

# Long Bredy & Kingston Russell Parish Council

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on

Thursday 1 June 2023 at 7pm

Village Hall, Long Bredy

Present: Councillors Charlotte Kinghorn, David Peretz, Tess Silkstone and Ruth Cullingford.

2023/024 Election of Chairman – 2023/24

Councillor C Kinghorn was proposed and seconded and further to a unanimous vote in favour of the proposal, Councillor Kinghorn accepted position.

**Resolved that** Councillor C Kinghorn be elected Chairman for the year 2023/24

2023/002 Election of Vice-Chairman – 2023/24

Councillor G Maltby was proposed and seconded and further to unanimous vote in favour of the proposal, Councillor Kinghorn relayed Councillor Maltby's acceptance in his absence following his assurances to her that he would be happy to stand as Vice Chairman for another year, if proposed.

**Resolved that** Councillor G Maltby be elected Vice Chairman for the year 2023/24

2023/003 Election of DAPTC Representative – 2023/24

Councillor D Peretz was proposed and seconded and further to a unanimous vote in favour of the proposal, Councillor Peretz accepted.

**Resolved that** Councillor D Peretz be elected DAPTC representative for the year 2023/24

2023/004 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor G Maltby

**Resolved that** the apology be accepted.

2023/005 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

2023/006 Public Participation time

There were four members of the public present, including Dorset Councillor M Roberts.

2023/007 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council, held on 27 March 2023, were presented by the Chairman.

**Resolved that** the minutes be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

2023/008 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising that were not already covered by the Agenda.

2023/009 Dorset Ward Councillor's Update

Councillor Robert's updated the Parish Council that the Farm's Liaison Panel would be meeting shortly. He also made the Council aware that he had been promoted to lead member for Children's Services.

2023/010 Annual Village Meeting

Councillor Kinghorn thanked Councillors for the attendance at the Annual Village Meeting. There was agreement that it had been a good turnout and a worthwhile meeting.

2023/011 Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

**Resolved that** the Annual Governance Statement be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

2023/012 Accounting Statement 2022/23

**Resolved that** the Accounting Statement be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

2023/013 Certificate of Exemption

**Resolved that** the Parish Council had met the criteria of being exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, whereby neither the council's gross income or expenditure exceeded £25,000 in 2022/23.

2023/014 Period of the Exercise of Rights

**Resolved that** the period for the exercise of public rights for inspection of the financial accounts would commence on 5 June and end on 14 July.

2023/015 Appointment of the Internal Auditor for 2023/24

The appointment of an internal Auditor for 2023/24 was considered.

**Resolved that** Andrew Bailey be approached and if in agreement, be appointed as the internal Auditor for 2023/24

2023/016 Finance

Payments to the following were considered for payment.

Clerk's salary (April – May inc) including home working allowance = £608.50

HMRC = 139.00

Printing = £2.99 (April), £2.99 (May)

Insurance = £431.62

DAPTC Membership = £92.24

Play Inspection Company = £102.60

A Kinghorn – Fuel = £9.04

A Harrison – Fuel = £18.68

**Resolved that** the payments be approved and the cheques duly authorised.

2023/017 Highways

Residents had raised concerns regarding the Hemlock Water Dropwort that had appeared in the verges due to its poisonous nature.

**Resolved that** further to discussions with Giles Nicholson, Service Manager for Coast and Greenspace), plants such as the Hemlock Water Dropwort co-exist with numerous other potentially poisonous plants and it extremely difficult to completely eradicate.

2023/018 Ford Farm

It had come to light that Chris Loder MP had been in discussion with Litton Cheney and it had been agreed that a meeting be held, to discuss the traffic situation with Ford Farm, Dorset Council Highways, Councillor Mark Roberts and the local parish council's attending. It transpired that Long Bredy & Kingston Russell Parish Council had been left off the original invitation but as the original meeting was postponed, there was an opportunity to rectify this.

The meeting was rescheduled for 7 July and Long Bredy and Kingston Russell Parish Council would be represented by Councillor Kinghorn and Cullingford.

2023/019 The Rookery

Further to No 5 The Rookery being vacated by the tenant, The Chairman had again taken the opportunity to write to Stonewater Housing Association and to the Housing Department at Dorset Council. Various documents had been sent including the title register and deeds, along with proof of the S106 status.

Councillor Kinghorn confirmed that she would be escalating the problem whereby this property had not, in the past, been advertised correctly ie. that someone with a local connection should supersede all other restrictions.

**Resolved that** the situation would be closely monitored and escalated to highest level if a satisfactory response was not forthcoming from Dorset Council and Stonewater Housing Association.

2023/020 Playing Field

**Resolved that** Councillors would meet on 14 June at 10am on the Playing Field to discuss the latest Playground Inspection Report.

2023/021 Laptop

The Clerk's laptop had become unusable in its current state and repair/replacement was considered.

**Resolved that** the laptop be considered for repair, but if this proved to not be a workable solution then a new laptop up to the cost of £700 would be approved.

2023/022 Councillor Vacancies

The Chairman informed the Council of three candidates that, further to their expression of interest in becoming a Councillor, had been invited to the Parish Council Meeting to introduce themselves.

Further to the three introductions, it was necessary to hold a vote in order to establish the preferred candidate for the two available vacancies.

**Resolved that** Steven Evans and Kate Harries be co-opted onto the Parish Council and sign the official declaration of acceptance.

*Councillor Tess Silkstone took this opportunity to tender her resignation as a Councillor, to give the opportunity to the third candidate. The Clerk explained that this would not be possible as it would be necessary to advertise the post formally for no less than fourteen days. The Clerk would start the process following the meeting.*

2023/023 Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be on 31 July 2023 at 7pm.