



Longbarn Residents' Association

"Working together for our Community"

Registered Charity No. 1170309   

MINUTES OF LRA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 20 August 2026

1. Welcome

Bob welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Minutes of last meeting held 9 July 2026

Minutes were accepted as a true report of the last meeting.

3. Matters Arising

Any outstanding matters were included at the meeting as per remainder of agenda.

4. Accounts to July 2026

As usual, a massive thank you to Nicola for the accounts, again fully up to date. The accounts speak for themselves & as usual, there were no queries. Nicola suggested we review the costs for our "Footloose in Longbarn" dance classes" ~ annual overheads are IRO £4K, & attendance has dipped of late. We agreed to put it on social media to try & increase participation, & review take-up from time to time.

5. Location for our Fireworks Extravaganza

No real progress has been made. Despite Paul's efforts with Kassia we have not even had the courtesy of a reply.

Katy & Parish Councillor, Dee Bonsall were to speak to the new Head at Christ Church School to research the possibility of using their school field, but no news as yet. We agreed that our fallback offer from Chris Catani (owner of The Station House pub) to use his facilities is now Plan A; Bob has arranged a meeting with Chris to confirm the offer on 3 September.

6. Speed of traffic round the estate

Dave raised the ever-present issue of speeding vehicles on Harper's Road. Paul reflected that this was raised with the Police at our last residents' open meeting, where our PCSO invited residents to use 'Residents Voice' to report times, days & locations of speeding vehicles. In that way the Police may work up a pattern of the infringement & target their speed gun accordingly. Paul will use social media to reiterate the procedures to our residents & hopefully make Longbarn safer for the future.

7. Embankment

Paul raised the item pre-eminently to call out a huge vote of thanks to Bob for his success in getting the embankment on Harper's Road brought up to scratch ~ he'd arranged for "Payback Scheme" folk to clear all the mess left by WBC (after taking 6 months before they eventually cut the embankment as agreed every year (resulting in a bigger mess than before 'Payback' arrived)).

Bob had spoken with the 'Payback' leader whose team spent over five hours raking & bagging the grass along with shredding & bagging the fallen branches, resulting in over 50 bags to be collected. It was arranged that WBC would collect the debris & dispose of it, but our local Parish Council men collected it ~ with thanks to Sue from the Parish Council for her help.

It was originally agreed that 'Payback' would regularly maintain the embankment, but we've since been informed that the required health & safety standards & duty of care responsibilities cannot be met so unfortunately, they will not be maintaining it going forward. Nevertheless they did leave the embankment in a state where our trusty volunteers can now maintain it, & that's a result. 🙌

8. **LRA Bowling Club green**

After a separate meeting with Howard, it was agreed that he would chase up Torus about their agreement to have the green completely restored & made playable, as promised months ago. Howard has written to Torus stating their responsibilities & will set a deadline for action to start; as yet there has been no response.

Janet & Bob Heap's son trains youngsters in Crown Green Bowling, & we agreed that he can have use of our equipment that has laid dormant for years. They will liaise with Dave Allen to have access to this equipment.

9. **Social Activities**

The next LRA quiz is on Friday 4 September in PVC, & all are encouraged to attend, with all proceeds go toward LRA functions for our community.

The coach trip to York was a great success, tho many people were not too overjoyed where the new coach park is situated, on the fringe of the city (coaches are not allowed into the City to drop off or pick up passengers), & it was a good walk for our less mobile passengers. Many suggested Llandudno rather than Stratford for our next journey as the coach park there is on the perimeter of the town. The decision will be made in the next week, & Paul will sort advertising.

11. **Opportunity to partner with Torus to distribute energy vouchers**

Torus Foundation has provided the opportunity to our Management Team staff. After our due consideration Paul will reply stating that the scheme is out with our remit (& that we don't have "staff" 😅) but will refer to Sue Emery (WBC) & Dee Bonsall (Parish Council) for their consideration.

12. **AOB**

- Encouraging more "active" members ~ Katy has offered to do her thing with a recruitment video on our social media
- Parish fun day 5 September ~ we've been invited to advertise the upcoming "Fun Day" by the Parish council. Paul will sort social media; we declined the opportunity to have a LRA stall at the event.
- PVC ~ Running costs remain burdensome, but there are 3 new potential opportunities available for the future. Watch this space.

The Next meeting will be held 1 October at 6pm at PVC.

