

# LONGFIELD & NEW BARN PARISH COUNCIL

www.longfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

**Parish Clerk:**

Paula Henney

Tel: 01474 707290

Email: Clerk@longfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk



**Office:** 1st Floor

Long Valley Hall

Fawkham Road

Longfield

Kent DA3 7QP

## Minutes of the Parish Meeting on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025

at Church Hall, Main Road, Longfield

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

**Those present:** Cllr. Steve Brown (Chair), Cllr. Phil Smith, Cllr. Paul Denman, Cllr. Catherine Stafford, Cllr. Jennifer MacDonald

**Clerk:** Paula Henney

**Apologies accepted for absence:** Cllr. J. Kite, Cllr. G. Sandher, Cllr. R. Perfitt, Cllr. M. Tamber, Cllr. C. Stollery  
Cllr. T. Mack

**Members of the public present:** None. PC Swan joined the meeting at 7.55pm and left 8.25pm

### 65/2025 Declarations of Interest:

- Cllr. Brown is a member of Dartford Borough Council, a member of the DBC cabinet and member of the Development Control Board at DBC.
- Cllr. Denman is a member of Dartford Borough Council and a member of the DBC cabinet
- Cllrs. Stafford, MacDonald and Smith had none to declare.

### 66/2025 Minutes of last meeting: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Minutes of last meeting APCM and monthly Parish Council meeting were approved by all present. Proposed by Cllr. Smith and seconded by Cllr. Brown.

**67/2025 Matters arising not recorded elsewhere:** None.

### 68/2025: Chairman's Report:

Cllr. Brown advised he had received communication from members of the community via social media around potential upgrades to the community play areas (specifically The Oval play space). He confirmed that upgrades being funded by Dartford Borough Council were areas owned by them or leased to the Parish Councils, for Longfield and New Barn parish council this would apply to Billabong Park by Long Valley Hall. Due to the high costs of park upgrades separate funded would need to be explored in the future.

### 69/2025: Correspondence:

The Clerk provided further clarification on correspondence **Items 8**. No further action was required.

**Item 9:** Acre Funding documentation for Village Halls. **Action:** Clerk to forward documentation to Cllr. Stafford.

**Item 10:** Parking concerns outside of St Mary Magdalene Church Hall. **Action:** Chair to contact DBC Parking Officers for advice.

**Item 11:** First Aid Course – not interest at present.

**70/2025 Public Question Time:** None

## 71/2025 Committee Reports and Recommendations

**Finances and General purpose:** Payments and receipts, proposed by Cllr. Stafford, seconded by Cllr. Smith. and approved by all present.

**Planning:** Cllr. Stafford presented on behalf of the Planning group and agreed by the full council meeting.

| Date       | Reference    | Property                                           | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 23/05/2025 | 25/00555/FUL | 53 Shearwater Longfield Kent DA3 7NL               | Erection of a single storey side extension and two storey rear extension                                                                                                                                       | <b>No objection</b>                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 28/05/2025 | 25/00477/FUL | 65A Main Road Longfield Kent DA3 7QT               | Provision of a dropped kerb onto B260 to provide off-street parking at the front of the property, with alterations to gradient of front garden                                                                 | <b>No objection</b>                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 03/06/2025 | 25/00606/TPO | 28 Fawkham Avenue Longfield Kent DA3 7HF           | Removal of nine conifer trees within the front garden subject to Tree Preservation Order No. 1979                                                                                                              | <b>Object. The removal of these trees would have a significant detrimental impact on the street scene, and the trees are not diseased or dangerous</b>                                   |
| 11/06/2025 | 25/00647/TPO | Laurean House Pincroft Wood Longfield Kent DA3 7HB | Removal of one mature Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) tree and a replacement tree to be planted as shown on the plan using a 12-14cm Malus x robusta 'John Downie' subject to Tree Preservation Order No.1 1989 | <b>Object. A similar application was refused in 2021. The tree is a significant feature in the street scene, and the proposal to replace it with a crab apple tree is not acceptable</b> |

**Quarter 1 2025/2026 Budget Report** – Received and noted by all present.

### Invoices for approval:

Invoices below were approved for payment by all present:

|                                          |                 |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Playfix (Oval repairs)</b>            | <b>£5190.00</b> |
| <b>Scribe Accounting licence renewal</b> | <b>£ 777.60</b> |
| <b>Omega Tree Care</b>                   | <b>£ 520.00</b> |

## 72/2025 Lighting/Street Scenes and Allotments:

**Allotments:** Request for chickens by new plot holder at Longfield Hill approved by all present. Clerk confirmed all chickens now have to be registered and links sent to allotment tenant.

Clerk advised that all allotment plots with the exception of one (overgrown) at Whitehill Road have been let and regular monitoring and process in place to ensure plots are being worked/maintained as per the tenancy agreement. Council confirmed agreement for the Plot 73 to be relinquished by the Parish Council.

Communication received regarding overgrown hedging/ivy issues along fencing with neighbouring property at Longfield Hill. **Action:** Clerk and Cllr Stafford to arrange a visit.

## 73/2025 Grants and Community

**PC Swan** – provided an update on the work within the community. Cllr. Smith raised concerns around recent car thefts in the area and lack of support available from the local PC's. Cllr. Denman confirmed he would be attending the Crime and Disorder Committee meeting in July 2025 and would raise the issues of

support on behalf of the Parish Council. PC Swan confirmed he would be happy to set up a community drop in event. **Action:** Clerk to liaise with PC Swan for suitable dates and venue.

**Long Valley Hall:** Ongoing parking issues with the car park being used by members of the community other than hall, social club and long valley field users which is impacting available spaces for hall hirers and ongoing concerns raised over anti-social behaviour in the hall car park. Reports are made directly to the Police with regards to anti-social behaviour. **Action:** Cllr. Brown with contact DBC Parking Officers for advice.

Approved by all present to replace the seeping solenoid. **Action:** Clerk to arrange replacement.

Clerk presenting two quotes for the statutory electrical compliance testing. **Action:** Clerk to revisit quote with current provider and council gave delegated authority to the Clerk to make decision and proceed due to timeline to complete by 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025.

Due to the recent availability of our local hall volunteer, discussions were held and agreed with regards to plans to offer immediate support to assist both our volunteer and the Clerk in managing the day-to-day hall hire. Plans for medium- and long-term management would be reviewed in the coming weeks.

**Parish Community Event 2025:** It was resolved that due to the late start required for the open-air film night and the target audience this will be deferred and reviewed for next years event. It was agreed by all present to proceed with a Community Fire Work Night. **Action:** Clerk to check dates of other local events, and propose best date for event to be held.

**Parking St Mary Magdalene Church & Disabled Parking Bays Kent Road:** After general discussion it was agreed that Cllr. Brown would liaise with DBC Parking Officers. Three elected members would also need to confirm support to enable review of disabled parking bay issues at Kent Road.

**74/2025 Kent Association of Local Councils:** Cllr. MacDonald confirmed she attended the KALC EGM and would provide an update report.

**75/2025 Borough and Parish Councils Forum:** None

**76/2025 Dartford Borough Council:** Cllr. Brown advised that business was continuing as usual and there was a schedule of events planned throughout the coming months.

**77/2025 Kent County Council:** None.

**Meeting closed at 9.45pm.**

**Next meeting: 7.30pm Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025**