

# Longton Parish Council

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on

Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018 in **NEW LONGTON VILLAGE HALL** commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Gooch, Wignall, Artis, Fox, Welch, Garside, Riley, Mather, Alsop, Turner and Barnes

There was one member of the public present

66/18 To receive Apologies

***Cllr Coulton***

67/18 To consider and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 (enclosed)

***It was resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 should be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record***

68/18 To receive Declarations of Interest

***None***

69/18 To adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion.

*The meeting was adjourned*

*A question was asked concerning the use of the Speed Indicator Devices across the area. It was noted that this was an agenda item to be discussed later however the Clerk explained that SRBC had now decided that they were no longer using these devices in the Borough.*

*It was mentioned that the planters at the front of the shops in Longton were not being maintained. The Clerk explained that this was being investigated since a local landscape gardener had taken responsibility for maintenance and clearly this had not happened this summer.*

*It was suggested that the war memorial at St Oswald' Church needed cleaning.*

*It was confirmed that this Council were to discuss a reduction in the number of its meetings.*

*The meeting was reconvened*

70/18 To consider the list of the planning applications as set out below:

07/2018/5446/FUL – Side extension, dormer to rear and alterations to roof to provide living accommodation at first floor. Detached garage to rear following demolition of existing @ 21 Latimer Drive New Longton

07/2018/5555/ADV – Single storey extension to rear at 23 Osbert Croft Longton

07/2018/5217/HOH – Two storey side extension, dormer extension to front and rear, single storey side extension @ 19 Spinney Close New Longton

07/2017/3330/VAR – Variation of condition no 2 – the use of the property be restricted to the applicant only for use as an office – 07/2013/0879/COU @ 86 Station Road New Longton

07/2018/5785/LBC – Application for listed building consent to make several alterations to property including addition of ensuite to rear bedroom and splitting front bedroom into two @ 86 Marsh Lane Longton

07/2018/5904/HPD – Application for prior approval for single storey rear extension @ 86 Station Road New Longton

***It was resolved that no representation should be made to the above applications***

71/18 To authorise payment of the following accounts:

Direct Debit	Unity Trust Bank	Quarterly Charges	18.00
On Line	Newgate Nurseries	Bedding Plants	17.11
On Line	Preston Bus	Quarterly Contribution	12500.00
On Line	CW Berry	Materials for New Longton Rec Ground Repairs	172.52
On Line	P Heise	Lengthsman	1296.00
On Line	CW Berry	Materials for New Longton Rec Ground Repairs	65.92

***It was resolved that the payments set out above should be approved***

72/18 To receive and approve the Statement of Accounts as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 (enclosed)

***It was resolved that the Statement of Accounts as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 should be approved***

73/18 To consider and adopt the enclosed Grant Awarding Policy

***It was resolved that the Grant Awarding Policy referred to above should be adopted***

74/18 To note and consider any action now that SRBC will no longer manage (and have not done so since October last year) our jointly owned SPID device since they are no longer using these devices anywhere across their area. This Council must now consider whether to wishes to undertake the putting up and taking down of the device across this parish area which involves 12 sites and which might be undertaken by our lengthsman who will require ladder training, the possibility of the purchase of a suitable ladder/platform, the taking of the device to the Clerks home so that the device can be altered using software so as to match with the speed of the site concerned and the recharging of the device between site locations.

***It was proposed that this Council should take no action and effectively abandon the use of its SPID device.***

***A recorded vote was called – members voted as follows:***

***In favour of the motion: Cllrs Mather, Barnes, Riley, Welch, Artis, Alsop, Garside and Wignall***

***Against the motion: Cllrs Fox and Turner***

***Abstention: Cllr Gooch***

***It was therefore resolved that this Council should take no action and effectively abandon the use of its SPID device.***

75/18 To consider the regularity of meetings:

You will understand many of our meetings are of short duration. Presently we hold 11 monthly meetings per year the exception being the month of August and these are normally held on the first Tuesday of each month except January when it is not practicable to do so since the agenda would have to be dealt with over Xmas and New Year and it is then held on the second Tuesday which means that the timescale between our January and February meeting is often only 3 weeks. I have looked at the agenda for February and March and feel that these could easily be combined into one meeting. My other three Councils only meet 8 times per year (on average every 6 weeks) and they have no difficulty in transacting business. Should any business arrive that cannot wait we have the option to call an extra ordinary meeting. My other Councils who only hold 8 meetings per year have only had to do this on a very few occasions in the last 10 years. I believe that we can operate just as effectively with fewer meetings and would suggest that as a minimum the January meeting is aborted.

***It was resolved that this Council should reduce the number of its meetings to 8 per annum and that they should be evenly distributed at the existing locations in both Longton and New Longton with meetings taking place roughly every 6/7 weeks.***