

# LONGTOWN GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Craswall, Llanveynoe, Longtown and Walterstone

Minutes of the Longtown Group Parish Council Meeting. Held at the Craswall Village Hall, Longtown, HR2 0LD on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025 commencing at 7.30pm.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors Cecil (Chair), Jones, Davies, Guy, Short, Powell, Vaughan

**ALSO PRESENT:** Andrew London (Clerk to Longtown Group Parish Council), and Mr Matthew Engel (Ward Councillor) and PCSO Knight. There were no members of the public present.

**1. To Receive Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Councillors Stinchcombe Watkins and Probert.

**2. To Receive Declarations of Interest or consider any written requests for dispensation.**

No Declarations were made.

**3. To approve the minutes of the last regular Council meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**

The draft minutes had been circulated to Councillors and were available in written form for reference. Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair.

**4. Open Forum – To receive questions from members of the public. Prior notice of questions is advised to give as full and accurate answer as possible. There will be a time limit of 3minutes per subject.**

There were no members of the public present. No issues were raised.

**5. To Consider Mr Malcolm Howells of 'Hen Awir', Craswall for Co-Option to the Council.**

Mr Howells was not present. He had forwarded a resume and was proposed by Councillor Powell. He was known as a good candidate and not disqualified from office. Council discussed the applicant and RESOLVED to Co-Opt him to the Council.

**6. To Further Discuss the application for premise licence at Walterstone.**

Councillor Davies has been active on Councils behalf in the objection to the granting of a premises licence. He updated council on the current public reaction and objections. The application was discussed at length with advice from Councillor Engel and PCSO Knight. It was RESOLVED to form a working group to further the objections. The working group would consist of Councillors Davies Guy and Jones together with the Ward Councillor Matthew Engel.

**7. Police Report.**

PCSO knight was present at the meeting. He gave an update on police matters for the parishes. He reported that there had been a burglary on a building site where a container had been entered and a quad stolen. He further reported details of a stolen Ifor Williams trailer and a stolen chainsaw from Craswall. He emphasised the importance of property marking stating that assistance on this was available from West Mercia Police.

**8. Ward Councillor Report.**

Councillor Engel gave an update on Herefordshire Council issues. He reported that there was to be a Planning meeting open for Councillors to attend. Having given his report, he left the meeting.

**9. Councillor Issues – For Councillors to raise local issues for further discussion.**

Councillor Cook gave an update on recent Welsh Water works in Longtown. This has been a source of recent complaint. It was reported that the issues had now been resolved. Councillor Guy gave an update regarding Defibrillators. Longtown School had requested assistance with the school defibrillator. A discussion followed

where the Council offered to consider assisting the school in two years' time when the batteries near replacement in March 2027. Councillor Guy will advise the school accordingly. Councillor Guy asked for the subject of Defibrillators to be returned to the agenda at the next meeting.

**10. Speed reduction - an update from Councillor Cook.**

Councillor Cook reported a recent meeting with Herefordshire Council. He stated that the white lines would be repainted and that 30mph repeater signs would be positioned in the village. An advisory 20mph sign would be placed near to the flashing amber lights at the school. There would be consideration of ornamental gates at the start of the 30-mph zone which would be sited to give an impression of a built-up area, this would depend on cost. A speed indicator device (SID) could also be located within the 30 area, again, dependant on cost.

**10. PLANNING**

**a. To consider comments on planning applications for determination by Herefordshire Council.**

1. Planning application 250507 a proposed change of use of land with siting of a log cabin at Little Blackhill Farm, Cefn lane, Llanveynoe. Council discussed the application and RESOLVED to support without comment.

**b. To note decision by Herefordshire Council on Planning already discussed by the Parish Council.**

Council noted the list of decisions by Herefordshire Council.

**c. To note applications awaiting decision by Herefordshire Council.**

Council noted the outstanding list of planning applications.

Councillor Engel will check on the status of the Greyhound Close application.

**11. FINANCES & POLICY.**

**a. To receive an update of finances.**

The Clerk reported the current balances to Council.

**b. To consider the below invoices for payment.**

Council RESOLVED to approve the below list for payment.

1. Clerks' pay (02/25) – In line with contract.
2. Clerks' expenses (02/25) - £32.60p.
3. HMRC – Clerks PAYE (02/25) – In line with contract.
4. Autela Payroll services - £102.33p.
5. DC Garden Services – Lengthsman work for February 25 - £529.20p.

**12. LENGTHSMAN & HIGHWAYS.**

**a.** Cats Back Car Park – an update from the Clerk – There is no update.

**b.** To discuss advertising the post of Lengthsman. The Clerk reported that he had received an E Mail requesting to be considered as parish Lengthsman. He had taken advice, and it would be necessary to advertise the position. Council instructed the clerk to proceed with this.

**13. Climate Change – Councillor Stinchcombe was not present at the meeting. There was no report.**

**14. NEXT MEETINGS –**

8.00pm Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at Walterstone Village Hall.

Signed