

Draft Minutes of The Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 4th May
2023 at Britford Memorial & Community Hall

The meeting started at 7pm

Present: Cllrs D Finnis (Chair), J Ranaboldo (Vice Chair), E Alston, T Bonallack, N Cole, M Sturgeon, B Wheeler

Also present: Jay McGowan (Clerk), Cllr Richard Clewer, Mrs L Knipe (Headteacher Longford C of E Primary School) plus 3 members of the public.

Agenda

1. Welcome from Chairman. Cllr Finnis opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. To receive and accept apologies for absence. None.

3. Mrs L Knipe, Headteacher at Longford C of E Primary School.

Mrs Knipe talked about the School and its place within the Parish. The School takes children from a wide community ranging from Harnham/Broad Chalk and Odstock. Due to the close proximity to Salisbury District Hospital the school has a diverse community with a current intake of 62 pupils, the school can have a maximum of 90. Classes are mixed year groups, which works well for the number and diverse mix of children.

Further plans for Longford are to join the Pickwick Academy, this being a teaching hub. The ethos of the School will still be maintained with strong links to the Church continuing to be held.

4. To receive a report from the Chairman of the Parish Council.

Cllr Finnis would like to thank Malcom Hitchings for all his time and efforts to have the High Road signs replaced after they were damaged in a road traffic accident. The Parish Council would also like to thank Mr Hitchings for the litter picking he continues to do on High Road.

The Parish Council would also like to thank, Angela Wheeler, Shelagh Lamb and the Jubilee/Coronation Committee for organising both Village events. The Jubilee Event held last year was very successful with many residents attending and enjoying being together as a community. The Coronation event will be held at the weekend with many residents looking forward to attending.

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Our thanks also go to Mr & Mrs Shipsey for supplying the Marquee for both events.

We would like to welcome Nat Cole, the new Flood Warden and Councillor. Nat is currently organising a community What's App group so information can be passed to residents quickly and efficiently.

Since the floods in January 2023, a lot of behind-the-scenes work has been carried out to ensure we can minimise future risk of flooding, following the floods the Britford Water Group has been formulated. This group hope to meet on a regular basis with Wiltshire Council, Wessex Water, Environmental Agency, and other agencies to look at measures which can be taken to avoid flooding in the Village. By working together; Parish Council, Agencies and Land Owners we hope to minimise risk of repeat flooding.

Finally, thank you to all Councillors and Clerk for all you do for the Parish, with particular thanks to Cllr Richard Clewer, Wiltshire Council Leader who attends all meetings.

5. Open Forum

A request to have zig-zag lines painted outside the School was made.

A need for regular maintenance of the footpaths around the Village is needed as many of the paths have become overgrown and difficult to navigate.

With no further business to discuss Cllr Finnis closed the meeting at 8pm.