Meeting of the Longcot Parish Council
on Thursday 10 September 2026 7pm
held in St Mary's Church Hall, Longcot

In attendance.
Council members.
Andi Cunningham, Chair, John Barneby, Neil Campbell, Alan Rich, and Tina Brock, Clerk.
County Councillor. None in attendance
District Councillor. DC Viral Patel by phone.
Visitors. Lisa Warne, CEO Westmill Energy – Wind and solar Co-operatives.

84/26 Apologies for Absence.
Amy Cooper (prior commitment), CC Emma Markham (prior commitment) and DC Katherine Foxhall (prior commitment). These apologies were received.

85/26 Variance of business. None.

86/26 Declarations of interests. None.

87/26 Public Participation. None

88/26 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 18 June 2026.
Council resolved to approve the minutes which were signed by the Chair.

WESTMILL SOLAR AND WIND FARM

89/26 Westmill Energy Q & A on the proposed expansion of the site.
Lisa Warne, CEO Westmill Energy attended the meeting to inform council of the proposed expansion.
For over a decade, Westmill has been generating renewable energy while delivering environmental and community benefits. Our mission is to support the transition to clean energy through community ownership, local engagement, and responsible stewardship of the land on which our assets operate. We are currently considering an expansion of our solar generation capacity at Westmill, adjacent to the current site. Subject to the necessary environmental studies, consultation processes and grid connection offer, we anticipate bringing forward proposals within the next 12 months for an extension of the existing solar site. The proposed development is expected to comprise approximately 12 hectares (approximately the same size as the existing solar array) of additional solar generation capacity, delivering around 10MW of renewable energy (double the output due to improvements in panel efficiency). As our plans develop, we will be able to provide further information on the scale, layout, environmental considerations, and anticipated benefits of the project. We have recently engaged with our membership and found overwhelming support for the proposed solar expansion. However, at this early stage, we are keen to engage more widely with local stakeholders and communities beyond our membership base. We recognise the important role that parish councils play in representing local views and helping to ensure that any development proposals are informed by constructive dialogue. We are therefore committed to engaging openly and early in the process, listening to feedback, and building strong relationships with our neighbours.
There are currently 3,000 members with equal shares with 40% living within 25 miles of the site. A percentage of the profits is given to the members and the surplus to community benefits fund for community and environmental projects.
Preplanning advise had been given by VWHDC and there was a lot of work to be done before a planning application would be submitted.
Lisa Warne left the meeting.

REPORTS

90/26 Report from County Councillor. None in attendance

91/26 Report from District Councillor.
DC Foxhall submitted a written report.
I've seen that the Eyrie application was approved in August, and there are a number of conditions with that, including that:

- work on site is not resumed before details of a plan for deliveries are received and approved to prevent blocking the highway
- a landscaping scheme is submitted within 3 months.
- biodiversity enhancements are delivered within 3 months

- the developer has also been granted permission under License to undertake work that impacts GCN.

Council had not been informed of the decision. DC Foxhall and Patel raised this with the Planning Team.

DC Patel reported.
That planning conditions, especially historical ones, were not enforceable.
Government would review its decision on preferred options of Local Government Reorganisation across England.
District Council elections were expected to take place May 2027.
A public planning inquiry regarding the Bloor Homes proposal to build 200 hours on Shrivenham Golf Club is scheduled to commence on 22 September 2026 in Shrivenham Memorial Hall.
Call with DC Patel ended.

92/26 Report from the Chair.
The Community Speed Watch was up and running.
Discussions were taking place with CC Markham regarding speed calming measures.
Council was grateful for the funding secured by a resident to support the installation of speed warning signs. The Clerk would obtain quotes for a VAS, posts and installation costs.

FINANCE
93/26 Financial Risk Assessment 2026/2027.
Council reviewed and approved the Financial Risk Assessment.
94/26 Effectiveness of Internal Audit 2026/2027.
Council reviewed and approved the Effectiveness of Internal Audit.
95/26 Expenditure.
Council resolved to approve the following expenditure.

i. MRH Services £266.80 repairs to the basketball area.
ii. MRH Services £287.55 to paint the slide.
iii. MRH Services £197.65 to repair the roundabout surface.
iv. Council noted the National Association of Local Council 2026/2027 salary award to be back dated to 1 April 2026.

96/26 Quarter 1 Financials.
i. Council resolved to approve the bank reconciliation as of 30 June 2026.
ii. Council resolved to approve the budget.

97/26 Payments of Accounts.
Table 1 List of receipts received.

Statutory Power	Receipts received	Description	Total
Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	Allotment tenants	Allotment rent	£12.00
LGA1972 s111	Land Registry	Refund	£14.00

Table 2 List of expenditure.

Statutory Power	Payments due:	Description	Total
BACS LGA1972 s111	Unity	Bank charges – June	£7.00
SO LGA 1972 S112	Staff costs		£754.80
BACS LGA1972 s111	Lloyds	Bank charges – June	£4.25
DD Telecom Act 1984 s97	EE	Mobile – June	£20.54
DD Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	Castle Water	Allotments water	£1.07
UT007 LGA 1972 s111	The Net Result	Payroll Apr-Jun	£88.50
BACS LGA1972 s111	Unity	Bank charges	£7.00
BACS LGA1972 s111	Unity	Bank charges – July	£7.00
UT008 LG (misc prov) Act 1976 s19	Playsafety Ltd	Annual play equipment inspection	£109.20
UT008LG (misc prov) Act 1976 s19	MRH Services	Service inspection of play equipment	£64.00

Statutory Power	Payments due:	Description	Total
UT009 LGA1972 s111	Land Registry	Title plans for the Dash	£67.97
L003 LGA1972 s111	Land Registry	Title plans for the Dash	£14.00
BACS LGA1972 s111	Lloyds	Bank charges – July	£4.25
BACS LGA1972 s111	Unity	Bank charges – Aug	£7.00
DD Telecom Act 1984 s97	EE	Mobile – July	£20.54
DD Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	Castle Water	Allotments water	£8.62
DD Telecom Act 1984 s97	EE	Mobile – Aug	£20.54
DD Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	Castle Water	Allotments water	£5.96
BACS LGA1972 s111	Lloyds	Bank charges – Aug	£4,75
UT011 LGA 1972 s134	Longcot Churchwardens	Room hire	£17.00
UT012 Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	The Silver & Land Settlement	Allotment land rent	£25.00

PLANNING

98/26 Submitted planning application(s).

Council would submit the following comments.

Table 3 List of submitted planning applications.

Ref.	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P24/V2067/HH amended details	Old Wharf House, Majors Road, Longcot, Oxon SN7 7TR *Demolish converted stables and two storey barn replace with similar accommodation, office, store and double garage. resubmission of P23/V2438/FUL. (Additional and amended information received 17 January and 17 September 2025).* **Comment** submitted between meetings due to timing. Council is pleased that the application has reverted back to the replacement of a barn that is already on site, although it is to have a new footprint at a different angle, but it is near to the original building rather than a total new building. Council would request that all the considerations are put in place of ecological, environmental and flooding concerns especially with reference to sewerage and where and how it is to be disposed as stated in the planning response on 12th November 2024 by the drainage officer. Council would draw your attention to the entrance and request Highways ensure that the entrance used is the first entrance and not the entrance on the bend further up Majors Road to ensure that the barn conversion is seen as one with Old Wharf House and does not have a separate entrance.
ii	P26/V3223/HH	17 Wellington Close, Longcot, Oxon SN7 7ST *Proposed single storey front extension, single and two storey rear extension, replacement wall cladding and replacement windows and doors*. **Comment.** Councils flood plan policy requests that every planning application submits a drainage layout plan to ensure that there is no risk to surrounding properties. Council would request that Leigh Travis, Drainage Engineer has sight of a drainage plan before a decision is determined. There is a ditch in front of the property which needs to be maintained

Ref.	Planning application number	Address and proposal
		and cleared regularly as part of the drainage system. If the ditch blocks it will cause flooding to adjacent properties during heavy and prolonged rainfall. Council would request that this is a condition if the proposal is permitted. Councils flood plan policy requests that every planning application submits a drainage layout plan to ensure that there is no risk to surrounding properties. Council would request that Leigh Travis, Drainage Engineer has sight of a drainage plan before a decision is determined. There is a ditch in front of the property which needs to be maintained and cleared regularly as part of the drainage system. If the ditch blocks it will cause flooding to adjacent properties during heavy and prolonged rainfall. Council would request that this is a condition if the proposal is permitted.
iii	P26/V3455/FUL	Farmer Gows, Fernham Road, Longcot, Oxon SN7 7R *Replacement roof on agricultural barn.* **Comment.** This application is retrospective as the roof has already been replaced and is 3m higher than the original roof and is not like for like. Councils flood plan policy requests that every planning application submits a drainage layout plan to ensure that there is no risk to surrounding properties. Council would request that Leigh Travis, Drainage Engineer has sight of a drainage plan before a decision is determined.

HIGHWAYS

99/26 Speeding issues.

Council resolved to approve responding to the review of A and B roads carried out as part of OCC Vision Zero road safety programme in the parish.

100/26 Traffic calming measures.

See Chair's report.

101/26 Other issues reported. None.

PLAY AREA & TRACK

102/26 Play Safety annual safety inspection of play equipment.

Council noted the safety inspection.

103/26 New play equipment.

The section 106 application officer had several questions for council to respond to. The Clerk was in the process of responding. Council resolved to meet any financial shortfall of the project which was expected to be £556.49.

104/26 Track.

Nothing to report.

ALLOTMENTS

105/26 Any issues. None reported.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

106/26 Next meeting of the Parish Council.

TBC

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Signed….....Date….....2026