



Laverstock & Ford Parish Council
Incorporating Milford, Bishopdown Farm, Old Sarum & Longhedge

**Meeting of Laverstock and Ford Parish Council held on
Monday 18 November 2024 at 7pm Old Sarum & Longhedge
Community Centre**

MINUTES

Councillors present: Baker (Chair), Harris, Jones, McDonald, Taylor, Waller, Williams

In attendance: Pettifer (Clerk), Prince (Responsible Financial Officer RFO), Brain (Communications and Community Engagement Officer)

Wiltshire Councillor Oliver was also in attendance.

There were 38 members of the public in attendance, and one joined the meeting online. One spoke to present his continued opposition to the application for development on Old Sarum Airfield which is subject to an appeal. Another raised concern over the retrospective permission given for storage at shooting range site.

Another spoke with concerns about the Trim Trail planned by Vistry try for Longhedge.

Another spoke about residents' objections to parking restrictions in Woodland Way, Laverstock.

The meeting commenced at 7.22pm.

PC24.130 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from councillors Barker, Lynn, Rigiani and Schneider.

Resolved: to accept the apologies received

Wiltshire Councillor McLennan had also sent apologies for the meeting.

PC24.131 Declarations of interest

Cllr Harris declared an interest in item PC24.135 PL/20/11598/OUT and will abstain from any discussions or vote on that item.

PC24.132 Public participation time

Members of the public had been invited to speak ahead of the meeting.

PC24.133 Confirmation of minutes

Resolved: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2024.

PC24.134 Matters arising

There were no matters arising raised.

PC24.135 Planning

PL/2023/07368 Appeal Old Sarum Airfield

Report 24.135(1) had been circulated ahead of the meeting.

Resolved: to approve the response of OBJECTION regarding the appeal. The full response is attached Annex One.

PL20/11598/OUT Land East of Church Road, Laverstock

Cllr Baker reported that Wiltshire Council had stated their intention not to defend any appeal on the previous refusal of this application. Cllr Waller stated she believed the

residents would feel this decision was taken 'behind closed doors'. Cllr Baker noted no official notification of appeal had yet been received.

Resolved: that the Parish Council register their disappointment and request reconsideration of decision not to appeal, and request any decision should be reached in a public meeting where residents have the opportunity to make representation.

Planning Log

Resolved: to approve the following responses

PL/2024/09363 Single storey porch Kerrycroy, Riverside Road, Laverstock NO COMMENT

PL/2024/09826 Consent for works under tree preservation order 2 Norman Drive, Ford SP4 6DA NO COMMENT

PC24.136 Church Road TRO

Cllr Baker had circulated Report 24.136 in advance of the meeting. Cllr Baker reported that Wiltshire Council had received a complaint about the lack of disabled parking provision for St Andrews School and it currently appeared the only option was a space marked out on Church Road. An Experimental Traffic Regulation Order was being considered to address this. A review of the impact of the yellow lines, particularly on residents in local roads, was discussed with a consultation due in February.

PC24.137 Trim Trail installation at Longhedge

The RFO had circulated an extract from the original S106 dated March 2014, which showed the Trim Trail as a condition of the original planning consent. The Clerk reported she had spoken to officers at Vistry who confirmed they intended to proceed as planned. The Clerk will contact Wiltshire Council and investigate if the trail could be installed elsewhere on the estate. Cllr Oliver offered to support such approach. **ACTION CLERK**

PC24.138 Review of minutes of Standing Committees

The minutes of Personnel Committee meeting held on 18 October 2024 and Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 12 November 2024 were noted.

PC24.139 Review of Policies

The Policies below had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Resolved: to approve Health & Safety Policy, as recommended by Personnel Committee

Resolved: to approve Disciplinary and Dismissal Policy, as recommended by Personnel Committee

Resolved: to approve Grievance Policy, as recommended by Personnel Committee.

Resolved: to approve Grants Policy, as reviewed by Finance & General Purposes Committee

Resolved: to approve Public Participation Policy, as recommended by Finance & General Purposes Committee.

PC24.140 Health & Safety/Human Resources Consultant

The Clerk had circulated Report 24.140 in advance of the meeting and requested councillors consider the appointment of consultants. Cllr Baker noted quotes received were between £4000 and £5000 per annum and requested this be considered in line with budget discussions for 2024/25.

PC24.141 Land Transfers Bishopdown Farm

The Clerk reported on her meeting with the landowner. Councillors agreed, in principle, that land at The Green, Hampton Park and Castle Hill Country Park, Hilltop Way will be progressed subject to costs. The landowner will approach Wiltshire Council Highways, in the first instance, regarding other parcels with rights of way. The Parish Council may

wish to re-consider these if not accepted by Highways. The landowner will approach adjacent property owners regarding the other smaller pieces which are not of interest to the Parish Council. The landowner wishes to progress all items together to minimise legal fees and will contact the Parish Council when ready to proceed.

PC24.142 Finance

The RFO reported the continued overspend on Professional Fees and Community Buildings budgets as previously highlighted.

Cllr Waller confirmed that she had checked the monthly finances and was recommending them for approval.

Adoption of Monthly Accounts for October 2024

The Financial Statements had previously been circulated in Report 24.142(1). Total funds held on 31st October 2024 were £2,011,536.35.

Resolved: To adopt the monthly accounts for October as a true record of the Council's finances.

Authorisation of Payments

The lists of payments had been circulated in Report 24.142(1). Total cheque and BACS payments in November 2024 amounted to £121,578.18 including a payment of £88,560.00 to Wicksteed Leisure being 90% of the cost of the new Whitebridge Play Area. Debit card and direct debit payments in October 2024 amounted to £304.91.

Resolved: To approve the cheque, BACS, direct debit and debit card payments

Review of Reserves and Treasury Deposit Report

Reserves and Treasury Deposit Reports had been presented in Report 24.142(1).

A total of £1,846,696.81 was held on deposit on 31st October 2024. With Lloyds. £357,712.49 is invested in a 95-Day Notice account that yielded £1,155.54 interest. £10,345.46 remains in a 32-Day Notice account that yielded £21.97. £280,000 is invested in a 9-month Fixed Term account at 3.55%.

With CCLA. £1,198,638.86 is invested in the Public Sector Deposit Fund and earned a dividend of £4,899.64 in October. The dividend was re-invested. Interest and dividends earned in October 2024 were £6,077.15.

Earmarked Reserves held on 18th November 2024 are £1,724,988.75.

Resolved: to note the reserve and treasury deposit reports

The RFO had circulated Report 24.142(2) in advance of the meeting with a revised draft forecast of the Budget and Precept requirement for 2025/26, following the review of the first draft by the Finance and General Purposes FGP Committee. The RFO reported that no budget requests had yet been received from committees or working groups. The draft included £35,000 as a Community Facilities budget, primarily to assist at community centres. Budget adjustments had been made to cover the insurance normally recharged to community centres. The RFO was asked to consider additional provision for any grant applications from the Community Farm and Community Emergency Volunteers.

The RFO reported that the salaries budget may be adjusted following recent changes to Employers NI contributions. Professional Fees budget had been increased to £3,500 but would need to be increased again if employment consultants are appointed.

A budget line has been added for Election costs which Wiltshire Council will now be recharging to Parish Councils. Provision has been made for uncontested elections in each ward, but this would be significantly more if contested. A loan repayment line had also been added for additional funds required for works at Hampton Park Pavilion to create a new Parish Office. An approximate 9.7% increase in precept would be required. The December FGP Committee will review the next draft.

PC24.143 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reminded councillors of the consultation regarding remote meeting legislation and Salisbury City's consultation regarding their budget. The Chair and Clerk thanked the Operations Officer for successfully securing a grant for equipment for the Community Emergency Volunteers.

The CCEO reported on a recent meeting encouraging all Parish Councils to assist with education to community groups regarding the threat from Asian hornets.

PC24.144 Exempt Business/Matters in Confidence

Resolved: that in view of the commercial in confidence nature of the business about to be transacted, that the public and press be temporarily excluded from the meeting under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972 s100.

To consider the following item:

River Bourne Community Farm – Councillors discussed the lease with River Bourne Community Farm CIC and considered advice given by Wilsons Solicitors.

Resolved: for Wilsons Solicitors to write to the directors of River Bourne Community Farm CIC and make formal enquiries regarding the arrangement with The Riverbourne Edge and the CIC.

Resolved: to delegate authority to the Clerk to issue a section 146 notice.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 16 December 2024 at 7.00 pm at Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Centre, Pheasant Drive, Old Sarum, SP4 6GH.

SIGNED:

DATE:

ANNEX ONE

PL/2023/07368 Old Sarum Airfield

At it's meeting on 18th November 2024, Laverstock and Ford Parish Council resolved to maintain it's previous OBJECTION.

Having extensively perused all the documents associated with PL/2023/07368 Land At Old Sarum Airfield, Old Sarum, Salisbury, Wilts, SP4 6DZ, it appears that there are not really any significant changes to the original application.

Whilst the applicant seeks to mitigate the Heritage, Increased traffic, and Conservation aspects of the application, these have not been adequately addressed and the Parish Council continue to believe that the harm done to the Airfield, Village of Ford and the Conservation area would far outweigh any benefits. In addition, given the total absence of any Doctors, Dentists, and Pharmacists etc., in the Old Sarum, Longhedge and Ford catchment area, to further increase the population without adequate provision of these services, would be senseless. It will only contribute to the already heavily congested roads in Salisbury. Air quality, because of the increased, and at times stationary traffic around the city, would be compromised.

Despite what the applicant would have us believe, further houses in Old Sarum and Ford are neither wanted nor needed. The emerging Local Plan has already identified sites for future development in this Parish if it is required. The Local Plan has also recognised that Core policy 25 is flawed and it has been removed from the Local Plan. This has been done to protect the Conservation area and the Heritage aspect of the historic airfield.

Given the many refusals successive applications from this applicant have generated, his appeal to the latest refusal, shows a blatant disregard for the Public Purse and Council Finances.

Given the collapsed state of the Grade 2 Listed, Hanger 3, due to years of neglect, one might also question his ability, and desire, to adequately care for this Nationally important Heritage Site.

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council continue to oppose this application.