



# Latimer & Ley Hill Parish Council Meeting | MINUTES

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09 January 2024 | 7.15pm | Ley Hill Memorial Hall

## ATTENDEES

Cllr Anne Birkett (AB), Cllr Steve Thorp (ST), Cllr Chris Gregory (CG), Cllr Emily King (EK), Cllr John Drewery, Cllr Rae Bramwell and Claire Leek (Parish Clerk)

## AGENDA TOPICS

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### | Agenda topic 1 | Apologies for Absence

Cllr Chris Harris

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### | Agenda topic 2 | Register of Interests

None

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### | Agenda topic 3 | Public Quarter Hour

No members of the public present

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### | Agenda topic 4 | Approval of November Meeting Minutes

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

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### | Agenda topic 5 | Actions from Previous Minutes

CG has written a letter to Flaunden Parish Council regarding the activity at Gracie's Farm/Chicken Farm and the interest from them in writing/supporting a request for Buckinghamshire Council to serve a stop notice. Professional planning advice may be required.

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### | Agenda topic 6 | Finance

- a. **Approval of November and December finance reports.** The finance reports were approved and will be uploaded to the website.
- b. **2024 Budget approval.** The request for the 2024-2025 precept must be made to Buckinghamshire Council in January. The PC discussed the previously circulated budget proposal from the Clerk and agreed that a small uplift of 2.5% overall would allow the PC to cover the rising costs of maintenance and administrative costs but not impact the parishioners too heavily. This relates to an approx. increase for the residents of 50p. The budget was approved.

Proposed by AB. Seconded by JD.

Action: Clerk to apply for precept from Buckinghamshire Council.

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### | Agenda topic 7 | Burial Ground

- a. **Enquiries.** There have been no new enquiries since the previous meeting. There will be an ashes interment mid-January and another in early February. There are still two enquiries that have yet to finalise a date.

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### | Agenda topic 8 | Planning

a. **Planning applications for consideration**

i. **PL/23/3962/FA – Magnolia Cottage, Jasons Hill**

No comment.

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### | Agenda topic 9 | Council Business

- a. **Meeting dates 2024.** The church hall was not available for hire on the proposed Tuesday evenings. The PC meeting dates have been revised and will be held on Thursday evenings. The meeting dates will be circulated for all Councillors and uploaded to the website.

Action: Clerk to circulate new dates and publish on website.

- b. **Road sign cleaning.** There are a number of road signs throughout the parish that are in need of cleaning. The PC have previously asked for a quote from a local service provider however, this was considered to be too expensive. CH has volunteered to look into cleaning some of the road signs through Ley Hill and this is greatly appreciated by the PC. Any signs in need of cleaning through Latimer will be dealt with during the next village clean up.

Action: CH to clean the road signs when and where possible throughout Ley Hill.

- c. **Christmas Tree.** The Christmas tree this year looked very nice, and the PC were happy with the number of lights. It is appreciated that the tree has grown considerably, however, we do not feel that additional lights are required. The size of the tree is a problem when considering the neighbouring deciduous tree, and in time, the tree would require additional lights and maintenance. It was proposed that the PC look to plant a replacement tree, with the aim of this new tree being the village Christmas tree in approx. 5 years. Clerk to engage with local Christmas tree farm to ask advise on what we should be planting and when, likely to be in Spring.

Action: Clerk to email Christmas Tree farm owners for advice.

- d. **Activity Trail maintenance.** There is no clear need for any maintenance to the equipment within the trail, and there does not appear to be any large branches or trees that have come down in recent high winds. The trail is not too muddy so at the moment, does not require a new load of chippings to be scattered. This will be monitored over the coming months.
- e. **Crown Cottage drainage.** There are ongoing investigations and plans being drawn up by the flood management team who have been in regular email contact with the PC and residents of Crown Cottages. There have been questions around ownership of land between The Swan and The Crown, and permission requested for access for investigations and potential drainage solutions on some common land on Blackwell Hall Lane. The matter is ongoing.

**A.O.B**

- a. **Spring Quarry.** The PC still has concerns over the amount of traffic and tipping at the site. Hertfordshire Council have inspected the site 3 times but see no evidence of tipping. It was proposed that the PC could make use of volunteers who would be happy to monitor activity and provide evidence to the council to aid in evidence supporting the enforcement notice breach.
- b. **Streetlight Quotation.** Lamps ad Tubes have provided a quotation for the upgrade of the 16 remaining streetlamps in the village that are not currently LED. It is proposed that this will be carried out as a project, using reserve funds. The PC approved and agreed to the quotation.  
Proposed by AB. Seconded by RB.

Action: Clerk to confirm the PC accept the quotation with the supplier and arrange for the works.

- c. **Fly Tipping.** There has been a lot of fly tipping on Rabbits Lane.

Action: AB will report on Fix My Street.

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**Meeting Closed at | 8.20pm |**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**Next Meeting | 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 | St Mary Magdalene Church Hall, Latimer | 7.15pm**