

# Longdon, Queenhill & Holdfast Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** at **7.30 pm** at **St. Mary's C of E School, Longdon.**

**Present:** Chairman; Cllr. S. Cooke; Cllrs. Mr. R.Thatcher, Mrs. N. Inchbald, Mr. J. Unwin.

**5815 Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs. Mansbridge, Mrs J. Beswick, C.Taylor-Hall. Cllr. Mrs.N.Incbald declared a non-financial but crucial interest in respect of the resignation of Mr. G.Inchbald.

**5915 Adoption of Minutes:** Council agreed and adopted the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015.

**6015 Council Reports:** Brief reports to bring Council up to date were received, including an update provided by the Clerk in respect of the 'The Hunters' noise complaint, to confirm confirm that Worcestershire Regulatory Services had commenced a full investigation. The Clerk also confirmed that Council would be kept informed of progress in due course.

**6115 Planning Matters:**

(a) There were no MHDC planning consultations or outstanding matters presented.

**6215 Administration:**

- (a) The Clerk informed Members of all important matters and correspondence which was available for Member's inspection at the meeting,
- (b) The Lengthsman Scheme was briefly reviewed and the Clerk confirmed the procedure for seeking a replacement should the current Lengthsman retire in the near future. The local environment update, including the VAS location programme, and salt provision was noted.
- (c) The details and terms of the contract with the PCC, for the use of the School as a Parish Council Office, Community Office and regular meeting place for the Parish Council was provided for final consideration and was subsequently agreed nem com. The Clerk agreed to obtain the written details of the offer from the PCC prior to providing written acceptance on behalf of the Parish Council and signed by the Clerk and Chairman..
- (d) Cllr Mrs. Inchbald updated Council in respect of the Parish Survey.
- (e) The Clerk confirmed that he would make a Declaration of a Casual Vacancy following the resignation of Cllr. G. Inchbald, which would result in a current total of two casual vacancies; one for Queenhill and one for Longdon.

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## **6315 Accounts and Financial Matters:**

- (a) Payment of accounts presented were agreed as follows:
- (b) Council received Working Group recommendations in respect of the budget for 2016/2017, taking fully into account the need for current spending restraints, balanced against the need to comply with current Government legislation and providing for Council responsibilities and duties. The budget was proposed by Cllr. R. Thatcher, seconded by the Chairman and carried unanimously. Budget figures attached hereto. Council accordingly set a precept of **£10,944.00.00** This is inclusive of £181.33 Parish Grant from MHDC, resulting in a 2016/17 tax base for Longdon, Holdfast & Queenhill of 270.84. The current year 15/16 Tax base was 270.34. (inclusive of the MHDC grant). In real terms this means that the Council Tax to payable on a Band D property is increased by just 50 pence per year. Other property bands are increased pro rata.

## **6415 Date of Next Meeting:**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**Signed Stephen Cook Chairman of Longdon PC 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016.**