



Latimer & Ley Hill Parish Council Meeting | MINUTES

12th January 2021/ 7.15pm at St Mary Magdalene Church Hall

ATTENDEES

Cllr Anne Birkett (AB), Cllr John Drewery, Cllr Steve Thorp (ST), Cllr Nigel Hill, Cllr Chris Gregory, Cllr Chris Harris, Claire Leek (Parish Clerk)

AGENDA TOPICS

| Agenda topic 1 | Apologies for Absence

None

| Agenda topic 2 | Register of Interests

None

| Agenda topic 3 | Public Quarter Hour

No members of the public attended.

| Agenda topic 4 | Approval of November Meeting Minutes

Formally approved by all. Signed by Chairman and Clerk to upload to website.

Updates since last meeting - the resurfacing works were carried out along with the Golf Club on the Dilly Dells footpath, which has made a big difference and has already received positive feedback.

The benches originally sited on the common, near to the Beacon, have been relocated within the activity trail and one positioned on the 7th tee on the golf course. The posts are being stored by the supplier until a new installation for the activity trail is decided upon, and these will then be repurposed.

The PC wrote to the homeowner regarding the metal fencing that had been left on common land outside the property and was unsightly, and this has since been removed.

| Agenda topic 5 | Finance

- a. **Approval of Finance Report.** Finance reports for November and December approved by all. Will be uploaded to the website by Clerk.
- b. **Precept text.** The reasons to support and justify the increase in precept for 2022-2023 will be summarised in a paragraph that will be made available to anyone that contacts the PC regarding the precept for the new financial year.

Action items**Person responsible**

Clerk to write a paragraph for approval by PC	Clerk
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| Agenda topic 6 | Burial Ground

- a. **Increase in burial ground fees.** Proposal to increase burial ground fees from April 2022 was approved by all. They are all in line with fees from other local burial grounds. This is required due to the increasing costs of running and maintaining the burial ground.

Proposed by NH. Seconded by AB.

Action items**Person responsible**

Arrange for new fees to be uploaded to the website for April 2022.	Clerk
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- b. **Yew hedge.** The back fence was found to be broken in parts, resulting in the fence leaning. Work has been carried out to strengthen the fence and it is now vertical again, with the aid of steel posts. The PC plan to replace the fence (in the 5 year development of the burial ground) with a yew hedge. This area of broken fencing provides an opportunity to test the idea of planting a yew tree hedge – using a 14m stretch as a trial. The repairs to the fence will last until the yew whips grown, and the fence can then be removed. Some research into costs and sizes of yew whips has been carried out and it was agreed that yew whips between 60-80cm would be required if the PC wanted the hedge to be fence high in 3 years’ time. Proposed costs were agreed by all, but local nursery options will be explored to check if they may be better value for money.

Proposed by NH. Seconded by AB.

| Agenda topic 7 | To Consider Planning Application

- a. **PL/21/4465/FA** - 2 Blackwell Farm Cottages Blackwell Hall Lane Latimer Buckinghamshire HP5 1TN. No comments or objections.

| Agenda topic 8 | To Receive Planning Application Decisions

Noted.

| Agenda topic 9 | Speeding

- a. **MVAS.** Data analysed and circulated prior to the meeting. MVAS data showed a substantial increase in speeding vehicles on Rushmere Lane over the Christmas holidays (up to 50% of all vehicles). The display on versus off will be compared when the data is available.
- b. **CSW.** Jerry Harbourne circulated a letter to the volunteers on the 10th January and explained he hoped to start up CSW sessions soon but noted that with the MVAS on Rushmere Lane, a large pothole slowing traffic on Botley Road and recent low traffic on Jason’s Hill, it would be best to wait a few weeks.

| Agenda topic 10 | Queens Jubilee

- a. **Tree Planting.** The PC plan to plant 70 trees within the parish to mark the Queens Jubilee. An application to Buckinghamshire Council, with an outline plan, is required in order to get permission. This needs to be submitted soon, as the planting is likely to take a while. A message was sent out to residents in Latimer, and a number of the private farms responded. They are open to planting a number on their own land, and this may mean the PC is able to increase the total number planted across the parish. Further information is needed on what trees the PC is able to get hold of free of charge (as this is ever changing) and how many the landowners are happy to plant (10+, 100+ each etc). No permission is required for these trees.

An email newsletter was sent out asking for suggestions of where the residents would like to see trees planted within the parish. Some good suggestions were received, and these will be added to the initial plan sent to Bucks. The sites that will be considered will be marked in due course, as a means of consulting the parishioners of the plans to plant a tree.

The golf club have been consulted and agree with the locations discussed on the golf course to plant extra trees.

Action items	Person responsible
Investigate which trees can be acquired free of charge	A Birkett
Determine how many trees the residents in Latimer are happy to plant on their own land	C Gregory
Submit plan to Bucks	A Birkett

- b. **Memorial Hall Plans.** To mark the jubilee, the Beacon will be lit at 9.45pm on Thursday 2nd June, along with others across the country. The village hall have arranged for a piper. The community choir will perform the song that has been written and published for the occasion, and 20 people have expressed an interest in joining the choir. The Village Hall have ordered fireworks for the night.
Similar to the village picnic organised in 2021, the village hall and PC are organising a Big Jubilee Parish Picnic on Sunday 5th June. Further details to follow.

| Agenda topic 11 | Other Business

- a. **WhatsApp.** The PC will set up a WhatsApp group to enable quick and efficient messaging when required, and for an easy way to photo share when necessary. All members to send preferred phone number to Councillor Hill to set up.

Proposed by NH. Seconded by CH.

- b. **Footpaths.** It is the responsibility of the PC to monitor the footpaths within the parish. Previously, regular members of walking groups took responsibility for certain pathways and reported anything to the clerk. This was an efficient means of keeping on top of obstructed footpaths, broken stiles etc. The PC would like to reinstate this idea, with volunteers reporting anything necessary back to the parish clerk to be passed on to Bucks Right of Way team via the portal. This will initially be circulated via the email newsletter and on the noticeboard.

Proposed by AB. Seconded by ST.

Meeting Closed at | 08.45pm |

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Councillor Anne Birkett (Chairman)
Latimer and Ley Hill Parish Council

Next Meeting | 15th February 2022 | St Mary Magdalene Church