



Latimer & Ley Hill Parish Council Meeting | MINUTES

30th November 2022 | 7.15pm | St Mary Magdalene Church, Latimer

ATTENDEES

Cllr Anne Birkett (AB), Cllr Steve Thorp (ST), Cllr Chris Gregory, Cll Chris Harris, Claire Leek (Parish Clerk) and Rae Bramwell

AGENDA TOPICS

| Agenda topic 1 | Apologies for Absence

Cllr John Drewery

| Agenda topic 2 | Register of Interests

None

| Agenda topic 3 | Public Quarter Hour

No members of the public present

| Agenda topic 4 | Approval of September Meeting Minutes

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

| Agenda topic 5 | Co-opt new Ley Hill ward Councillor

The parish council agreed to the co-option of Rachel Bramwell to the vacant Councillor position within the Ley Hill ward. The declaration of acceptance of office was signed by Rachel Bramwell and witness by the Clerk.

Proposed by AB. Seconded by CG.

| Agenda topic 6 | Finance

- a. **Approval of October Finance report.** The finance report was approved and will be uploaded to the website.
- b. **Precept and Budget.** The PC had decided to try and freeze the precept however, with the cost of contractors, clerk salary, street lighting and maintenance increasing it will be likely that the precept will need to increase slightly on last year. Clerk to finalise draft budget for discussion at the finance sub committee meeting, and agreement by full council at the beginning of January.

c. **Finance Sub Committee Meeting** – to be scheduled for December.

| Action items | Person responsible |
|---|--------------------|
| Finalise draft budget for finance meeting | Clerk |
| Schedule date for finance sub committee meeting | |

| Agenda topic 7 | Burial Ground

- a. **Sub Committee Meeting Minutes.** The minutes were circulated prior to the meeting and will be uploaded to the website. Discussion was had around the need to repair the fence, and the long term plan around the whips. It was agreed that the fence repairs were required, and like for like quotes will be obtained for concrete posts to be installed to stabilise the posts that are rotting, and also to replace the gate posts. Clerk to check budget to determine if the repairs can be carried out in this financial year.

The 5 year plan has been revisited and it was noted that funds will be required in the next budget for the grave diggers hut to be painted and for some maintenance work to be carried out on the memorial garden, including removal of the laurel bush and replacement with a flowering shrub.

| Action items | Person responsible |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Obtain 3 quotes for fence repairs | Clerk/Steve Thorp/Chris Harris |

- d. **Maintenance Contract.** Callum Wilson has agreed to continue with the grass and hedge cutting maintenance, and extend the 3 year contract. This will be from April 2023.

| Agenda topic 8 | Planning

a. **Planning applications for consideration**

- i. **PL/22/3589/FA Cowcroft Grange, Tylers Hill Road, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 1XJ**
No comments.
- ii. **PL/22/3714/FA Trail End , Jasons Hill, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 3QW**
No comments.
- iii. **PL/22/2047/FA Crabtree Farm, The Green, Ley Hill, Buckinghamshire, HP5 3QR**
No comments.
- iv. **PL/22/3737/FA The Stables, Blackwell Hall Farm, Blackwell Hall Lane, Latimer, Buckinghamshire, HP5 1TN**

No comments.

v. **CM/0025/21 Meadhams Farm Brickworks, Blackwell Hall Lane, Ley Hill, Buckinghamshire, HP5 1UN**

No comments regarding the application. Discussion had around new owners and how the parish council would like to make contact with the site manager or operator to continue the good lines of communication had with the previous owners, to allow the PC communicate to the parishioners.

b. Enforcement Action

i. **ES/22/00284/OPDEV - Latimer Park Farm, Latimer Road, Latimer, Bucks, HP5 1TU**

Update provided from Councillor Gregory, the marquee has now been removed in accordance with the enforcement notice.

ii. **ES/22/00267/OPDEV - Longchamps (Gracies Field).**

Update was provided on the enforcement action at Gracies Farm, Latimer. The application was refused but applicant may still appeal the decision. PC will monitor.

| Agenda topic 9 | Council Business

- a. **Tree Planting.** The larger of the trees have been planted around the village by a volunteer from the parish. There are still the Woodland trust hedgerow packs to plant and one oak tree in the activity trail. Clerk to ask for any willing volunteers from community to help plant the hedgerow trees on Saturday 10th at 10.30am. Councillor Harris to lead.
- b. **Hedge trimming/The Green update.** The top of Jasons Hill, the corner of Kiln Lane, the larch logs for The Green, and clearing the entrance to trail, and the oak tree hanging onto pavement have all been tended to by Buckinghamshire Council. The copse opposite the Swan has also been cut to hedge level. This work had been requested by the PC numerous times over the past 2 years. The clearance on The Green was not carried out, and this outstanding work is long overdue. Will contact David Stowe at Buckinghamshire Council to find out why it was not carried out, whether there is a revised date we can expect them to come back and do it and if not, whether the PC are allowed to pay for it to be done ourselves.
- c. **Coronation Bench.** There is £500 remaining in the budget for the activity trail, and it has been suggested it is used for a new oak bench to be installed on the common (somewhere around the 2nd tee). Quotes and options to be sort from RoughStuff Oak.
- d. **Parish Meeting – feedback.** The parish council feel the Parish meeting with the local Buckinghamshire Councillors was worthwhile and appreciated by the local residents. Following the meeting there has been action taken on the issues raised. All agreed the meeting is something the PC would encourage Buckinghamshire Councillors to hold again.
- e. **Coronation celebrations planning** A joint planning committee between the Memorial Hall, the PC & representatives from all organisations will be established to plan the village celebrations for the Coronation in 2023. To be arranged from January, with Anne Birkett to chair.
- f. **Meeting dates for 2023.** Circulated prior to the meeting. Tues 21st March to be brought forward to 14th March.

A.O.B

- a. **Ley Hill School - Christmas Fair** – parking on the triangle, the green and outside the school was unacceptable. Clerk to speak to the headteacher and insist this is not repeated in the summer.

- b. **Common Land – Holly removal.** Someone has been seen removing large amounts of holly from the common. This is carried out annually and is done so in order for the person to sell on. The Buckinghamshire Council By Laws clearly state this is a breach, and holly is not to be removed from the common land.

- c. **Village Box in Latimer.** A box containing Latimer memorabilia is held by residents of the village. It was suggested that the PC could arrange for a filing cabinet (size to be determined) to store the documents at the church. Agreed.

Proposed by CG. Seconded by AB.

- d. **Abandon cars on Botley Lane.** The abandon cars have been an issue for 4years + and have been repeatedly reported. Ownership of the lane causes an issue. Councillor Chris Harris to follow up with Gareth Williams and the police to see what steps can be taken.

Meeting Closed at | 8.50pm |

Signed: _____

Date: _____

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

Next Meeting | 10th January 2023 | St Mary Magdalene Church Hall, Latimer