LITTLE LONGSTONE PARISH MEETING
Clerk: Sarah Stokes
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Minutes of the Parish Meeting 28th May 2026 in Little Longstone chapel

Present: Mr J Cotterill (Chair), Ms G Blair (Vice Chair), Mr J Longsdon, Mrs C Cotterill, Mrs E Lee, Mr and Mrs N Morgan, Mr and Mrs K Adamson, Mr S Headington, Ms J Elliot, Mrs R Edwards, Ms K Askew, Mrs J Gledhill, Mr S Robertson, Mr and Mrs M Swift, Mrs A Plowright, Mr G Brooke, Mrs J Blair, Mrs A Whittlestone, Mr P Davey and Mrs S Stokes (Clerk).

The Chair opened the meeting at 7pm.

12/26 **To accept apologies from members**. Apologies were received from Ms L Statham and Mrs M Longsdon.

13/26 **Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda**. (Please make the meeting aware if you are not on the electoral roll for Little Longstone) - Mr S Headington (Clerk to Great Longstone Parish Council) and Mr and Mrs N Morgan not on the electoral roll. Mrs N Morgan declared an interest in the car park lease (surrender of deed) and Ice cream van (request by Fredericks to sell drinks).

Noted, the chair advised the meeting that only those on the electoral roll have a right to speak and vote within the meeting, but confirmed that K Morgan would be able to speak, by invitation, on the items of declared interest. The Morgans stated that N Morgan was no longer involved in the business.

14/26 **Minutes of the meeting 9th March 2026**. Clerk noted that the new email address of 'clerk@littlelongstoneparishmeeting.gov.uk' should be on the minutes not the old one, document changed for Chair to sign. The minutes were proposed by Mrs A Plowright and seconded by Mr G Brooke.

15/26 **Election of Chair**. To note recruitment of new Chair with current Chair stepping down by May 2027. The Chair highlighted that the role of the Chair is not just for the meetings, there are responsibilities to the accounts and governance, and being the Financial Officer. Later this year the meeting will be dealing with the car park lease; ice cream tender, electrical cabinet for the car park, also recruiting a new Clerk. Little Longstone is a complicated Parish Meeting. Looking forward, the Chair suggested he stays as Chair for 6 months, whilst a Vice Chair works alongside learning the procedures and responsibilities, in preparation for the role as a Chair. The new Chair and Vice Chair would be co opted on as the Chair would stand down (post would become vacant) and it being part term. Chair highlighted that Alex Longsdon had put himself forward for the Chairs post (Alex not present at the meeting). Mr J Longsdon stated that Alex had decided against it, at this point in time.

The Chair left the meeting at 7.09pm.

Mrs E Adamson proposed Mr J Cotterill as Cahir for 6 months, seconded by Mr S Robertson.

The proposal was put to a vote and Mr J Cotterill was duly re-elected as Chair for a period of six months

The Chair re-joined the meeting at 7.12pm.

16/26 **Election of Vice Chair.** Ms G Blair put herself forward as Vice Chair, with a view to being Chair (subject to approval, when the Chair stands down). Mrs A Plowright proposed Ms G Blair as Vice Chair, seconded by Mrs K Adamson. Vote – 12 in favour, 0 against, 5 abstentions. Ms G Blair was duly elected Vice Chair

Mr J Cotterill thanked Mr J Longsdon for his support as the previous Vice Chair and offer of Vice Chair back up.

17/26 **Financial matters.**

17.1 **To approve payments since last meeting**.

Dalc	subscription	£15.00
Clear Insurance Management Ltd	insurance	£588.68

The payments were proposed by Mr G Brooke and seconded by Mr K Adamson.

17.2 **To approve payments to be made.**

Little Longstone Congregational chapel	room hire	£80.00
Sarah Stokes (Parish Clerk)	Admin	£1755.50
Sarah Stokes (Parish Clerk)	Exp	£99.21
Sarah Stokes (Parish Clerk)	Clay	£240.54

The payments were proposed by Mr G Brooke and seconded by Ms J Elliott.

To note Clerk expenses, include plastic boxes for new bunting.
To note renewal of 'Local Councils insurance'.

RBS current a/c - £1000.18 RBS reserve a/c - £9948.21

The Accounting documents were distributed to the members.

17.3 **To approve Annual Governance statement for audit 2025/2026**.

Without invitation, K Morgan demanded to know how all the money was being spent. Chair stated this is not appropriate at this point.

The Annual Governance statement was proposed by Mrs A Whittlestone and seconded by Mrs E Lee. Chair duly signed.

17.4 **To approve Accounting statements for audit 2025/2026**.

In response to K morgan's previous question regarding money, Chair highlighted the expenditure on the community groups and projects I.E. £6000 – MUGA , the funds from s 137/Chairs fund to Lasra and the subscriptions to BECT (£1000), Leap and UTE, (£850 each). To note a Parish Meeting has strict spending limits.

There followed another uninvited set of comments from K Morgan, referencing legislation and the Local Government Act a Parish Meeting should not be able to hold funds and all money should be into the local community; what the parish meeting was doing was not legal. The chair asked had this information come from an AI chatbot, to which N Morgan took exception and the chair apologised.

K Morgan accused Sarah Stokes of deliberately trying to exclude them from the meeting by not sending them an invite to the meeting; questioning the parish right to interrupting people's lives, ruining their business and a formal complaint was going in. Chair stated that the accusation was incorrect, that this is an open public meeting with the agenda posted (with time and dates) on the public noticeboard, meetings also get advertised in UTE; nobody gets invited to the meetings, unless guest speaker. The Morgans had only received a previous email invite to meeting when they were new to the parish. Two years ago, N Morgan last came to the meeting, in relation to a request by Fredricks to sell drinks. At that meeting the PM decided not to allow Fredericks to sell drinks.

A member of the meeting asked K Morgan to stop interrupting.

The Accounting statements were proposed by Mrs G Blair and seconded by Mrs E Le and then approved by the meeting. Chair duly signed.

To note internal audit by Allen West and Foster.
To note Clerk to send documents off for the external audit/ display on noticeboard.

17.5 **Fols - funding.** Advice from Dalc that funds could only be given for things additional to the curriculum. Further clarification on this matter still being sought. No request for funds from Fols at present.

18/26 **Planning matters**. None.

19/26 **<u>Matters arising.</u>**

19.1 **Monsal Head**.

19.1.1 **Car park lease** – update. No objections received following the notice published, pursuant to section 127 of the Local Government Act 1972, stating that objections to the land at Monsal Head disposal to be considered (deed of surrender). To approve the car park lease with DDDC.

Chair stated that the Parish own the land, DDDC lease it and manage it. LLPM's Solicitor has worked in conjunction with DDDC's Solicitor on the lease. DDDC 's Solicitor raised the need to issue public notices advertising 'Disposal of public open space at Monsal Head'. There were two notices relating to the lease, one for LLPM and one for DDDC. DDDC organised both together (notice published 24th Feb 2026, objections by 5th March 2026.) DDDC reported no objections on 9th March.

K Morgan was then invited to speak and stated: that Caroline Leatherday of DDDC (name on notice) knows nothing about this. And that C Leatherday has stated that a notice should have gone up on site and apologises and that C Leatherday will accept a late objection. K Morgan will be putting in a formal objection; stated the lease was unlawful; any changes must go to planning. K Morgan went on to say that the land should never have been able to be used as it is, the lease should go to the highest bidder and the peppercorn rent was not right. As a number of legal acts and references were cited by K Morgan, the chair asked if K Morgan had a legal background; the chair acknowledged that he could not know whether what was being stated was correct or not and asked for the objections to be put in writing, so it could be passed to our solicitor and DDDC. K Morgan then stated a number of things such as, it should not be a hidden deal - a back hand deal; the PM was profiting from the ice cream, which was a bidding war; Hobbs previous owners played the game – left the building of Hobbs café In poor state and they have spent a lot of money restoring it, have boys to raise, put in a tender of £6k (last tender) - which parish chose to ignore, there has been a knock on effect. Hobbs used to employ 16 local youths now trading from a van, not rolling in the money; there is so little regard for local families/its personal.

During the above a member asked K Morgan to stop shouting. To note the shouting was being directed at the Chair and Clerk.

Chair reported that Caroline Leatherday is council's chief administration officer responsible for all the Parish Meetings and that the council notices were published in the local paper (Matlock Mercury) and on the DDDC website. Caroline Leatherday is also the Proper Officer to DDDC and a Trustee of the parish and would be involved signing the lease agreement.

7.39 K Morgan left the meeting.

N Morgan stated an objection will go to LLPM first, then DDDC; Issue with the tender process.
The chair fully acknowledged the Morgan's right to raise an objection

As the subject of the ice cream tender had been brought up, the Chair stated that K & N Morgan knew there was an ice cream van lease in place when took over from previous owners; the Morgans had not come to any meetings for the last two years, but in that meeting LLPM responded to issues raised at Hobbs – asked for the public toilet to be signed (sign went up), bins to be more regularly emptied (they are), requested an environmental check on the ice cream van on the car park (carried out) – actioned all.

A member raised a point of order as they wanted it stating for the record that the Parish Meeting are public meetings open to all and clearly advertised, the whole community benefits from LLPM funds, through MUGA funds, bunting, well dressing etc and hope we can find a middle ground.

Approving the car park lease: As the meeting had just been notified that a late objection was being submitted it was agreed that approving the lease should be postponed until the next meeting

Clerk had circulated a handout, as per conversation with Ben Redshaw of DDDC.

19.1.2 **Power take off point** – update. As per handout: DDDC are putting in a new payment machine in Sept 26, plan is to do some of the power take off work (Ice cream van electrics) at this point; Aiming for national grid to do the work on the new electrics this side of the summer holidays; spoke on timings for the new ice cream tender, and them doing the work asap to allow for this; advised to keep the tender document open on electric/ no electric, as only so many vans are electric. Some operators bring a trailer and hook up for freezer. May reduce interest if state only electric; spoke on the hatched area being red hatched, not white, to define it more, to stop people parking on it, Ben ok with this; DDDC have a new generic sign which could be used to 'reserve' the ice cream van area; Doesn't think will need to close the road for the national grid works and relocate the ice cream van into the rear car park (while work being carried out). To note asked for the work to be carried out asap in advance of the tender process for the next ice cream van lease and to be kept informed on planned dates.

19.1.3 **Litter/bins/benches.** The Clerk had been made aware of the rubbish situation over the bank holiday, also physically been on site to look. Bins were full and overflowing with numerous bags around them, in particular the one nearest the ice cream van, due to its location. It was suggested we ask Fredericks if they have to use the little holders for the ice cream, this would reduce some rubbish (hygiene noted as a reason for using them was raised). Clerk to ask. Clerk had raised this with DDDC and also asked on the frequency of the emptying at a bank holiday (no reply).

19.1.4 **Ice cream van**. 'No parking' signage – see under 'power take off. To note Clerk to look at the tender documents 2027 – 2029.

N Morgan kindly left the meeting at 7.53 at the request of the chair so that the members could freely discuss item below.

Request to sell drinks from the van - Fredericks:
Areas discussed: Hobbs trading from their van now /air b and B; 'Hobbs' have a van selling drinks; Monsal – 'canteen' sell drink; free to trade; Hobbs knew there was an ice cream van on the car park when they moved there; it's a business world; Fredericks pay to sell ice cream not drinks, stick to the original; further litter of selling drinks from the ice cream van was raised ; other businesses to Fredericks would be negatively affected; to look at whether to include sale of drinks in next tender.

Note wording on Ice cream licence – 'The licence may sell from the van only ice cream and ice lollies he may not sell any other class of goods from the van other than ancillary items with written consent of the Little Longstone Parish Meeting'.

Chair took a vote on Fredericks selling drink, all in favour of not accepting Fredericks request to sell drinks. Clerk to action – say no.

N Morgan rejoined the meeting at 8.02pm

19.2 **Monsal Dale/viaduct**. To update on meetings with Peak Park/DCC/K Adamson and Sara Barrett (Neighbourhood Plan) – areas discussed: steep steps and a plan moving forward; nobbles on weir path; viaduct trees and trees management generally; fire signage; P Park piloting out of hours signage; woodland management plan to enjoy the view of the viaduct area. Step area and view point being visited by P Park Management along with member of PM. K Adamson reported the bank holiday litter in the dale, working with the river keeper to remove a van load of litter and 20 disposable BBQ. Clerk to ask for a Peak Park presence with regards to litter and signage (BBQ's) to go up.

Clerk had circulated a handout as per site meetings with Peak Park and DCC, both on site and P Park offices.

19.3 **Other**.

19.3.1 **Recruitment of Parish Clerk**. Chair and Clerk have had an informal discussion with Simon Headington, who is interested in being Parish Clerk. Simon is the Clerk to Great Longstone Parish Council and has recently become CILCA qualified (Certificate in Local Council Admin). Further update in due course. Clerk highlighted any appointment would be subject to approval at a meeting.

19.3.2 **Generic email**. Clerk merging the emails across, with the new email set up.

19.3.3 **Village week 2026 11th July to 19th July 2026**
Well dressing – update from members. Well dressing group stated they have come up with a design and had a meeting.
Well blessing (Lorna Cooper) and parade 11th July 2026. Lorna is booked for 12 noon in Little Longstone, with a parade in GL/blessing
Band – No local bands were available, when asked.
Bunting and installation of – to note booked in. Bunting hoping to join the villages up.

To note open gardens - or do a container/flags/bunting. Scarecrow competition also raised.

19.3.4 **Parking/speeding/streetlights**. Entrance markers and white lines- there was much discussion on this matter, due to issues over the bank holiday, where cars were parked on the white lines (used for passing places), In front of people's entrances. Clerk to contact Cllr Sutton again/ also Cllr Froggatt along with PCSO Boswell on help with policing.

Mini-Switzerland bus and rail project – parking issues in L Longstone. Noting this project is moving forward (Ms G Blair).

19.3.5 **Footpaths**. To note culvert work carried out on field nr The Hollow. Clerk also reported the directional marker on the footpath sign, on the GL/LL border; gate across from Cherpit Lane (now actioned). Noted that Peak Park are looking into work to the steps near Nether Dale Farm.

19.3.6 **Trough area** – Barrel planters. Bench staining 2026. Trough pump – awaiting new pump (contractor). Chair had inspected the benches, work required (remove algae, clean and restain), paint touch up on left bench. Clerk to get quote.

19.3.7 **Mowing and maintenance contract**. Clerk to look at for 2027 tender document. A breakdown of costs had been asked of the contractor. Mrs A Whittlestone reported that she had strimmed the path behind the Packhorse.

19.3.8 **Bio diversity**. Update from Bio diversity team – wildflowers have been planted down from the chapel, starting to see the results, thanked the community for their help and plants, all going well. **Pinfold** – A group had looked at the Pinfold information (gathered by the Clerk in years past), handout given out. The pinfold being a heritage asset. It was resolved for Mr K Adamson to form a subgroup (lots of members volunteered) to look at costings/info, to be brought to the meeting. Noted if have ownership can get grants; also noted that the Neighbourhood plan team are looking at such matters, sub group asked to involve them.

19.3.9 **Neighbourhood plan.** Ongoing. Working towards draft policies, then submit those as proposals towards the draft neighbourhood plan.

20/26 Correspondence.
Longstone Area Neighbourhood plan. Numerous, Inc. **Government funding for 'Switzerland in the Peak District' – 'Mini Switzerland'.**

Great Longstone Parish Council. Numerous, Inc. well blessing, Housing needs survey and Switzerland in the Peak District. **Broadband.** Clerk to GL (S Headington) reported they had been advised by Open Reach that they were working to have the infrastructure for full fibre broadband installed in Great Longstone and through Little Longstone to Monsal Head, by end of March 2027.

P Park. Monsal steps.
P Park. Meeting/s – Monsal Head/dale.
P Park. Landscape trees project.
P Park. **Local plan review: Publication of Settlement Character Analysis and Landscape Sensitivity Assessment**.
P Park. PDNPA Local plan Review. Consultations, then to submit plan to Secretary of State December 2026.
DCC. Footpath sign behind Packhorse and track alongside GL border.
DCC. Cllr Sutton. White Lines/entrance markers.
DCC. Meeting – Monsal Head steps.
DCC. Stone surface on footpath 19 (off Monsal Trail towards L Longstone village).
DDDC. Local Plan review update.
DDDC. **Land and Monsal Head. No objections following the notice.**
Clear Insurance. Renewal documents.
Dalc. April and May newsletters.
Dalc. Advise re: funding and Fols.
Fols. Funding.
L Longstone well dressing team. Numerous.

Leap. Well dressing, clay and garden container competition.
Fols. well dressing/parade/scarecrow competition.
The Circuit. BHF defib check.
PCSO Boswell. Safer neighbourhood news.
Skipton Building Society. Annual General meeting.
Mansfield Building Society. Circulars.
K Harrison. Band.
J and M Longsdon. Culvert.
Fredericks. Payment and drinks.
Allen West and Foster. Numerous.
SBA – Annual Governance and Accountability return 2026/27.
Insurance. Cox and Cardona.
Lasra. Thank you for continued support/update. Lasra day 18th July 2026.
Lovedays. Lease.
A Longsdon. Chairs position.

21/26 Late items of Correspondence.
Lovedays – lease.
Chatsworth – Nether Dale bridge.
Allen West and Foster – numerous.
Fredericks – bins on bank holiday.
Chris Dore Head River keeper – rubbish in dale.
A Sutton – white lines
Hobb's café – objection to disposal of open space.

22/26 Date of next meeting. August 26.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.31pm.