

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

**04/04/2024 at 1900
GILES ROOM, VILLAGE HALL, SANDFIELD,
WEST LAVINGTON**



Serving the communities of
West Lavington and
Littleton Panell

MINUTES

Present:	Councillors: Mr P. West (Chair), Mrs J Ford, Mr R Oglesby, Mr R Scott, Mr P Blundell, Ms L. Gough, Mr S. Laister, Mr G. Harrison, Mr D Muns (from 7.12pm), Mr R Gamble.	
Also present	Mr J Skillman (clerk) and 5 members of the public.	
24/25/001	Apologies for absence None	
24/25/002	Declaration of interests Cllrs Laister & West regarding Duck Street Cllr Scott regarding sewerage, planning PL/2024/02051 and Village Hall Cllr West regarding Street Scene	
24/25/003	The minutes of the parish council meeting held 07.03.2023 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. Cllr West commented on Aster request for publicity. Aster has postponed their Hedges House publicity photographs, but they didn't think that they would be able to resurface the Village Hall car park. Therefore, the parish council would carefully consider any request for publicity. Cllr Gamble mentioned that SID poles ref 23/24/136 should read Southern end, not Eastern end.	
24/25/004	Chair's announcements Cllr West reported: Parish Council was approached by the group that run the Craft Fair at the Village Hall, who asked if they could put up some advertising signs two days before the fetes if they took them down the day afterwards it was agreed by the Chair as it would help publicise Village Hall events a little more. Clerk has replied to them. Cllr West wrote to Hayfield and Highways about the installation of the pedestrian crossing at bottom of Hayfield and its timing. They had planned to do this over the Easter holidays, then some road surfacing later in May. However, they are unable to install the crossing in April because the specs of the lights have changed so they need to be checked by consultants from Hayfield and Wiltshire Council. Cllr West then wrote back to ask for the delay to be until the summer half term break (27 - 31 May) Flooding on 28 March damaged two properties. One at 7 Duck Street and another near Gore Cross. Cllr West has informed the Gore Cross residents that the parish	

	<p>council would assist them as much as possible with the planning process to rebuild their home.</p> <p>Annual parish meeting will be on Thursday 16 May at 6pm in the Village Hall. Cllr West would like to invite some groups to speak a little more in detail, particularly the Youth Club and Street Scene.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>PW</p>
24/25/005	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Three representatives from Streetscene joined the meeting to thank the parish council for previous donations, discuss activities that they have been undertaking (such as relocating and replacing planters) and to request further funding.</p> <p>Proposal of further funding of £1,000. Proposed: Cllr Oglesby Seconded: Cllr Ford. All agreed, except Cllr West who abstained due to a conflict of interest.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
24/25/006	<p>Wiltshire Councillor's Report</p> <p>Cllr Muns reported:</p> <p>Highways: There is a new cabinet member for Highways and Cllr Muns has briefed him on Black Dog crossroads. Cllr. Muns felt it was a positive step and would work with the new Highways portfolio holder to improve the junction.</p> <p>Lavington School have had a bid in for a sixth form, which has been approved by the Department for Education, so as of 2025 this should be in place.</p> <p>Air quality action plan has just been passed through cabinet. With the A360 going right through the village, the topography, and the way that West Lavington is a linear village, this can trap fumes so air quality can be an issue. The air quality issue could be a potential driver for redirecting HGVs away from the village.</p> <p>Cllr Muns reiterated the strength of Wiltshire Council's finances.</p> <p>Cllr West added that he and Cllr Ford had written to the Inspector of Traffic for Wiltshire Police regarding Black Dog crossroads and to ask if it was in the police's opinion that a speed reduction at Black Dog would be helpful. His reply was that the data regarding fatal and serious injury collisions does not support a current reduction in speed.</p> <p>Cllr Muns said that he was told that Black Dog specifically would be part of a speed limit review for the county. However, Wiltshire Police are not supportive, which is leading Highways to the same conclusion. This remains an area of focus.</p>	
24/25/007	<p>Finance</p> <p>Budget Monitoring</p> <p>Clerk reported: Information was emailed to councillors prior to meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Ford asked if there was an update from Hayfield regarding the next tranche of CIL money. Clerk replied that no update has been received so he will chase and will also complete a CIL return form.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

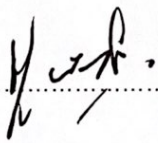
	<p>Councillors commented on the playgrounds budget overspend and that the budget figure for playgrounds should be increased. Clerk replied that this would mean that other budget areas would therefore need to be reduced. Cllr West asked Cllr Blundell to give the Parish Council an idea of upcoming playground costs.</p> <p>Cllr West queried the Hills invoice. This related to the Village Hall recycling bins.</p> <p>£31,328.62 of the £34,333.00 precept has been used. First half of this year's precept is due on or before 21/4/2024. The second half is due 30/09/2024.</p> <p>Information and banking signatory arrangements update. Cllr West now a signatory.</p> <p>Annual audits (internal and external) Clerk reported that we had been approached by Auditing Solutions (for internal audit) and PKF Littlejohn (for external audit), both of which worked well last year so suggested that the process be repeated this year.</p> <p>Disbursements Batt Broadbent - Legal cost re: assignment of lease - £1,270.20 Village Hall - Room hire - £18.75. Village Hall - CCTV/Defib/electrics - £380.00 John Skillman - Clerk expenses - Mobile phone top up - £10.00 John Skillman - Clerk expenses - Bin bags for Lenny - £20.98 John Skillman - Clerk salary £561.96 Mark Goddard - Bollard installation £972.00 (when installed)</p> <p>Grants Streetscene as in 005.</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
24/25/008	<p>Receipt of Working Groups and project reports</p> <p>Communication strategy – progress update. Cllr West reported: Communication update, incl. staging website to update our website. This is ongoing.</p> <p>Risk Committee Risk Committee including GDPR – councillors' annual confirmation. Clerk to check which councillors' returns are outstanding.</p> <p>Cllr Harrison has sent out a revised risk policy, with a risk meeting to follow in the summer.</p> <p>Community Resilience Plan Cllr West commented that the only issue to report is the amount of water that went through the village on 28/3/2024, which highlights the need for a flood warden and community action regarding flooding.</p> <p>West Lavington Village Hall Cllr Gough reported that their AGM took place last night. They have a new energy provider and a new broadband provider. The new chairs were welcomed by everybody.</p>	<p>PW</p> <p>Clerk</p>

<p>Rights of Way (RoW). Cllr Laister reported that he had a conversation with Wiltshire Council's Countryside Access Officer, who replied that they are not supportive of woodchips to rectify muddy footpaths, as we would be committed to topping it up. However, Wiltshire Council does make tarmac scapings available, although this may change a footpath into a farm track. Also, they may not be pushchair friendly.</p> <p>Cllr Muns added there could be a few strategic routes within the village that could better connect people, and such a project would be suitable for Wiltshire Council's Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group. If the Parish Council informs this group of our strategic routes plan, we could ask them for some funding to come up with a good solution. Our requirement would then move away from woodchip and scalping, towards a better solution.</p> <p>Cllr Laister commented that the Conservation Contractors' footpath clearing machinery looked useful.</p> <p>Playgrounds Group Cllr Blundell reported:</p> <p>The deer signs are now in place and can be seen at night.</p> <p>Mark Goddard is now in sole charge of the upkeep and appearance of the Remembrance Avenue. Cllr Blundell thanked Dale Gleed, who had previously looked after it.</p> <p>Bollards are due to be installed by Mark Goddard at the end of April, at which time the clerk will pay the invoice.</p> <p>PreSchool flooding: The Head of the Pre-School has had a trench dug to take away the water from the Westerly wall of the building.</p> <p>Lavington Lane flooding: The sumps that drain surface water into Semington Brook are being blocked by debris. This is an installation issue and is due to be rectified by Hayfields.</p> <p>Cllr West commented that there are two blocked gullies on the other side of the road where the water gathers. This has been reported on MyWilts</p> <p>Playground Equipment: Cllr Blundell reported that the safety matting under the Hip Hop Swing is worn almost through and needs replacing. The two seats for the seesaw swing are very rough and it seems as though the seating has been ripped off. The base rubber of the Spinning Pole has been damaged, which appears to be a fault with the ball bearings.</p> <p>It was reported to the Parish Council that broken glass and litter had been left on the concrete on Saturday night/Sunday morning. Cllr Ford thanked the reporter for clearing it up. CCTV to be reviewed by Cllr. Muns</p> <p>Cllr Blundell reported that he had been contacted by someone volunteering to help with the playground inspections. He will contact the potential volunteer again to discuss this. However, Cllr Blundell was concerned in general about the safeguarding of minors. Cllr West agreed that the Parish Council should have a safeguarding policy regarding people working in areas where there are children, e.g. playground inspections and litter picks.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>DM</p>
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	<p>Cllr Blundell added that there are four levels of DBS check, and he would contact DBS.</p> <p>Clerk will contact WALC to see if there are templates that we could use for such a safeguarding policy.</p> <p>Cllr Harrison will add this to the risk register in the interim.</p> <p>Speedwatch and Speed Indicator Devices installation discussion, traffic signs, costings. Cllr Gough is awaiting a traffic survey. Cllr West emailed the police and traffic department, and a response is due after 14 days. Cllr Gough added there was positive action with the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs), i.e. there will definitely be one at the Rickbarton end of the village, and possible the other on the land outside 119 High Street, Littleton Panell, that Cllr Gough can monitor.</p> <p>Cllr West suggest asking Insp. Ayers for traffic speed limit enforcement.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plan (NHP) Review Group This is in abeyance because Cllr Gamble is not available to continue with the NHP, and because the life of the plan has increased from two years to five years. As we are still within that five-year period there is no great urgency currently. There are changes within the team at Wiltshire Council, and the Local Plan is progressing.</p> <p>Storage for Parish Council Cllr West reported that some materials that need to be stored are not appropriate to store in the Village Hall, e.g. salt for roads, flood signs, gel sacks.</p> <p>Parish Council received an enquiry from the fete organisers requesting storage space for their marquee/tents. If Parish Council buys a shed, this and the other materials could be stored in the Home Farm site, which would have better security than the Village Hall. Also, emergency people, Flood Wardens and Parish Councillors could access it via a combination padlock. Cllr West will investigate the size of the marquee/tents, and therefore the required shed size, and costings.</p> <p>Cllr Harrison questioned whether some of the salt and signs should be stored around the village. Cllr West replied that there are two flood signs in Dauntsey Court Car Park, one flood sign at a resident's house. Cllr West has asked residents via Facebook whether they would like some salt, but he has received no replies.</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>GH</p> <p>PW</p> <p>PW</p>
24/25/009	<p>Highways issues and update</p> <p>A360 CCTV Surveying and resurfacing, kerb realignment and line painting. Resurfacing has completed.</p> <p>Yellow lines have been painted in Sandfield. Cllr West questioned when the next set of lines will be painted.</p> <p>Other road closures in the parish Between Tilshead and Gore Cross for resurfacing.</p>	

	<p>Parish Steward visits and jobs request for next visit, incl. tidy up jobs relating to the above resurfacing. Cllr Ford reported that the steward has been unable to visit due to being called away on other jobs, so the next visit is rescheduled for 24/25 April. Hiring a subcontractor was discussed and Cllr West suggested that this may be further discussed at the Corporate Planning meeting due to the potential costs involved.</p> <p>Sewerage (overload/raw sewage into Semington Brook) Cllr Scott reported that the flooded area was three feet deep.</p>	PW
24/25/010	<p>Planning - to receive those decisions notified, and to consider: Planning applications received. PL/2024/02051 - A Becketts, 29 High Street, LP, SN10 4EN Lawful development Certificate for an Existing Use: Existing use. Continued occupation in excess of 10 years in breach of occupancy condition of 73/SX/76/58. Please see supporting statement and enclosed evidence. https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ3000004Nlpx Consultation deadline 04/04/2024. extension requested. New deadline is 09/04/2024.</p> <p>Voting: Object 6, Abstain 2, Support 2. Cllr West will prepare objection wording to councillors to check then clerk to send to Planning.</p> <p>Planning decisions confirmed. PL/2024/01602 - Field off Strawberry Hill, SN10 4LP Prior Notification - Building: Grain Store Decision Date: 05-03-2024 Decision: Prior Approval Not Required https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ30000044ZPt</p> <p>This could not be found on the Planning website. Cllr Muns will discuss with Planning tomorrow. Cllr. West will make enquiries with the farm manager.</p>	PW/Clerk
24/25/011	<p>Planning monitoring Hedgerow replanting on A360 at Railway Bridge: Ongoing. To be kept on the agenda for next month.</p> <p>PL/2024/00626 - West Lavington Station Yard, High Street, LP. SN10 4EU Extension of storage area at existing scrapyard (for the storage of scrap vehicles) and creation of new landscaped bund. Decision date 28/03/2024. To be kept on the agenda for next month.</p>	DM/PW Clerk Clerk
24/25/012	<p>Policy reviews Update on last month's policy reviews: 1/Remote meetings: Now deleted. 2/ Equality: Now amended by Clerk. This month: 1/ Grants. 2/ CCTV privacy.</p>	All
24/25/013	<p>Date of next parish council meeting – in the Giles Room, Village Hall. Thursday 09 May 2024 at 1900 (not 2nd May, due to elections)</p>	

Meeting closed at 22.05.

Signed..........09/05/2024.