

**Meeting of the of Longcot Parish Council
held in the St Mary's Church Hall, Church Close, Longcot
on Monday 11 October 2021 at 7pm**

Present

Andi Cunningham, Chairman, Nathan Boyd, John Barneby, Amy Cooper, Alan Rich and Tina Brock, Clerk.

176/21 Apologies for Absence.

CC Yvonne Constance (prior commitment), DC Simon Howell (prior commitment) and DC Elaine Ware (prior commitment). These apologies were received.

177/21 Variance of Order of Business. None.

178/21 Declaration of Interest. None.

179/21 Public Participation. None.

180/21 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 2 September 2021.

Council resolved to approve the minutes which were signed by the Chairman.

181/21 Matters arising from the minutes. None.

182/21 Public Participation. None.

REPORTS

183/21 Report from County Councillor.

CC Constance submitted a written report.

For information. Emailed to the A420 Parish Councils, Transport Planning Officers and Cabinet Member for transport policy

It's important to alert all to the ambitions of Swindon Borough Council (SBC) for the A420 between Swindon and Oxford. I am emailing a copy of my comments to the local Parish Councils on news that SBC is proposing to dual the A420, no doubt to meet their ambitions to develop a freight corridor but at the expense of Oxfordshire villages.

This will be news that concerns everybody, so here are my comments in response:

The A420 was due to be dualled in time of Blair Government, but the funding was redirected to the north at short notice. Any such scheme is unlikely to be funded now with Governments major 'levelling up' agenda. Even if it were to be seen as do-able, planners would have to explain what would be gained by moving traffic faster to the Botley roundabout and A34, which is already the most congested road system in the SE.

LTCP: Important to note that OCC is preparing to consult first stage of its next Local Strategic Transport Plan in November/December 2021. Detailed transport plans will be consulted by end of 2022

England Economic Heartland (EEH) regional study: A34/A420 road corridor study is also planned for 2022 (it was my initiative to get A420 included in this urgent study) which is the best opportunity to get proper Government attention to the real need to increase capacity on A34, probably by a relief road for strategic north-bound traffic with no business in Oxfordshire.

I have made sure to get a seat on the OCC Cabinet Advisory Group on Transport to press the case for A420 as a 'local road' both in OCC strategy EEH and in the region. (I will write a separate piece on the 'local road' issue)

In OCC we are very aware that Swindon is working to place itself in the regional arc (Oxford to Cambridge) with its offer of space for new commercial development and more affordable housing. They will promote dualling A420 in service of that ambition, but as it runs through Oxfordshire we residents will have a lot to say about any such plan. Mostly, I do not see that it improves traffic congestion around Oxford, and it would be a lot of money to spend on more congestion!

MEANWHILE however this is a recognition that the A420 is inadequate for its current purpose, and I will work to take advantage of that. As Swindon have made clear, the capacity of the A420 is too limited to carry the traffic they assume (and intend in future) which calls for proper management of the current traffic.

I will repeat (over and over again!) that OCC's current transport strategy (LTP4) is that Swindon's (HGV) traffic should use the M4/A34: the A420 is reserved for DIVERSION TRAFFIC only. If we can get that properly enforced that would be a real gain for our villages.

184/21 Report from District Councillor. None.

185/21 Update from Chairman. None.

FINANCE

186/21 Quarterly financials as of 30 September 2021 were noted.

187/21 Internal Audit.

Council approved commissioning Jane Olds to carry out the internal audit for the year ending 31 March 2022 at a fixed fee of £190 plus travel to and from office of 45p per mile.

188/21 Payments of Accounts.

It was resolved to authorise the payments below:

Table 1 List of receipts and payments.

Spending Power	Payments due:	Description	Total
EP123 Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	The Silver & Land Settlement	Allotment land rent	£10.00
EP124 LGA 1972 s112 Contract/Pensions Act 2014	T Brock	Salary	£201.05
EP125 LGA 1972 s112 Contract/Pensions Act 2014	Inland Revenue	Jul – Aug Tax	£150.80
EP126 LGA 1972 s111	The Net Result	Payroll	£55.50
DD Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	Castle Water - June	Allotment	£46.72
DD Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	Castle Water - July	Allotment	£46.72
DD Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	Castle Water - Aug	Allotment	£46.72
DD Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	Castle Water - Sept	Allotment	£46.72
EP127 LGA 1972 s111	T Brock	Reimbursement 2020- Oct 2021	£165.60

Bank balances as of 30 September 2021:

Current account £15,023.72 cr.

Deposit account £4,911.10 cr.

PLANNING

189/21 Submitted Planning Applications.

Council resolved to submit the following observations.

Table 2 List of submitted planning application responses. .

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P21/V1696/FUL amended details	Wellington Farm, Kings Lane, Longcot, Oxon <i>Erection of cattle housing unite – as amended by surface water drainage scheme 15/9/2021.</i> Support.
ii	P21/V2730/FUL	6 Hughes Crescent, Longcot, Oxon SN7 7SU <i>Extension and conversion of garage to create 1 x 2-bedroom dwelling with associated car parking and amenity space.</i> Objects. Council objects for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No drainage plan has been submitted. Council would request that Leigh Travers confirms that the drainage strategy meets the terms of the Longcot Flood Plan prior to the proposal being considered for approval of planning. • Overlooking of neighbours • Out of character of the area • Inadequate car parking. <p>Council would request that a Construction Management Plan be part of the condition of planning if granted due to the parking issues at Hughes Crescent.</p>

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
		<p>Council would also request that the views of the residents are taken into consideration.</p> <p><i>This application was not on the agenda but considered due to deadline for comments falling between meetings.</i></p>

PLAY AREA

190/21 Maintenance requests.

Council noted that there appeared to be a vehicle driving across the grass at The Dash play park instead of using the track. To be monitored.

HIGHWAYS

191/21 Update on any issues. None.

ALLOTMENTS

192/21 Update on any issues.

The water metre had been read. Council would consider reviewing the tenancy agreement and annual rent.

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

193/21 Update.

The Chairman reported that there had been an increase in rural crime.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Exclusion of Press and Public

To move the following resolution, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it is in the public interest that the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting, and they are requested to withdraw.

194/21 Any Matters. None.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

195/21 Next meeting of the Parish Council.

Wednesday 24 November 2021 at 7pm in the St Mary's Church Hall, Church Close, Longcot.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed.....Date.....2021