

LONGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT NEW LONGTON VILLAGE HALL ON 3RD NOVEMBER 2009

PRESENT:

Councillors Gooch (Chairman), Artis, Fox, McLoughlin, Cunningham, Holmes, Welch, Wignall, Underwood & Crighton.

140 members of the public were present.

93/09 APOLOGIES

Cllrs Kershaw & Worthington

94/09 MINUTES

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on the 6th October 2009 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

95/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

96/09 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION

The meeting was adjourned for a period of public discussion.

County Cllr Young spoke on behalf of LCC explaining the rationale behind the withdrawal of bus service 2A. This had been done on cost grounds by the operator 'stagecoach' who were a commercial company and who were not required to undertake any consultation. LCC had been informed as part of the provision of notice requirement however they had no jurisdiction in stopping the service withdrawal. LCC did however enter into negotiation with 'stagecoach' to try to mitigate the effects of the service withdrawal. The subsidy cost of reinstating the existing service would have been £100k which was simply not affordable by LCC. This negotiation did however result in the creation of service 3B all be it only on an hourly basis at no additional cost to LCC. The new service was calculated to meet the requirements of 75% of the existing users of 2A. It did not however cover journeys between New Longton and Longton for which an 'on demand' taxi service has been introduced.

Members of the public asked a number of questions, raised concerns that the alternatives to the 2A were not acceptable to them since it was felt that the 'on demand' taxi service was not workable given the requirement for 24 hours notice, that the new 3A service did not run often enough and that the timings were inappropriate to demand particularly in the morning and afternoon when people needed to get into Preston to work and college by 9.00am. A number of examples of difficulties that the new service provision would create were mentioned. It was generally felt very strongly that further negotiations with 'stagecoach' were necessary in order to provide a better solution. Issues with regard to the 3A route itself were raised and it was thought that by re-routing this service it could extend into Longton which would then solve the problem with the isolation of the village of New Longton.

Disappointment was expressed that 'stagecoach' had decided not to attend this meeting to explain their position and rationale behind the withdrawal. There was a request that the appropriate authorities should get together to find a solution.

On resident mentioned that there was a sign on part of the Marsh area thought to be common land which warned of 'shooting in the area' – It was felt that this was being used to deter walkers using this area and should be removed. The Clerk is to investigate.

Parking on pavements in Marsh Lane was once again mentioned as was the depositing of dog faeces in plastic bags under the hedgerows.

The meeting was then re-convened.

97/09 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2009/0570 – Erection of agricultural building (re-submission) @ 1 Bank Terrace Gill Lane Longton

2009/0580 - Two storey extension to side/rear & single storey extension to side/rear including extension to front of existing garage @ 226 Liverpool Rd Longton

2009/0581 – Single storey extension to rear and side (re-submission) @ Birch Tree House Shirley Lane Longton

It was resolved that no representation should be made.

98/09 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

| PARISH COUNCIL | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| 001027 | W V McEnerney-Whittle | Salary & Expenses October 2009 | 527.44 |
| 001028 | New Longton Village Hall | Donation | 100.00 |
| 001029 | CPRE | Annual Subscription | 29.00 |
| LENGTHSMAN PAYMENTS | | | |
| 000161 | P Heise | Lengthsman | 1152.00 |

It was resolved that the above payments should be approved.

99/09 WITHDRAWAL OF BUS SERVICE 2A BY STAGECOACH

It was resolved that this Council should facilitate a meeting between LCC, SRBC, Stagecoach, David Borrow MP & representatives of this Council (Cllrs Gooch, Mcloughlin & Underwood) to discuss the withdrawal of bus service 2A and consider what options there might be to address resident concerns.

100/09 CODE OF CONDUCT WORKSHOP ON THE 4TH FEBRUARY 2010

It was resolved that Cllr Fox should attend the above workshop.

101/09 ZEBRA CROSSING ON LIVERPOOL RD LONGTON

It was resolved that no further representation should be made since this Council had already considered the plans at a previous meeting and recorded that it welcomed the proposals.

102/09 PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2010

The dates of the meeting dates for 2010 were noted.

103/09 FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO THE 30TH SEPTEMBER 2009, REVISED BUDGET FOR 2009/10, PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2010/11 & PRECEPT FOR 2010/11

It was resolved that the Financial Statement to 30/9/2009 and revised budget 2009/10 should be approved and that on the basis of the 2010/11 budget as previously circulated that the Precept for 2010/2011 should be set at £21100.00 representing no increase on the previous year.

104/09 CHRISTMAS COMPETITIONS 2009

It was resolved that Cllrs Welch and Artis should judge the Christmas Competitions during the week commencing 7th December 2009.

105/09 LONGTON YOUTH PROJECT

Members had been asked to consider whether it would be appropriate to approve a request from the Longton Youth Project to donate their remaining funds to Penwortham Youth Club to provide a weekly mini bus from Longton and Hutton (2 pick ups) to take the members to PYC given that it has not been possible to arrange leader cover at Longton and that the youths have found the facilities at Penwortham to be better than can be provided independently at Longton.

It was resolved that this Council should agree to the request as detailed above.