

Minutes of North Lopham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12th March 2014 at 7.30 p.m. At The Mess, St. Andrews school! North Lopham

Attendance and apologies

Heather Potter (Chair), Julie Crossley (Clerk), Robert Carley, David Hammond, Lesley Bird, Jan Tate, Mick McManus, Dawn Eagle

Approx 50 Members of the Public

Declarations of interest

None received

Presentation from Paul smith/Richard Pike

He has been in place since November 2013. Wants the Parish to ask questions they can answer. From last meeting there were key areas. Need for solar parks, why here. Appreciate that there are construction and environment issues. Benefits to community, Negative impacts. Visibility and outlook.

Require better information. No clarity at last meeting. he wants to re run that meeting. Plus BDC in an orderly fashion and take on board concerns. They are looking all over country. Like to advise of benefits, planning process, all guidelines have been approved. Commitment 7 days after have question and answer. No further submission for planning during process. They have been round all the sites (all 4 in the Lophams) to view them but there are not putting forward any further applications as yet.

Dates for further meeting if in March – only 14th and 21st March available for village hall.

Richard Pike cannot do 21st march,

Agreed that Richard Pike, North and South Lopham Parish Council will ask BDC to extend date for comments to be till mid April

Matters arising

Affordable housing - Noting email contact from Richard Bland at BDE but no further forward at present.

Drains in Tanns Lane - nothing happened now covered up. Gary Overland has inspected but implied they were privately owned and NCC not responsible.

Kenninghall PC and planning – JC noted that she attended their last PC meeting regarding new extended broiler house at the top of Church Street and whether this would have an impact on traffic through North Lopham. Whether NLPC should support adjoining parishes in such applications.

Potholes and highways Kings head Lane and High Common have been done. Drains have been jetted. MM noted that a lot of the problems with the drains relate to tree roots and they may have to be repaired in due course. The white lining will be done in April. The “Think” signs done! North Lopham sign still laying on it's back, but Gary Overland aware and will deal.

DE reported that the Road sweeper had gone right down Tanns Lane. Dug out the gullies. Dawn filled in the gullies. Road being re surfaced. Dropped kerb has been blocked on occasions by parked cars and member of the public advised (Jess) that as she is on the Playgroup Committee she will ask them to keep clear – and polite note in newsletter to ask keep clear.

PC will try and find out about yellow lines.

War Memorial maintenance DH noted needs cleaning properly Simon Burgess was supposed to do it but can't. Need someone professional to deal. John Bush will continue to do grass cutting. Cost of cleaning to be determined.

MM also noted that there is a War Grave in North Lopham church. Mike Cox and Brian Frith laid it down as broken There is a fund to pay for war graves commission. May 2013. To contact someone to try and obtain the funding. JLC to speak with Mike Cox

VAS application - Successful bid. 50% of cost. Have to find the balance. David Hammond has been to Crown very good meeting and they may meet the other 50% through sponsorship. DH had drafted a letter approved by HP and signed by Clerk to be sent to Nigel Armes.

Member of public wanted 20 mph speed limit on bends. Not enforceable. Concern of speeding on the bends. Is it worth asking school to ask police with the children to use speed guns to try and stop people speeding. Project. LB said school had done that 6 months ago.

Overhanging trees Offending residents had been written to and there have been improvements but with Spring the brambles are now restricting the paths again.

Village clean up 4 dates, Lesley can do. 29th March 12th 19th and 26th April. Leaning towards the 12th April! Jan Tate will do the fences! Eric Bird will treat the benches. Simon opposite Lesley Bird has volunteered to help tidy round the pond. LB will check with Angie at Kings Head re refreshments. 12th agreed. LB will collect bags.

Rangers To cut away the verge. JLC to find the rangers and ask them to sort out the path.

Finance report

Current account £1772.76
Post office £2685.50

Signatories for post office

To be Julie Crossley, Jan Tate and Lesley Bird
Proposed and seconded by HP and DE

Planning applications - Weavers cottage for drop kerb was objected to by the PC and Whitebread farm Solar Farm remains outstanding.

Extinguishment of Footpath Majority support his application. And PC will respond to Birketts.

Archives LB offered to assist JLC to go through the papers and dispose of unwanted documents and decide what can go in the Archive.

Member of the public queried date for toilet in the church. Alan Briggs answered grade 1 listed. Any changes is governed particularly conservative bunch. Approval on way but hoping near future.

Concern also raised about 3 motor bikes on back lanes. They are speeding and concern about horses and young children peak to highways about adopted lanes can use off road bikes.

Items for the Agenda, Next Meeting 14th May 2014

Signed as approved.....