



# Longstanton Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting, held at  
ONLINE via Zoom Meeting  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 7.34pm

Present: Cllr delaMare-Lyon (Chairman), Cllr Owen, Cllr McPhater, Cllr McNair, Cllr Mrs Brash-Hall (arrived at 7.38pm), Cllr Street (arrived at 8.05pm)

Clerk: Libby White, Parish Clerk  
Jon London, Northstowe Community Officer  
D Cllr Cheung Johnson (arrived 7.57pm)

In attendance: 3 members of the public

## 20-21/48 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the August online meeting of Longstanton Parish Council.

## 20-21/49 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE<sup>i</sup>

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Burns, Cllr Owens (work commitments) and Cllr Harrison (personal).

## 20-21/50 COUNCILLORS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**Declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda:** Cllr Street item 56d Wilsons Road

**Requests to Speak:** None required

**To receive requests for dispensations:** None

**Grant of dispensations:** None.

## 20-21/51 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION (10 min)

Resident noted that he was attending as he has a planning application in for a new office and was making himself available to answer any questions the council may have.

Cllr Mrs Brash-Hall arrived at 7.38pm.

## 20-21/52 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) It was **proposed** by Cllr Owen, seconded by Cllr McPhater and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 be approved and signed. The minutes had been emailed to all councillors and the Chairman signed at the time of the meeting to be delivered to the Clerk.
- b) The Clerk noted the following:
  - It was noted that Ms Stephanie Ness had resigned as Cllr meaning that there is a second casual vacancy to be filled.
  - Wasps feeding on the public open space between Bullen Close and Sheepwash Way has been highlighted to those walking past and put on social media. Hopefully will have disappeared within 2 to 3 weeks.
  - Cemetery Audit has commenced. Some remedial work of plots will be required at some time soon. The Clerk will report back as necessary.
- c) Clerk's Report - *circulated with meeting papers prior to meeting*

## 20-21/53 DEWATERING OF GRAVEL SEAM

Resident provided his thoughts about the apparent lack of some documentation within the applications for Northstowe Phase 3A and 3B. He noted that SCDC have employed the expert for the potential dewatering on behalf of the Parish Council. Has posted images of local ponds on Twitter and has been approached by companies who would support the parish to litigate if necessary. He believes SCDC should give the funding to Longstanton Parish Council to pay for the investigation directly rather than via the District Council for transparency and accountability. After some discussion, Cllrs feel that the HR Wallingford should be communicating through the PC only and the District Council should not be in contact now.

Cllr delaMare-Lyon asked if Andy Thompson (planning officer for SCDC in attendance) wanted to speak. Mr Thompson confirmed that there are two stages to determining an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

Cllr Street arrived at 8.04pm

The first is a Screening Opinion which is a request from the applicant to determine whether there are any significant, unique or complex issues which require the development to be assessed under the EIA regulations. This is the first stage of consultation (with Statutory Consultees) or alternatively you skip directly to the EIA. If it is concluded that an EIA is required then the applicant moves to the next stage which is a Scoping Opinion. The applicant can appeal to the Secretary of State the decision of the Local Planning Authority (LPA). This has occurred on Digital Park and Endurance Estates. A screening exercise is not needed if it is agreed that the proposals are EIA development.

The EIA Scoping is assessed by the LPA and statutory consultees and comments must be made within 5 weeks (unless otherwise agreed in writing with the applicant). Not all areas will be covered by an EIA, with some being outside the assessment for example, if there are no trees, trees would be scoped out. It was asked if hydrogeology was included or excluded. Mr Thompson confirmed that hydrogeology is included in the Environmental Statement under Chapter 10 with Cumulative Assessment at Chapter 17 and further assessment at Chapter 18.

It was asked if the team working with Homes England understand the concerns raised from Phase 1 and whether it has been taken into consideration in their report. Mr Thompson confirmed that they take into consideration any permission or allocation as committed development that would be impacted on as a result of the development. This could be wide ranging depending on the impact being assessed. Phase 1 and 2 are identified as committed developments. This could be as far as 20km or further in the case of some issues. The cumulative impact is considered.

Following the scoping opinion, the applicant will prepare the Environmental Statement which will also be checked legally prior to submission. It should be noted that the Government, as a result of the UK leaving the European Union, is reviewing EIA procedures and regulations.

D Cllr Cheung Johnson confirmed that she had no comments over and above what Mr Thompson had advised, and that they are aware it is included in the scope and not as set out in the letter.

It was **noted** that the issue was not going to be resolved at the meeting and not reasonable to think it could be due to the disparity between views. It was requested that the Clerk confirm the rules of engagement with HR Wallingford to confirm the points from both DF and AT and to bring to September meeting and see if there is action to be taken.

It was confirmed that there will be a further consultation on questions raised by various consultees in the planning process for Phase 3A and Phase 3B with Longstanton Parish Council having the opportunity to make further comment and would be encouraged to do so. D Cllr Cheung Johnson asked that the parish council share concerns with the D Cllrs in order that they can support the concerns at Planning Committee.

It was agreed to have a working group to look at the issue. The clerk advised that there needed to be a minimum of 3 Cllrs on any Working Group. The agreed working group would consist of Cllr McNair, Cllr Brash-Hall, Cllr Owen, and 2 residents.

**Action:** Clerk to pull the Working Group together to meet in preparation for the September meeting

## 20-21/54 NORTHSTOWE MATTERS

### a) Item brought before item 20-21/53.

Jon London noted that most activities are still not happening at Northstowe. There are currently 566 occupations across Northstowe, the Community Wing and 3G Sports Pitches remain closed and discussions are ongoing about how they may open in due course. There are no plans *not* to open the Wing. First Rampton Drift Residents meeting held with 40 members of the public watching. The videos from the last main forum are available on the website. Everyone is aware of the ASB in certain areas of Northstowe and working with BPHA, David Wilson Homes and other builders to try and resolve it. 8<sup>th</sup> Sept – 9<sup>th</sup> Sep Station Road will be closed between first traffic lights to Guided Busway.

Cllr Mrs Brash-Hall asked how housebuilders will help with ASB. Jon noted that there are some things they can do and they are keen to be involved, as it is in their interest that their areas are not

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highlighted as a problem area. Some are providing small cash grants for community items to help address ASB concerns which may include littering – therefore providing an extra bin.

Concern was also raised that the noise from the Northstowe pitches will be towards the Longstanton end and Longstanton residents will bear the brunt of it. It was agreed to invite the PCSOs to join the September meeting.

Jon London left at 7.56pm

- b) It was **noted** by the Clerk that the officer looking after the investigation into the potential dewatering of the gravel seam has been on annual leave. No update on the progress of the investigation was available. All contact details have been supplied to HR Wallingford via SCDC.

**Action:** *Waiting to hear from HR Wallingford.*

## 20-21/55 FINANCE MATTERS

- a) The Clerk noted that the Financial Reports had been sent to all Councillors with the papers for the Finance Committee meeting in July, detailing Earmarked Reserves, cash transactions within each account and other information including Trial Balance, etc. It was **noted** that the bank accounts at the end of July stands at £496,815.27. A couple of questions have been raised from External Auditor to clarify items such as the investment of Home Farm funds to Property Fund.
- b) It was **noted** that the community group who organise the annual Over 60s Christmas Lunch were considering a ‘socially distancing’ alternative to the pub meal this year. The group have approached Longstanton Parish Council to ask for a donation towards a ‘pie and peas’ dinner which would be delivered to a maximum of 60 residents on 10<sup>th</sup> December, with instructions on how to cook the meal. The cost will be £5.50 per head. The group has raised £150 towards the event (from last year’s raffle as no fundraising events have been able to take place this year). The Clerk noted that the addition of a desert would be £2.50 per head.

After a brief discussion it was **proposed** by Cllr Street, seconded by Cllr McNair and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to pay £480.00 towards the meal to allow two courses and look to use from the Covid-19 funding.

**Action:** *Clerk to contact the ladies and look into restrictions of COVID-19 funding.*

- c) The Clerk updated councillors on the ongoing issues with Opus Energy provider of the streetlight energy following responsibility being passed from Cambridgeshire County Council in 2019. It was **noted** that no invoicing had been received since the contract was taken out (Oct 19) and the communication with Opus had been lacking. Due to the complaint raised by the Clerk, the company was offering a £100 discount. It was **proposed** by Cllr McNair, seconded by Cllr McPhater and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to accept the discount and look for an alternative provider and to agree the best supplier via email due to the time scales before renewal of contract.

**Action:** *The Clerk to liaise with Opus and look for new contract details.*

## 20-21/56 PLANNING MATTERS

### **Planning Matters for comment**

- a) S/3215/19/DC – AMENDED Discharge of Conditions 4 (Foul Water Drainage) and 5 (Surface Water Drainage) of planning permission S/2937/16/FL at The Retreat, Fewes Lane, Longstanton  
It was **proposed** by Cllr Owen, seconded by Cllr McPhater and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that the planning application continues to be recommended for parish Council **OBJECTION** to this application as it continues to propose discharge the surface water drainage directly into the village watercourse which is in contravention of policies CC8 and CC9 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018.  
**Action:** *Clerk to pass comments to SCDC.*
- b) 20/2526/HFUL – construction of log cabin, garage and storage area structure at Gresley House, Station Road, Longstanton  
It was **proposed** by Cllr Owen, seconded by Cllr Street and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that the planning application be recommended for parish Council **SUPPORT**  
**Action:** *Clerk to pass comments to SCDC.*

- c) [20/02970/FUL](#) – Erection of detached part single, part two storey flat roofed building for use as an office/studio with associated parking and landscaping at Green End Farm, Over Road, Longstanton  
It was **proposed** by Cllr Street, seconded by Cllr Mrs Brash-Hall and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that the planning application be recommended for parish Council SUPPORT  
**Action:** Clerk to pass comments to SCDC.
- d) The application [20/02966/SCRE](#) – EIA – Screening opinion for a proposed solar farm at Wilsons Road, Longstanton was **noted**.
- e) [20/02771/HFUL](#) – Single Storey rear extension and garage conversion at 25 Mills Lane, Longstanton  
It was **proposed** by Cllr Owen, seconded by Cllr delaMare-Lyon and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that the planning application be recommended for parish Council SUPPORT.  
**Action:** Clerk to pass comments to SCDC.
- f) [20/02819/S73](#) – Variation of Condition 2 (plans) of planning permission S/2930/18/FL at 3 Haddows Close, Longstanton  
It was **proposed** by Cllr delaMare-Lyon, seconded by Cllr Owen and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that the planning application be recommended for parish Council No Comment.  
**Action:** Clerk to pass comments to SCDC.  
**Northstowe Planning Matters for comment**
- g) [S/3164/15/NMA](#) – Non-material amendment of planning permission S/3164/15/RM at Northstowe Phase 1  
It was **proposed** by Cllr Street, seconded by Cllr McPhater and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that the planning application be recommended for parish Council OBJECTON and would like to understand why the water feature been removed from the plans a) only put through at this late date and b) after the square has been constructed and it is presumed the relevant pipework included already.  
**Action:** Clerk to pass comments to SCDC.
- h) The application [S/0045/19/COND6](#) Condition 6 - Artificial Lighting Scheme at Parcel H10, Northstowe Phase 1 was **noted**.
- i) The application [S/0045/19/COND11](#) Condition 11 - Street Lighting at parcel H10, Northstowe Phase 1 was **noted**.
- j) The application [S/0045/19/COND17](#) Condition 17 - Light Spill at Parcel H10, Northstowe Phase 1 was **noted**.
- Planning Matters for Information Only**
- k) [20/02763/FUL](#) – Relocation of refurbished BT K6 Phone Box to the Village Green (from Magdalene Close) as 'Longstanton Spice Museum' at Longstanton Village Green, off Nelson Crescent, Longstanton

#### 20-21/57 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

It was **noted** that the County Councillor's report had been circulated within the meeting papers. Due to Cllr Hudson's absence any questions would be emailed for clarification.

#### 20-21/58 DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

Item was brought before 20-21/55.

D Cllrs have objected to Northstowe Phase 3A following the objection from Oakington & Westwick. The plans to change the planning laws mean allowing developers to do more without consultation and with permission under permitted development. Possible eradication of S106. D Cllrs strongly suggest the PC should write to MP and present the views of the PC. Cllr Owen observed that the new legislation takes away the possibility for those closest to potential harmful development to comment which makes it worse.

It was confirmed that the offender of the fly tipping from outside cemetery has been issued a fixed penalty of £400. Not paid yet, but SCDC will look to prosecute if necessary.

#### 20-21/59 COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

- a) It was **noted** that the Clerk had included one of her assignments 'Should Longstanton Parish Council Declare a Climate Emergency', within the meeting papers for this item. After some discussion, it

was **proposed** by Cllr McNair, seconded by Cllr delaMare-Lyon and **RESOLVED** to declare a Climate Emergency and to encourage the village to get more involved in activities in the village.

**CARRIED**  
**2 abstentions**

**Action:** include Cllr McNair on the Sustainability Working Group

## 20-21/60 COMMUNITY MATTERS

- a) It was **noted** by the Clerk that current Government Guidelines on outdoor events were. All Saints Church are considering how they hold their church service for Remembrance Sunday this year, as current legislation only allows 30 in the church at any time.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Mrs Brash-Hall, seconded by Cllr McPhater and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that it be proposed to the Church that the Remembrance Sunday event be moved to the Recreation Ground to allow as many people as possible to take part.

**Action:** Clerk to liaise with Rev Gill.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Mrs Brash-Hall, seconded by Cllr McPhater and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that a different type of event, perhaps a float to be driven around the village, be looked at for Christmas due to the ongoing limitations with social distancing.

**Action:**

- b) Following approaches by LDHS to consider various bodies working together for the benefit of local heritage, it was **proposed** by Cllr delaMare-Lyon, seconded by Cllr McNair and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to ask LDHS to send in a presentation (supplied a week in advance) about what help would be needed of Longstanton Parish Council and allow a 10min question and answer session at the September meeting.

**Action:** Clerk to liaise with Hilary.

- c) Following a brief discussion about the Christmas Tree, a resident attending the meeting offered to find the largest Christmas tree he could get, to plant on the Village Green. He will come back to the Clerk the next working day. It was **proposed** by Cllr delaMare-Lyon, seconded by Cllr Mrs Brash-Hall and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that look for see what size plantable Christmas Tree the resident can get for the Village Green, plant the one ordered and held by Brookside on Northstowe Green if permission is given by L&Q and to get the two Christmas trees from Elveden. It was **noted** that Brookfield Groundcare have offered to purchase the Christmas Tree for Longstanton for 2020.

**Action:** Clerk to liaise with all parties.

- d) It was **noted** that the Sustainability Working Group were almost at a stage where the accreditation for 'Plastic Free' could be applied for but the Parish Council needed to provide a more detailed commitment on plastic free to enable the registration to take place. It was **proposed** by Cllr Street, seconded by Cllr McNair, and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that:

- Longstanton Parish Council agrees to put a member on the strategic group
- Longstanton Parish Council agrees to support all Plastic Free Communities initiatives in the area
- Longstanton Parish Council pledges to act by example and remove single use plastic items from its premises

**Action:** Clerk to liaise with residents working towards this initiative.

- e) The Clerk noted that Cambridge Water are providing a Pebble Fund to help improve biodiversity for community projects to create, restore or improve habitats. It was agreed to find more information and the parameters for Kingfisher Pond and attenuation ponds. Potential to consider the pond on Ladywalk as there is dispute about the ownership.

**Action:** Clerk to find further information

## 20-21/61 HIGHWAY AND FOOTPATH MATTERS

- a) It was **noted** that the Clerk has been informed that Vine Technical Services are no longer working on the behalf of the developers and to get information the Clerk is approaching the developers themselves to find out the current situation with the adoption of Home Farm Phase 2 roads (which has to be completed before Phase 3 can be considered) and the Central Open Space. There was no further news this month.

**Action:** Clerk to continue to follow up with all parties.

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- b) Cllr Owen had requested the safety of Station Road (B1050) at Northstowe be considered following a lot near misses with traffic either speeding or jumping the lights. Though the speed limit is 30mph from Longstanton to the Guided Busway a lot of the traffic does not behave like it is 30mph. It was noted that the B1050 at this point has the feel of a main road but in an urban development. It is also the direct route to walk to school. Data from Cambridgeshire County Council showed that 1 in 5 are going over busway junction at over 45mph into a 30mph zone as they come from Willingham towards Longstanton. It was also noted that Speedwatch are unable to work in area due to street furniture, junctions, traffic lights.

After some discussion it was **proposed** by Cllr Owen, seconded by Cllr delaMare-Lyon and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to approach C Cllr Hudson to ask for a red surface and 30 in circle to reinforce the 30mph due to the lack of highway safety.

**Action:** Clerk to liaise with C Cllr Hudson

**20-21/62 POLICE MATTERS**

The Clerk noted that there was no news from the PCSO due to annual leave. It was **noted** that there have been some break ins to homes where they have taken keys and stolen cars.

**20-21/63 COMMITTEE MATTERS**

The draft minutes for the July Finance Committee were circulated to Council members prior to the meeting.

**20-21/64 MOTION TO EXCLUDE**

It was **proposed** by Cllr Owen, seconded by Cllr McPhater and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that the public (including any members of the press) be excluded during consideration of the following item 65 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The meeting closed at 10:30pm.

**20-21/65 EMPLOYMENT MATTERS**

During the exclusion it was agreed that a risk assessment of the office would be carried out to ensure it is safe for the Clerk to return to the office due to ongoing COVID-19 concerns.

It was also agreed that Cllr Mrs Brash-Hall and Cllr Owen would carry out the performance review of the clerk.

**20-21/66 MOTION TO RE-ADMIT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

To resolve that the confidential business having been concluded, the press and public be readmitted to the meeting.

Meeting re-opened at 10.47pm

**20-21/67 CORRESPONDENCE (for information only)**

It was **noted** that various NALC, CAPALC and SCDC newsletters have been forwarded to Cllrs during July.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Meeting closed at 10.48pm.

Signed: .....

Chairman

Date: .....

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<sup>i</sup> LGA 1972, s.85