

**WEST LAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

**05/12/2024 at 1900
GILES ROOM, VILLAGE HALL, SANDFIELD.**



The Parish Council of

West Lavington

Serving the communities of
West Lavington and
Littleton Panell

MINUTES

Present:	Councillors: Mr P Blundell, Mr R Scott, Mr R Oglesby, Mr D Muns, Ms L. Gough, Mr S. Laister, Mr G. Harrison, Mr S Pattison, Mr A Koval-Radley, Mr M Sworder.	
Also present	Mr J Skillman (clerk) and 0 members of the public	
24/25/109	Apologies for absence Cllr West (Chair), so Cllr Laister chaired the meeting.	
24/25/110	Declaration of interests Cllr Gough - Village Hall, Tuesday Lunch Club Cllr Scott – Village Hall, Sewerage	
24/25/111	The minutes of the parish council meeting held 07.11.2023 and Matters Arising Minutes of the last meeting – these were agreed to be a true and accurate record. All agreed. They were signed by the Chair.	
24/25/112	Vice/Chair's announcements Cllr Laister reported none, other than already covered on the agenda	
24/25/113	Wiltshire Councillors report Cllr Muns reported: 1/ There is a public space protection order (PSPO) in place now in the centre of Devizes, covering the Market Square and other areas where drinkers congregate. 2/ A draft of the Local Transport Plan (LTP) has been published for public consultation. The idea behind the LTP is to direct transport strategies across the council, i.e. how residents get about, how freight moves across the county, how train and bus services operate etc. As it is a massive document it has been split into chunks so residents can pick and choose the survey that they are interested in. The consultation will run until the end of January and requires feedback from local residents. One of the headline elements of the LTP is the acknowledgement that Wiltshire is a very rural county, so reliance on private motor vehicles is huge for most people. 3/ The MyWilts app has been redeveloped with various improvements. It should be addressing all of the issues that residents are finding frustrating. It works well at reporting issues although the messaging that used to come back is often frustrating.	
24/25/114	Public Participation None	

24/25/115	<p>Planning - to receive those decisions notified, and to consider:</p> <p>PL/2024/09805 - 942 St Joan A Gore Farm Cottage, Gore Cross, SN10 4NB Householder planning permission. New oil tank & external boiler to the rear of the property. https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000AK71B Consultation deadline 05/12/2024.</p> <p>PL/2024/09418 - 942 St Joan A Gore Farm Cottage, Gore Cross, SN10 4NB Listed building consent (Alt/Ext). New oil tank & external boiler to the rear of the property. https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ3000009zcCr Consultation deadline 05/12/2024. Concerns were raised regarding the type of boiler being installed (oil). It was felt that the applicants (the MoD) with their policy of sustainability should reconsider their energy source. Clerk to mention this in the PC's response to Wiltshire Council.</p> <p>PL/2024/10102 - Dauntsey House, 9 Church Street. SN10 4LB Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area T1 Conifer - Fell T2 & T3 Sycamore - Fell T3 Elm Prue Lower branches T4 Pine Fell https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000AY9RK Consultation deadline 02/12/2024. No comments</p> <p>PL/2024/10094 - Pagnell Cottage, Pagnell Lane, LP. SN10 4EW Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area Laurel - Reduce to a height of 2m Sycamore - Fell Hazel - Reduce to a height of 2m https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000AYO6z Consultation deadline 02/12/2024. No comments</p> <p>PL/2024/09828 - 105 High Street, LP. SN10 4EU Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Silver Birch tree - overall prune and reduction of height. https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000ALJ1t Consultation deadline 27/11/2024. No comments</p> <p>PL/2024/10154 - The Stables, 22 White Street. SN10 4LP Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Aesculus Parrifolia (Bottlebrush Buckeye) - Fell. https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000AcocL Consultation deadline 04/12/2024 No comments</p> <p>PL/2024/10198 - The Old Post Office, 20 Church Street. SN10 4LD Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. T1 Birch- Reduce height and lateral growth by 1-2m. https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000AfpNN Consultation deadline 05/12/2024. No comments</p>	Clerk
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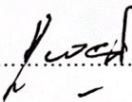
	<p>Cllr Harrison offered to draft a letter to the developer to say that the Parish Council is concerned about the delay and the potential risk of injury it is causing.</p> <p>Hedges House: The parking will be picked up in the Village Hall section of the meeting.</p>	GH
24/25/118	<p>Highways Issues and updates Wiltshire metro Cllr Sworder attended a transport meeting of a local group who want to develop the Wiltshire Metro. It will use existing railway lines. They will need completely new rolling stock, build new stations, co-ordinate three councils, (Wiltshire, Somerset, Bath). Estimated cost £46m. The South Wales version on which this could be modelled has cost £500m. It is a great idea because it does not use roads. Central Government will need to be involved. Westbury station closing for a month from 27/12/24.</p> <p>Black Dog crossroads Cllr Muns reported the surveyors have been to the site to ascertain where the traffic lights should be installed. Installation still expected to be in the Spring. SSE are due to install an electricity feed. The spur road to the north of the junction had been closed under a temporary order, which has now ended. No complaints were received so Cllr Muns has asked engineers to make this permanent. This should allow it to go back to grass.</p>	
24/25/119	<p>Receipt of Working Groups and project reports</p> <p>Risk Committee including GDPR Cllr Harrison reported: The next Risk Committee meeting on 11/12/2024 via Teams. Cllr Pattisson was invited, and kindly agreed to attend</p> <p>The Defib policy is now done. Clerk to add to website.</p> <p>Community Resilience Plan Cllr Harrison reported that, in News and Views this month, we had a one page spread on Community Resilience and he intends to telegraph that information on social media as well over the festive period. Cllr Sworder suggested an 'exhibition' at the village fete.</p> <p>Cllr West attended the resilience & flood meeting with Wiltshire Council, where he shared the village flood map with them, and they are going to look into the specific gully sites as targeted activity rather than routine clearances.</p> <p>Cllr Harrison is still pressing Johns Associates regarding the surface water issues in the village.</p> <p>Cllr Harrison is concerned as to whether the community would be aware of how to activate the Community Resilience Plan and ask for help, hence the News and Views article. He suggested that there would be some benefit in doing a tabletop exercise where we go through a couple of the scenarios to see if there would be any additional steps that can be put in place to make it easier for members of the community to understand it. This suggestion was welcomed by Councillors.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>GH</p>

	<p>West Lavington Village Hall Incl. motion to pass Aster's payment of £6,000 (in exchange for use of the car park and surrounding area under agreed terms) to the Village Hall Proposed: Cllr Laister Seconded: Cllr Oglesby All agreed Clerk will invoice Aster for £6,000. When this payment is received clerk will then set up payment to the Village Hall.</p> <p>Rights of Way. Cllr Laister reported that a stile on WLAV7 at the back on the farm is now wobbly, and rather than repair it parishioners had requested that it be replaced by a gate to make it easier for the public to get over it. Cllr Laister believes that Wiltshire Council's preference is to replace stiles and kissing gates with gates. Therefore, Cllr Laister has contacted Wiltshire Council Footpath and Rights of Way Officers to discuss.</p> <p>Playground Group Cllr Blundell thanked all those who helped him run the Remembrance Avenue Service. The new tree guards were installed a few days prior to the event. The mulch mats, large bark mulch, stem collars & guards should mean the saplings now grow on strongly, unimpeded by predation from deer or overcrowding by stinging nettles.</p> <p>Spika Spinning Pole and the Hip Hop Swing Spika Kompan Prices Total excl. VAT £931.24</p> <p>Steve Aplin prices Total £1,248</p> <p>Total for both of the above, including labour, excl. VAT £2,179.24</p> <p>Chris Kelly prices Total £810, although awaiting reply as to whether that includes the Spike Pole.</p> <p>Cllr Sworder suggested that the asset register should include a depreciation section to show the lifespan of each playground item, therefore when it needs to be replaced. Clerk to add to Corporation Plan agenda.</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed that we go ahead with the Hip Hop swing but leave the Spika Spinning Pole for now while Cllr Blundell looks for alternatives.</p> <p>Work on the pre-school steps James Swell has agreed to complete the rendering before we pay his invoice.</p> <p>George Lawrence Bench Cllr Blundell will meet the landowner on 9/12/2014 to discuss the proposed siting and permitting.</p> <p>Village Christmas Tree After discussion, Cllr Muns proposed a £500 budget for a tree from Superior Plants, to be placed at the Churchill Arms. Seconded: Cllr Gough.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>PB</p>
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24/25/120	<p>Finance matters: Budget Monitoring Information was emailed to councillors prior to meeting. Precept figures have been produced by Wiltshire Council, on which the Clerk has produced some of budget options for councillors to discuss. The Precept form must be returned to Wiltshire Council by 25/01/2025</p> <p>Cllr Oglesby provided an explanation of the derivation and implications of the Precept alternatives and indicated that a 2.4% increase would maintain income at the current level, but that given the absence of further CIL payments going forward, the Parish Council may wish to follow the lead of Wiltshire Council and adopt a 5% increase to provide the level of reserves that the auditor would likely be seeking.</p> <p>Cllr Blundell asked the clerk to check what the auditor says about how much we should have in reserve.</p> <p>Disbursements: John Skillman – expenses - Bin bags for Lenny - £20.98 John Skillman – expenses - Mobile phone top up £10.00 HMRC -Income Tax – November PAYE £111.40 John Skillman - Clerk salary November - £445.00 Village Hall inv 208 - Room hire & projector - October 2024 - £20.00 Mark Goddard inv 3028 - Grass cutting - £1,830.00 Black and White Conservation - War memorial cleaning - £175.00</p> <p>Clerk to liaise with the benefice office regarding our contribution to the memorial as the church is sharing the costs.</p> <p>Approval signatories of invoices at meetings Cllr. Oglesby proposed that all councillors should be permitted to authorise invoice payments. Seconded: Cllr Laister All agreed Clerk to amend section 6.3 of the Financial Regulations from 'one authorised bank signatory' to 'two councillors'.</p> <p>Calendar/Diary: This is now on Microsoft Outlook calendar and clerk has shared with councillors, although some councillors using Mac could not see it. Clerk will resend link to and liaise with any councillors having difficulty accessing the calendar.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

24/25/121	Grants requests – consider amounts and frequencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday Lunch Club – they have asked us to defer this to the January agenda • Memorial Bench for George – covered earlier <p>Youth Club: Mike May sent his thanks for the £3,000 and the 3-year commitment.</p>	Clerk
24/25/122	Policy reviews Chair requested that as "fresh eyes", the three new councillors review the policies, to which they kindly agreed Status on policy reviews – restart review process with. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints • Health and safety incl. Volunteering <p>Clerk to email current version to new councillors</p>	Clerk
24/25/123	Date of next parish council meeting – in the Giles Room, Village Hall. Thursday 2nd January 2024 at 7pm	

Meeting closed at 20.40

Signed..........02/01/2025