

LONGNEY AND EPNEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2009

A MEETING OF LONGNEY AND EPNEY PARISH COUNCIL was held on Tuesday 27 October 2009, at 7.30p.m. at Longney School

PRESENT: Cllrs. Chamberlayne, Dempster, Finzi, Godwin, and Williams; District Cllr. Littleton, Peter Watson from Digital UK, and three residents

APOLOGIES: County Councillor Blackburn, Mrs. M. Bullock

DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA: Cllr. Godwin - invoice for sand for sandbags

PETER WATSON - DIGITAL UK: On 24 March 2010 the West TV Region will become digital, and on 7 April 2010, the analogue signal in that region will be switched off. A leaflet will be delivered to all households three months before switchover. Digital UK is a non profit making organisation, set up to help with switchover and to answer queries. Every TV will have to be connected to a digital box, or be replaced by a TV with built-in digital box. Digital services free-up airwaves which can be used for other services. If buying new equipment, buy an integrated digital TV. Check suitability of your aerial by referring to page 284 of teletext. Help schemes are available for those over 75 years of age, or with a significant disability. Use the postcode check at www.digital.co.uk to find out where your transmitter or relay station is situated. Advice points will be available in town centres and shopping centre car parks. The Chairman thanked Peter Watson for giving a very informative presentation

THE MINUTES of the Meeting of 21 September 2009 were agreed and signed as a true record of the Meeting

MATTERS ARISING:

GARDEN SCHEME: It has been established that no further financial help is available from Calor towards buying a trailer for moving the machinery or carrying shredded garden material

TREES IN CASTLE LANE: Stroud Valleys Project have inspected the trees can offer advice on pruning them. It has been suggested that up to ten volunteers are needed to carry out the work, and removal of the removed/shredded material will need to be organised by the Parish Council. After discussion it was suggested that this needs to be a professional job, and using Leyhill prisoners was suggested, for which payment would be required. Moreton Valence Parish Meeting will be asked to contribute to this cost

DAVID DREW MP, PLANNING ISSUES: A reply had been received from SDC stating that there is no need for Parish Councils to request to be consulted about planning applications as full details are automatically sent in Stroud District, unlike under some other councils in the country

CORRESPONDENCE:

SDC - PAYPHONE KIOSK ADOPTION PROGRAMME 2009: As previously decided, Councillors do not wish to adopt the telephone kiosk in Epney which is due for removal

R A GODWIN, INVOICE: Councillors agreed to payment of £28.75 for sand for use in sandbags in the event of flooding

MOORE STEPHENS - AUDIT: Councillors agreed to payment of £138.00 for

the audit fee

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Councillor Littleton recommended completion by the Parish Council of the questionnaire from SDC on the scheme of delegation. He stressed the need for obtaining pre-application advice before submitting a planning application

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Cllr. Blackburn was unable to attend the meeting therefore no report was given

AGENDA ITEMS:

VILLAGE PLAN:

a) **GARDEN SCHEME:** Dealt with under matters arising

b) **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE:** Cllr. Finzi was contacted by Jason Humm, thanks to intervention by County Councillor Blackburn, and has been informed that David Portlock will agree prioritised projects with the Parish Council before any work is commenced. The current jobs requiring attention will be the road surface near the Anchor Inn in Epney, and the subsidence near Ellis Farm, Longney. The critical depth of a pothole requiring attention is considered to be 4cm.

c) **EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM:** The list of residents is currently being updated. Four new requests for inclusion have been received. It was agreed that e-mail will be used for the circulation of important information and text for emergencies

d) **VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT:** This is being worked on by Cllrs. Finzi and Godwin

e) **LISTING OF THE VILLAGE POUND:** No further information. Cllr. Godwin will ask Smith's Charities to take this forward

f) **DONKEY POOL:** No further information

PLANNING: A new planning application had been received for Ellis House, Longney, for the conversion of a games room and outbuildings to a residential dwelling. There is no objection by the Parish Council to this application, but it will be pointed out that access is a problem, particularly as the plan includes a large office, which could suggest more traffic movement, also the flood risk assessment is inaccurate, and no Parish Councillor has been consulted as suggested in the planning application

OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AMBULANCE SERVICE FINDING PROPERTIES IN THE PARISH: A number of instances have been noted in which ambulance personnel have experienced difficulty in finding properties in the area. Cllr. Finzi will speak to George Barnes who works for the ambulance service, and a letter will be sent to the Service asking whether a list of O.S. references for every property in the Parish would help, or what other information that could be provided would be of use.

A member of Ambulance Service staff will be invited to address a Parish Council meeting

LITTER PICKING: George Barnes has requested more help with litter picking in the Parish. Discussion about how to obtain more volunteers took place. Cllr. Finzi will speak to George Barnes to find out what action he would like the Parish Council to take

GAPTC - VOLUNTARY GRANTS TO SUPPORT COUNCIL SERVICES: Brought to the notice of Councillors as any application would need to be made before normal circulation would take place. Councillors agreed that a Parish Council application would not be appropriate

ROAD RACES: P.C. Mackie had requested that he is telephoned on Friday 30 October on the subject of road races. Cllr. Godwin will follow this up with P.C. Mackie

SDC - PLANNING QUESTIONNAIRE: Discussed and completed as the reply was required by 9 November which would not allow time for circulation

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next Meeting of Longney and Epney Parish Council will take place at 7.30p.m. on Monday 16 November 2009 at Longney School

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.40p.m.