

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

**06/03/2025 at 1900
GILES ROOM, VILLAGE HALL, SANDFIELD.**



Serving the communities of
West Lavington and
Littleton Panell

MINUTES

Present:	Councillors: Mr P. West (Chair), Mr P Blundell, Mr R Scott, Mr R Oglesby, Mr D Muns, Ms L. Gough (from 19:12), Mr S. Laister, Mr G Harrison, Mr S Pattisson, Mr A Koval-Radley, Mr M Sworder.	
Also present	Mr J Skillman (clerk) and 6 members of the public	
24/25/161	Apologies for absence None	
24/25/162	Declaration of interests Cllr Scott – Sewerage, Planning Cllr Oglesby 1 High Street, Littleton Panell Cllrs West & Laister - Duck Street verges	
24/25/163	The minutes of the parish council meeting held 06.02.2025 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.	
24/25/164	<p>Chair's announcements</p> <p>Cllr West reported that Cllr Blundell had retrieved the documents that we had in the bank storage at Lloyds, which turned out to be the original copies of the 1947 lease of the land at the Village Hall, the 1963 lease, the 2009 original amendment to the lease. Cllr Oglesby to enquire regarding storing them in the county archives.</p> <p>We are unable to reclaim the VAT for the Village Hall legal costs because the Village Hall had requested the service, not the Parish Council.</p> <p>Cllr West had a Teams meeting with Highways regarding flood risk. (see flood section below)</p> <p>Nomination papers for those wishing to stand as a Parish Councillor in the May elections have to be submitted between 10am and 4pm from 12/03/2025 to 02/04/2025. Clerk to deliver forms to County Hall.</p> <p>Royal Artillery Hunt made entry into the Memorial Avenue up on The Plain. Cllr West believes this to be accidental as a gate was missing and he will write to them on 04/03/2025. Cllr Blundell is investigating a replacement gate.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PW/PB</p>

24/25/168	<p>Planning decisions confirmed</p> <p>PL/2024/11129 - A'Beckett's Farmhouse, High Street, LP SN10 4EN Removal or Variation of a Condition. Removal of Condition 1 relating to agricultural occupancy on application 73/SX/76/58 Decision Date: 30-01-2025 Decision: Approve https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000BAslZ</p> <p>PL/2024/01685 - Hedges House, Mill Lane, SN10 4HS. (Aster). Variation of condition 2 of PL/2021/11543 (approved plans) approved under appeal ref APP/Y3940/W/22/3311815 for the demolition of the existing buildings and construction of 19 affordable homes together with associated parking, access and landscaping to allow for updated drainage details; changes to hard landscaping details; and the installation of photovoltaic solar panels to the roofs of dwellings comprising plots 1-13. Decision: Approve with Conditions https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ30000048Wv5</p>	
24/25/169	<p>Planning monitoring updates</p> <p><i>Lavington Lane crossing and drainage:</i> Cllr Muns reported that is soon to be done. Wiltshire officers are working with the contractor to allocate suitable dates</p> <p><i>Hedges House:</i> Cllr West reported that parking is working in the Village Hall. Aster had contacted Cllr West because they had found some old photographs of the village dating from the 1930s, and would we like them? Cllr West said that we would.</p> <p><i>Hayfield:</i> Cllr Pattisson reported that this was progressing.</p>	
24/25/170	<p>Highways Issues and updates</p> <p><i>Sewerage (overload/raw sewage into Semington Brook)</i> Cllr Scott reported lining going down in places. Also, cameras are being put down.</p> <p><i>Black Dog crossroads</i> Cllr Muns covered this in Wiltshire Councillor's report above.</p> <p><i>Road Traffic Collision (RTC) and highway damage in Littleton Panell</i> Cllr West reported a severed Road Traffic Collision in LP, which damaged the highway quite significantly. He has written to Northern Highways, whose response was that they have opened a 'My Wilts' case for us and given us a number. Cllr West added that this further highlights the need for another Community Speedwatch site in LP and he will write to the new Inspector for Devizes and Marlborough.</p> <p><i>Damage to the highway on Stibb Hill and HGV access</i> Cllr West reported that a large articulated tanker drove along Duck Street, and up Stibb Hill before realising it was a dead end and reversing all the way back, taking much earth from the verges.</p>	PW

24/25/171	<p>Receipt of Working Groups and project reports Communication update, incl. staging website to update our website. Cllr Harrison emailed the link to draft new website and invited comments from councillors. Specific decisions are required for the meet the councillors page, the finance documents on the Finance page and the minutes on the Parish Council Meeting page. It was agreed to keep a rolling 12 month's records on the website before archiving.</p> <p>Risk committee Cllr Harrison reported no updates.</p> <p>Community resilience plan Cllr Harrison received pack from Environment Agency and should have the Product 4 or two other hydrology consultant quotes and their merits next month. Market Lavington would be interested in these outcomes so perhaps a two for one deal could be arranged to share the costs.</p> <p>Cllr West had a call with Head of Highways and Area Highways Manager North regarding drainage, who were very helpful. They have some explicit advice on how to get some of our 'My Wilts' 'drains are blocked' notifications noticed, and particularly if we felt that water was being driven to a flooded area.</p> <p>Duck Street gullies have been jetted outside No.7 (on 24/12/2024) and they were all done again on 5/3/2025. At 109 High Street they jetted everything but found that there wasn't a significant blockage of the pipework behind the drains. They recommended that the homeowner investigate purchasing a short gate/flood door.</p> <p>Cllr West reported that the highways officers recommended that he contact the clerk at Melksham, who are very active on flood management.</p> <p>Cllr West reported that we had contacted the CIL department to say that we are going to take on, as part of infrastructure development, some flood defence and construction in the parish, including preparatory works such as a survey. The Col department confirmed that works of this nature would be covered by CIL criteria, and this is an acceptable use of CIL funds.</p> <p>West Lavington Village Hall Cllr Gough reported that the area board agreed to a grant. Positive reviews have been received about the heating and the chairs. CIO is almost complete.</p> <p>Rights of Way Cllr Laister discussed WLAV 1 (the cinder track south of railway bridge in a NE direction towards Market Lavington) and whether anyone would volunteer to help clear it on 22/03/2025 from 10am.</p> <p>Playgrounds Group Cllr West reported that we have received a request from a Sandfield resident who wants to put a garden gate from his garden into the recreation ground. Cllr West will reply.</p> <p>Playground equipment Cllr Blundell reported that the Youth Club discussion was delayed so he spoke with the year 8+ group (13yrs old & above). They all looked at the two images of the Proludic & the Idverde frames. They discussed the relative merits of each and then had a secret ballot to decide which frame they would prefer. Unsurprisingly,</p>	<p>PW</p> <p>PW</p>
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	<p>they opted for the more complex Proludic – Ixo Frame. This was priced at £16,360.61 in 2023 with all the delivery, installation & safety surface included.</p> <p>Cllr Blundell explained to the group that there was no guarantee that we could buy either bit of kit because we had to find an external source of funding.</p> <p>Cllr Blundell will send the Cllr Harrison the details so that he can get a quote for the seniors.</p> <p>Cllr Muns commented that Community Groups can be set up. This allows parish councils to contribute into them and for that group to then go to Wiltshire Council for funding.</p> <p>Cllr Blundell will get the required quotes, and Cllrs will encourage the setting up of Community Groups.</p> <p><i>Spika Spinning Pole & the Hip Hop Swing</i> Cllr Blundell has heard nothing further from Hayfield on the suggestion that they might like to pay for a new item of playground equipment.</p> <p><i>Bin Man Lenn</i> Lenn reported to Cllr Blundell that he had observed a dog owner from the Estate putting a very large polythene bag full of poo into our bin. This accords with Cllr Blundell's observation of the content of the bins six weeks ago.</p> <p>All agreed to increase monthly pay (bank standing order) to £100 if we increase the bin emptying to twice a month.</p> <p><i>Dog Poo liners & Main Bin Liner</i> The old rubbish bin has been removed and replaced. The shiny new liner, complete with handles, is now in place by the village hall. The dog poo bin liners are now in place as well.</p> <p><i>Benches</i> Betty's daughters do not want to replace their mother's bench. Betty's friends are happy to purchase a new bench in her memory. Cllr Blundell has asked the daughters whether they want their mother's plaque to be added to their grandmother's bench once it is in situ and he awaits their reply.</p> <p>George Matthew's mother is very happy with the position of his bench near the existing Council bench up at the top of Strawberry Hill. However, the landowner said "The bench looks fine. Before going ahead with anything and just to be completely sure of the position, would you mind sending me a photograph of where we looked and where you are thinking of placing it." Cllr Blundell has done this and awaits a reply</p> <p>Cllr Muns added that the benches would not be on our asset register and therefore not insured by us, and we would not be responsible of any future maintenance.</p> <p><i>Speed watch and Speed Indicator Devices installation.</i> Cllr Gough still awaiting SID poles. Speedwatch team had their first outing last week, and will be out again on Sunday 9/3/2025</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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