

**Meeting of the of Longcot Parish Council
held remotely by Zoom
on Thursday 18 March 2021 at 7pm**

Present

Andi Cunningham, Chairman, John Barneby, Amy Cooper, Howell, CC Yvonne Constance (late arrival) and Tina Brock, Clerk.

40/21 Apologies for Absence.

Nathan Boyd (work commitment), Alan Rich (prior commitment) DC Elaine Ware (work commitment and DC Simon (work commitment). These apologies were received.

41/21 Variance of Order of Business. None.

42/21 Declaration of Interest. None.

43/21 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10 February 2021.

Council resolved to approve the minutes which were agreed and would be signed by the Chairman when Council next meets in person.

44/21 Matters arising from the minutes. None.

45/21 Public Participation. None.

REPORTS

46/21 Report from County Councillor.

Email reports are regularly received and circulated.

47/21 Report from District Councillor.

DC Howell and DC Ware circulated a report prior to the meeting.

The Vale Communications Team continued to provide Town and Parish Councils with regular updates regarding Covid. The good news is that we now have a four- step roadmap that will see current restrictions being lifted over the coming months.

As previously reported Vale staff continue to work from home. Although this is not ideal, they would appreciate it if any communications were by Email rather than telephone.

The Vale has set up a Covid-19 symptom free testing programme at The Beacon in Wantage. This facility will provide rapid testing for public facing workers and volunteers who are not displaying symptoms. For further information please go to the Vale website- www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Climate Emergency Advisory Committee – the next meeting is now scheduled for 19 April. Agenda details will be published on the Vale website one week before the meeting.

Environment - The Vale along with South Oxfordshire District Council have helped to raise more than £240,000 for great crested newt habitats. Over the past three years funds have been raised through an ongoing and innovative conservation scheme to protect the newts which are a European protected species.

A new partnership has been set up between Oxfordshire Greentech and the Vale and South Oxfordshire District Councils. The aim is to assist in helping the districts to become carbon neutral.

The County Council is asking for people to comment on the draft Local Transport and Connectivity Plan. The consultation ends on 29 March details may be found on OCC's website current consultations. The plan sets out a vision and will contribute to developing a zero economy and improve the health and wellbeing of Oxfordshire residents.

Garden Waste – The suspension of the garden waste service caused significant concern throughout the Vale. The service resumed on 15 February and the Vale contractor Biffa is confident that it will meet its contractual agreement of 20 collections per annum.

Civil Parking Enforcement – Following the agreement of all Councils involved the County Council is awaiting confirmation from Government of the delegation powers that will enable the new arrangements to commence later this year.

Planning – Since Christmas there has been a number of applications submitted to the Vale from within the Watchfield & Shrivenham Ward. Decisions are still awaited on two applications that will be called into Committee for consideration should they be recommended for approval.

The application to build four dwellings at the rear of April Cottage in Stallpits Road was considered by the Planning Committee on 11 February. It was very disappointing that the application was approved but there were additional conditions attached to the approval which will need to be discharged before any works can commence.

Both Cabinet and the Scrutiny Committee publicise their work programmes on the Vale website. To access the programmes, go to www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk and enter work programmes in the search box.

The next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee is scheduled for 9 March when it will discuss a proposal to consider the preparation and production of a joint local plan with South Oxfordshire District Council. Any recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee will be considered by the Cabinet which is due to meet on 17 March and will be presented to full Council on 24 March.

Full Council meeting – Full Council met virtually on Wednesday 10 February. This meeting considered the budget and set the Council Tax for 2021/22. The motion regarding the 20 is plenty was debated and approved unanimously. It is hoped that over the coming years more and more roads in both urban and rural areas will benefit from a reduction in speed limits. The minutes of the meeting will be published on the Vale website in due course.

Census – the 2021 Census 21 March – This Census is the first to be primarily online. Households will receive a letter from the Office of National Statistics with an access code for online completion of a questionnaire. Paper copies will be available on request for those that need them.

Community Engagement – Community groups and sporting organisations in Wantage, Grove and Faringdon are to be asked to help identify how millions of s106 funding raised from housing developers can be spent in their local areas. By speaking with the community, the Vale hopes to get an up-to-date picture of current leisure provision and identify alternative local need. The Council has appointed an independent consultant Strategic Leisure Ltd to engage with a variety of stakeholders over the coming weeks.

Shrivenham Sports Pavilion – Following a lengthy process the Vale approved the release of s106 funds to help build a brand-new sports pavilion in the Recreation Ground. The money comes from the agreements made with the various developers of the new homes in the village. All being well construction will start after Easter.

Swindon Borough Council – New Eastern Villages – Work continues the Southern Connector Road and all other road improvements that form part of the infrastructure to support the NEV. The distribution centres at Symmetry Park are well on the way to being completed. OCC Officers are due to meet with Swindon BC Officers in March to discuss the impact that the road works will have on the A420 as well as the long-term disruption which will be created as the NEV construction begins.

48/21 Update from Chairman.

None.

FINANCE

49/21 Longcot Parish Council Website Expenditure.

Council approved the annual payment of £250 for Abbey Hill Studios to maintain the website.

50/21 Payments of Accounts.

It was resolved to authorise the payments below:

Table 1 List of payments.

Spending Power	Payments now due:	Description	Total
DD Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	Castle Water	Allotment water - February	£3.00
EP103 LGA 1972 s112 Contract/Pensions Act 2014	T Brock	February salary	£201.05
EP104 LGA 1972 s143	OALC	Annual membership	£146.16
EP105 LGA1972 s142	Abbey Hill Studios	Maintenance of Council website- annual fee	£250.00

51/21 CIL Levy.

Council approved requesting that the CIL Levy for development within the parish be transferred from the VWHDC to the Council.

PLANNING

52/21 Submitted Planning Applications.

Council resolved to submit the following observations.

Table 2 List of submitted planning application responses. .

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P21/V0015/HH amended details	1 Kings Farm Cottages, Mallins Lane, Longcot, Oxon SN7 7TE <i>Proposed first floor rear extension, single-storey side extension to provide store/workshop and new pitched roof and cladding to existing flat roof porch (additional Drainage Strategy and Amphibian Strategy submitted 17/2/2021).</i> RESPONSE Council notes the submitted additional Drainage Strategy and Amphibian Strategy and awaits the outcome of the decision of the VWHDC Drainage experts.

53/21 Permitted Planning Application(s). Noted.

Table 3 List of permitted planning applications.

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P21/V0028/FUL	Verge outside Cleveland Farm, Shrivenham Road, Longcot, Oxon SN7 7TW <i>Erection of a new 12m steel monopole with 1x0.3m diameter microwave dish. This pole will replace an existing 12m wooden pole with 1x0.3m microwave dish.</i>

FLOODING

54/21 Update. None.

PLAY AREA

55/21 Maintenance requests.

The Chairman would inspect the play area at the weekend.

HIGHWAYS

56/21 Parking issues.

Council had received a complaint from a resident regarding antisocial parking and gathering of parents during school drop off and pick up times. The Chairman reported that she had tried to arrange for a Covid Marshall to attend but they only marshal towns and cities and not small villages. Amy Cooper reported that school staff and PCSO patrol during these times. The Chairman would contact the Head Teacher to discuss the matter.

57/21 Update on any issues. None.

ALLOTMENTS

58/21 Update on any issues. None.

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

59/21 Update. None.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Exclusion of Press and Public

To move the following resolution, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it is in the public interest that the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting and they are requested to withdraw.

60/21 Any Matters. None.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

61/21 Next meeting of the Parish Council.

The Annual Parish Meeting for the Council and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council would take place on Wednesday 5 May 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Signed.....Date.....2021