

Minutes of Annual Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 17th May 2011 at 7.30 pm
At which a quorum was present

Present: Mr R C Vaux (Chairman), Councillors: Ms P Jukes, Mr R W Fry and Dr C J Greenfield. 6 members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: None

1. Delivery of Declarations of Acceptance of Office

Declarations of Acceptance of Office were duly completed and delivered by the three Councillors, Ms Jukes, Mr Fry and Dr Greenfield who had been elected without contest.

In view of the small number of Councillors it was unanimously **resolved** that the Council's usual practice (as set out in Standing Orders) of having a seconder for every motion proposed should be suspended for this meeting.

2. Election of Chairman

Retiring Chairman Mr Vaux called for nominations for Chairman. Ms Jukes was proposed by Dr Greenfield and unanimously elected.

A Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed by her.

Ms Jukes thanked for Mr Vaux and asked him if he would be prepared to stand for co-option. Mr Vaux said that he would be prepared to stand.

3. Election of Vice-Chairman

It was unanimously **resolved** that the election of Vice-Chairman should wait until later in the meeting when co-option of additional Councillors to fill the remaining six vacancies had taken place.

4. Filling of Parish Council Vacancies by Co-option

The Chairman, Ms Jukes called for nominations to fill the vacant seats on the Council.

The Clerk reported on the emails she had received from Mr N Gould, who was unable to be present and Mr G Marsh and Mr N Pomeroy who were present, all of whom had expressed the wish to be considered for co-option. She said she had also received a telephone call from Mr S Hart who was unable to be present. She had requested that he put his wish to be considered for co-option in writing but nothing had been received, although she understood that he still wished to be considered.

The Chairman invited Mr Marsh and Mr Pomeroy to address the Council following which the meeting proceeded with the co-option process.

Vacancy 1: The Chairman, Ms Jukes, proposed Mr Richard Vaux and it was unanimously **resolved** that Mr Vaux be co-opted onto the Council.

Mr Vaux, having signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office was then invited to take seat.

Vacancy 2: Mr Nick Gould was proposed by Dr Greenfield and it was **resolved** by a majority (Mr Vaux abstaining) that Mr Gould be duly co-opted.

Vacancy 3: Mr Gordon Marsh was proposed by the Chairman, Ms Jukes and it was unanimously **resolved** that he be co-opted.

Mr Marsh, being present, duly signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invited to take seat.

Vacancy 4: Mr Nick Pomeroy was proposed by Dr Greenfield and it was unanimously **resolved** that he be co-opted.

Mr Pomeroy being present, duly signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invited to take seat.

The Chairman then addressed the meeting and asked if anyone else would like to be considered for co-option. Mr Tim Cox, who was present, said that he would like to be considered.

Vacancy 5: Mr Tim Cox was proposed by Mr Fry and it was unanimously **resolved** that he be co-opted.

Mr Cox then signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invited to take seat.

The Chairman welcomed the new Councillors.

It was proposed by Dr Greenfield and unanimously **resolved** that the filling of the remaining vacancy should wait until the Council's meeting on 7th June and that the Clerk should approach Mr Hart who had expressed an interest in being co-opted and ask that this be placed in writing or failing that, if he could address the meeting on 7th June. He would then be considered for the remaining vacancy along with anyone else who came forward. Mr Pomeroy said that he also knew someone who had expressed an interest.

Dr Greenfield proposed and it was unanimously **resolved** that the meeting should now proceed to the Election of a Vice-Chairman.

Election of Vice-Chairman

It was proposed by the Chairman, Ms Jukes and unanimously **resolved** that Mr Fry should be elected as Vice-Chairman.

5. Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd May 2011 – The Clerk reported that these had been circulated to all the Councillors who had been present at that meeting which had resulted in one or two amendments being made. It was therefore proposed by the Chairman, seconded Mr Vaux and unanimously **resolved** that the minutes before the Council be approved as a correct record. These were then signed by the Chairman.

6. Matters Arising:

Agenda: The Clerk said that any items not appearing on this agenda which were normally a subject for discussion at the PC's monthly meetings would be re-instated for the June meeting.

7. Appointment/Confirmation of Representatives

Village Hall: It was explained to the new members of the PC by the Chairman that the Parish Council is the Sole Managing Trustee for the Village Hall and Recreation Ground. The day to day running is undertaken by a Committee but four Parish Councillors are required to sit on that Committee. She herself is a member of the Committee. Mr Vaux also agreed to continue as a member. She said that they also require a Treasurer and a Booking Clerk.

Following discussion the Parish Council Members of the Village Hall Committee were confirmed as Ms Jukes, Mr Vaux, Mr Pomeroy and Mr Marsh.

Somerset Association of Local Councils: Ms Jukes.

LS School Board of Governors: It was reported that Long Sutton and Long Load PC are jointly invited to appoint a representative on the Board of Governors and the present representative is Mrs Godelieve Cousins. Mr Vaux said that a report had not been received for some considerable time. It is also not known when the term of office expires. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Mrs Cousins for an update regarding the situation.

8. Appointment/Confirmation of Working Groups/Officers:

Planning: Mr Gould, Mr Pomeroy, Mr Fry and Mr Vaux

Environment, Tree Warden, Footpath Officers, Youth and Parish Plan: It was agreed to leave any appointments until the next meeting.

Mr Jones, one of the PC's former Footpath Officers agreed to speak to Mr. Sheppard the Parish Paths Liaison Officer to enquire if he was willing to continue in this capacity.

Crime & Safety: Mr Gould

Highways: Mr Vaux

Lengthsman Co-ordinator: It was agreed that this position should be added to the list of appointments. Mr Vaux explained the Lengthsman Scheme to the new Councillors. Mr Jody Foy is the present Co-ordinator for the Scheme and he has indicated his willingness to continue to do this. It was unanimously **resolved** that the PC would like Mr Foy to continue in this capacity.

9. Finance: Bank Mandate

Following discussion it was proposed by Mr Greenfield and unanimously resolved that the **Authorised Signatories** in the current Mandate, for the Accounts detailed in section 2 of NatWest Bank Form NWB50101 be changed in accordance with section 5, and the current Mandate will continue as amended.

This proposal gives effect to the removal of Mr Jones and Mr Foy from the current list of authorised signatories, leaving Ms Jukes, Mr Vaux and the Clerk (who is an authorised signatory for the purpose of obtaining information only) and adding Mr Pomeroy and Mr Fry.

10. Planning - No new applications have been received.

11. Village Hall: Trustee's AGM

This was agreed as 7pm on the 7th June 2011 prior to the Council's normal monthly meeting. It was explained that as the PC is the Sole Managing Trustee all Councillors should, if possible, attend the AGM.

12. Date of next meeting - 7.30 pm on 7th June 2011 following the Village Hall Trustee's AGM.

13. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

The Clerk provided Councillors with a list of Training Sessions to be held by SALC and requested that members should notify her if they wished to attend one of these so that she could book places. Ms Jukes said that she would attend the Chairmanship course on the 20th June at Somerton.

Ms Jukes thanked Mr Vaux for the sterling work he had done as Chairman and for agreeing to continue as a Councillor.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

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