

Leckhampstead Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting Held Tuesday 14th January 2025 6.30pm
In Leckhampstead Village Hall

Present:

Cllr E Knight (Chairman)
Cllr D Williams
Cllr E Vince
Cllr A Capron (Chairman)
Cllr C Ball

Absent:

E Morrisen (Clerk)

Parishioner questions/Comments	
1. Absences from E Morrisen. Declarations of Interest- none 2. Minutes of meeting held 8th October were signed by Cllr E Knight 3. Guy Stevens and Andrew Burfoot were co-opted to the Parish Council to fill the vacancies. The Chairman and Clive Hooker (WBC Ward Councillor) both thanked the new councillors for putting themselves forward. The Chairman also thanked Edward Vince for over 30 years of service as a Parish Councillor and Chairman. Clerk to provide signed paperwork to WBC. 4. Newsletter – update from Editor and plans for the new year. To continue at same price of £855 to Parish Council with similar number of editions. The Chairman thanks Guy Stevens, the editor. 5. Concern raised by parishioner ref gate at Nuttington end of village. WBC had been contacted and asked about repair and responsibility for the speed awareness gate at the entrance to Nuttingtons. No reply had been received. [Shortly after the meeting, WBC informed the Parish Council that the gate had become the property of the Parish Council. The issue will be put back on the agenda for the next meeting.] Clerk will follow up with WBC. 6. Fly tipping ref 17636843. Requests have been made to WBC to clear the fly-tipping on Grove Pit Common. No response has yet been received. Clerk will follow up with WBC. 7. Update on makeshift shooting range. The shooting gallery on Grove Pit Common has been diligently removed. The Chairman thanked those responsible. 8. WBCS visits for 2025. It was agreed that the Parish Council would pay for two visits over the coming year for a donation of £100 per visit. Clerk to confirm to WBCS. 9. Grass verges in village with large stones. The Parish Council agreed with Cllr Balls' concern about the risk of damage to vehicles and injury to pedestrians caused by stones being placed on verges. The Parish Council asked the Parish Clerk to write to WBC [NB Gareth Dowding] to enquire about the legality of such stones and will consider the response at the next meeting. 10. 2025 mowing contracts including areas to be covered. Agreed to engage Cantlay's at £200 per cut for upto 14 cuts. Maintenance of the Old Pond. Agreed to ask Cantlay's and invite other tenders before agreeing to renew GMG contract. 11. Library- Parish Council agreed to liaise with WBC about the replacement of the mobile library service with a community café initiative using the Village Hall. The Parish Council was particularly interested in the potential costs. 12. Current Year to Date spend was reviewed.	EM EM EM EM EM EM

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13. 2025/26 Budget. Budget was approved at £8,749.12 with an additional contingency fund 14. 2025/26 due by 31st Jan. Precept to remain at £9,400. Clerk to submit form to WBC. 15. Balance invoices and receipts since the October meeting. Payments made since October meeting: HILL GREEN MOWING CONTRIBUTION @ £750, EJM TREE WORK INV 7203 @ £650 + VAT, WBCS @ £25, CLERK WAGES SEP @£129.90, VILLAGE HALL HIRE 2024 (5) INV 2504 @ £100, CLERK EXPENSES @ £11.70, CLERK WAGES OCT @ £130.10, WBC @ £216.50 + VAT, S&S MANAGEMENT @ £720 + VAT, Clerk wages Nov @£129.90, J CANTLAY @ £240 + VAT, IMPRINT @ £95, AUTELA @ £62.54 + VAT, WBCS @ £75, CLERK WAGES DEC @ £130.10, CLERK EXPENSES- STAMPS @ £10.70 16. Cheques to sign – to be actioned at a later date. 17. Planning Applications: agreed responses on 24/01977/FUL- Woodside & 24/02675/HOUSE- 7 Nuttingtons. State for the record decisions on: 24/01919/HOUSE- 13 Nuttingtons GRANTED , 23/02913/FULMAJ- Development of agricultural barns REFUSED & 24/01467/HOUSE- Catslide Cottage REFUSED. 18. Clerk to report on correspondence received / follow ups to note - NA as Clerk absent 19. Matters for Future Agendas	EM

Signed- E Morrisen