 from our County Councillor. Three different units were considered and it was agreed to purchase the Westcotec version which was the preferred manufacturer of the CC and was compatible with existing posts and brackets. Our Chairman would progress the purchase and also send the old one away for repair.

DCllr Mrs B Behan and CCllr T Wells were thanked for their grants
- d) The Lengthsman has provided worksheets and insurance details as requested and will start work on the Queenhill notice board. Council noted that functional notice boards would be essential before the next Council elections in May.
- e) With the imminent sale of the Longdon school site and our new Clerk in position it was agreed to go ahead with the Neighbourhood Plan flyer as soon as possible

- f) MHDC have given their approval for our purchase of the telephone box. In due course Cllr Inchbald will provide our new Clerk with details for liaising with BT.
- g) There has been no recent information from Gigaclear concerning their plans to extend ultrafast broadband to our area. DCllr Ms Behan will contact Simon Smith from MHDC to see if he has any information.

170206FIN – Accounts and Financial Matters:

- a) There were no accounts which needed paying.
- b) There is no mechanism in place for refunding the Transparency Grant. Council agreed to ring fence the money and use it as necessary in due course.

170206DNM – Next Meeting:

The next meeting was agreed to take place on Monday 20th March, at 7.30pm subject to any need for Working Party or Interim Parish Council meetings.

Cllr. Beswick was authorised to act as unpaid Proper Officer in advertising the meeting, in the event that the new Clerk is not in position

Signed.....Chairman Date.....