

**LONGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
19:00 MONDAY 11th MAY 2026 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Alice Foster (AFo) – Chairman
Cllr Selina Musters (SM) – Vice Chairman
Cllr Kirsty Dominick-Gibson (KDG)
Cllr Angie Filippa (AF)
Cllr Charles Grieve (CG)
Cllr Beccy Soper (BS)
In attendance: Clerk Gill Bulpitt, David Drew (DD) HCC Councillor (part of the meeting), Ian Jeffries (IJ) TVBC Councillor (part of the meeting) and 1 resident

1) Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman:

- a) AFo was proposed as Chairman by AF, seconded by BS, and unanimously elected by Councillors. SM was proposed as Vice Chairman by AFo, seconded by AF, and unanimously elected by Councillors.
- b) Declaration of Acceptance of Office: Both AFo and SM signed the official DAO book.

2) Apologies: Cllr Sarah Johns (SJ); Colin McIntyre (CM), Leckford Estate

3) Declarations of interest : None

4) Minutes of PC Meeting of 13th April 2026

- a) Unanimously agreed for adoption and signed by AFo.

As IJ and DD had to leave the meeting early, the Chairman amended the order of the agenda items. Therefore the minute numbering does not exactly match the agenda.

5) TVBC Report (IJ)

- a) IJ summarised Mid-Test Matters which will be posted on the Longstock website
- b) Local Government Re-organisation – IJ unable to provide any updates and the parish councils will be provided with any proposed changes and timescales for implementation.

6) Points from the Floor

- a) Resident thanks to HCC for fixing the large pothole on The Bunny plus positive comments about the Church Fields development where it was noted the houses fit in well with the surrounding environment and the tenants appear to be content.

7) Appointment of Committees/Working Groups, their members and agree their Terms of Reference

- a) Longstock Playground Working Group – The current ToR was re-confirmed and agreed. Members: AFo, SM, BS, KDG and G Bulpitt

8) Policies

- a) The Council considered pre-circulated amendments to the policy documents in line with HALC/NALC guidance:
 - i) Standing Orders – No amendments were recommended and this was unanimously agreed.
 - ii) Financial Regulations - No amendments were recommended and this was unanimously agreed.
 - iii) Internal Controls – Pre-circulated amendment with regards to the Clerk debit card unanimously agreed
 - iv) Code of Conduct - No amendments were recommended and this was unanimously agreed.
- b) Clerk will update the website with the amended documents

9) Correspondence

- a) Item to note in the email from Andy Ferrier, Chief Executive TVBC, confirming that the new Mid-Hants unitary council elections will take place in May 2032 with shadow elections in May 2027. It is suggested that the parish councils follow the same pattern, meaning any councillor elected in May 2027 would serve a 5-year term.

10) Planning Application

- a) 26/00820/FULLN - Partial demolition of an existing building and clearance of modified grassland to facilitate construction of a new bat roost building - Charity Down Farm. Unanimous PC Support.
- b) 26/00876/FULLN - Replacement of existing access path with new relocated path and improvements to existing

parking area – 29 Longstock. Unanimous PC Support.

- c) 26/00924/TREEN – Reduce Prunus by 2m – Carbery House. Unanimous PC No objection
- d) Update the PC on recent previously discussed applications – None

11) Highways

- a) There is a pot hole in Roman Road, AF to send details to the Clerk.
- b) Traffic Calming Measures (AFo) – There was positive support amongst Councillors for the proposals from AFo for posters on the bins to be designed with a Children’s competition. Clerk will seek permission from HCC regarding the concept. AFo to ask her local network if there are any other parishes that have such signs. Final proposals will be agreed once comments received from HCC. **ACTION:** Clerk

12) Finance

- a) **Monthly Finance Report** – Clerk circulated PC Bank account status also showing approved May payments and income receipts. Reviewed and approved. The Bank balance is £16,940.70. Cllrs noted the income and expenditure. Payment approved Infinity Playground (inspection) £66.00.
- b) **Annual AGAR Governance Statement** - Clerk took the PC through each of the clauses of Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2025/6 including the new clause 10, and it was unanimously agreed that the PC complies with each of the conditions and duly signed by Clerk (RFO) and Chairman.
- c) **End of Year Accounting Statements** – Clerk circulated the 2025/26 financial accounts which had been signed by the Internal Auditor. The completed Section 2 of the AGAR (Accounting Statements) were considered by the Council, unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman. The Bank reconciliation template was duly signed by the Chairman.
- d) **AGAR Certificate of Exemption** - Clerk confirmed that as both income and expenditure were above £25k, LPC is not able to declare itself exempt from external audit this year and would be subject to a limited assurance review.
- e) **Notice of the period for the exercise of Public Rights** – Tuesday 17 June to Monday 28 July 2026. Notices will be placed on notice boards before 16 June 2026.
- f) **Declaration of Conflict of Interests with BDO LLP** - All Cllrs confirmed they had no conflicts of interest with BDO LLP, duly signed by Clerk/RFO and the Chairman.
- g) **Budget 25-26 Outturn and Reserves** – Clerk circulated the 25-26 outturn compared to the budget which shows the PC was £49 overspent on the key budget lines due to unforeseen charges eg external audit, bank charges and email provision, even though savings had been made on some of the other budget lines. The 25-26 year end Bank Account balance was £17,988 with earmarked funds as NHP £1,000, Playground refurbishment £2,260, Newsletter surplus £256, Telephone Kiosk Grant £5,100 leaving a total in reserve of £9,372. This equates to 10 months’ expenditure, which is more that would be expected. PC agreed that we needed to keep some funds in general reserve for unexpected expenditure but it was unanimously Resolved that an additional £1,000 would be earmarked for the playground refurbishment making the total £3,360. Future playground refurbishment funds may have to be raised through the precept as fundraising is becoming more difficult. This will be diarised for the December meeting when the budget is set for 2027/28. **ACTION:** Clerk

As SM had to leave the meeting early, the Chairman proposed that the Cllr report should be brought forward on the agenda.

13) Councillors’ Reports

- a) Village Hall and Street Lights (SM)
 - i) Village Hall – AGM set for 21st May. John Musters is retiring after 33 years serving on the Committee. Vote of thanks will be given by AFO. Miles Bulpitt will be taking over as Treasurer, with the Chairman of the Committee to be decided at the AGM.
 - ii) Newsletter – Deadline is 13th May. The delivery lead will be BS. Discussion around content and delivery numbers.

SM left at 8:20pm and DD arrived

14) HCC Report (DD)

- a) Congratulations provided to DD upon his personal success at the recent elections. It is unclear yet about how HCC will operate with committees as no party has an overall majority. Further information to follow.
- b) DD summarised his May report which will be posted on the Longstock website.

15) Village Benches (CG) - CG provided a review of all village benches in terms of condition and stability together with the finish of each bench. Councillors unanimously agreed that the Lengthsman should be used for this task as

some of the benches are in poor repair. He will remove them and get them back to a useable and stable condition. It was agreed that CG will determine the priority order with the poorest stability score to be done first.

16) Councillors' Reports

a) Affordable Housing and NHP. (AF)

- i. Affordable housing – Church Road Development, AF to send a letter to Amiri and English Rural for being considerate builders.

b) Allotments, Cemetery and Henry Smith Charity. (KDG)

- i. Allotments – Annual BBQ invite has been sent. Rosie Flewitt is the contact point for the allotments.
- ii. Cemetery – Thank you to Miles Bulpitt for mowing the grass and it is looking very tidy. Miles Bulpitt will remove the broken bench by the entrance.
- iii. Henry Smith – There have been two grants provided.

c) Footpaths, Lengthsman & Remembrance (CG)

- i. Footpaths – All open
- ii. Lengthsman – In April he was due to clean the street signage and clear undergrowth (CG to check duties have been undertaken). In May he is due to clear the foliage around the Bunny bench, litter pick and start on the benches and in June he is planned to dig out the grips, work on the benches and possibly clean the Test Bridge.

d) Danebury School, Website, Telephone Box. (AFo)

- i. Danebury School – AFo read out a report from The Head of the school with positive news. The school is seeking 2 minibus drivers.
- ii. Website – up to date. Clerk also has access and can update as necessary.
- iii. Telephone Box – Grant funds have been received. Awaiting confirmation that there is no live electricity supply to the kiosk. There is a two-week lead time for British Bits to remove the box.

e) Playground (BS)

- i. Fencing – AFo advised that Rowena and Giles Burnfield have offered to mend the fencing with the PC paying for materials. AFo to confirm this will be done before the Fete. **ACTION:** AFo
- ii. Fundraising – The PC decided that the new equipment is sufficient for the needs of the village and the left-over wooden equipment will be removed when it reaches the end of their life. There has been a lack of support for recent fundraising events and as a result no future fundraising will be undertaken by the Playground Committee and the ongoing maintenance will be covered by the PC. An article will be placed in the newsletter. **ACTION:** BS

17) Matters Raised and for possible inclusion on next month's agenda

None

18) Date of Next Meeting

- a) Agreed as Monday 1st June at 7:00pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9:30pm

Monthly Finance Report for Longstock PC Meeting

Month: April 2026

Date of PC Meeting: 11/May/2026

**Bank Account Status as at
30/04/2026**

Current Account	£ 16,940.70
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**Income Received in Apr 2026
(Items included in the current account balance above)**

Type	Date Received	From	Description	Amount

**Payments Approved in Apr
2026
(Items included in the current account bank balance
above)**

Type	Date issued	Payee	Detail	Amount
BACS*	14/04/2026	D Robins	Playground Grass Cutting (Jan-Mar)	£ 500.00
BACS*	14/04/2026	HALC	Affiliation Fees	£ 289.00
BACS*	22/04/2026	SSE	Streetlights	£ 89.06
DD	22/04/2026	Hugo Fox	Website Provision	£ 143.86
DD	28/04/2026	Lloyds Bank	Bank Charges	£ 5.25
Card	30/04/2026	TVBC	Licence Application for camp out	£ 21.00

* Faster Payment authorised by
Cllrs

**Income to be received (Items received and NOT yet included in the current account bank
balance above)**

Type	Date Received	From	Description	Amount
None				£ -

Payments Approved (Items NOT included in the current account bank balance above)

Type	Date issued	Payee	Detail	Amount

**Projected Bank Account Status (including all
approved items)**

Current Account	£ 16,940.70
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**Invoices received and requiring authorisation for
payment**

Type	Date Received	From	Description	Amount
INV	28/04/2026	Infinity Playgrounds	Playground Inspection	£ 66.00

Signed by The Chairman