

NORTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of North Lopham Parish Council AGM meeting held at
7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 14th May 2014 at The Mess, St
Andrews School, North Lopham

- 1. Attendance and apologies:** Present were H. Potter (Chair), Lesley Bird, Dawn Eagles, Mick McManus, Robert Carley, Julie Crossley (Clerk), David Hammond and apologies received from Jan Tate
5 member of the public attended
- 2. Declarations of interest = None**
- 3. Election of Officers –** Heather Potter stood down as Chairman and from the NLPC, no Council members wished to put themselves forward as Chair and so a rolling chair was agreed, commencing with David Hammond for the July Meeting and Dawn Eagle for September and Lesley Bird for November meetings.

Jan Tate proposed for Vice Chair by M. McManus and seconded by David Hammond.
- 4. Parish Council vacancy –** 2 contenders, Loraine Makowski-Heaton and Annie Banks. Both spoke about why they felt they would make good councillors and it was agreed that the Council would vote at the end of the meeting and they would be notified in writing.
- 5. Minutes of last meeting held on the 12th March 2014** Minutes read and approved and signed.
- 6. Conservation area at the cemetery –** HP advised they had been waiting for confirmation from Mike Cox about the area and wanted him to attend with a map, HP will speak to Jan Tate regarding this but may have missed this year and will have to re-consider early 2015.
- 7. VAS sign –** DH updated the meeting and it was noted who had donated including Crown, DPD, Kevin Gooderham, James Alston and Wayland Farms a total of £950. Advised that DPD wanted to be informed of any dangerous or speeding drivers and MMc noted villagers should be careful not to report all and sundry but only those who are clearly breaking the speed limit (i.e. overtaking) and this was agreed.

DH explained the 3 VAS available and that a portable sign was preferred due to cost and sporadic nature of deployment. It would have to be moved every 4 weeks and batteries put on charge weekly. 4 destinations identified.

Vote taken and the portable sign was agreed. DH stated that the sign would be padlocked into place but we would require a rota of members to

deploy perhaps on a 3 month basis. DH will deal with memoranda of understanding with NCC and obtain a definitive price from Westcotec. . The full price likely to be £3,000 of which BDC will pay 50% we have £950 in donations plus DH said he would make up to £1000 and the Parish Council will pay the balance of approx £500 which was agreed unanimously.

Clerk: To check with the insurers about insuring the sign.

8. War Memorial cleaning – An estimate from Perfitts has been received for £2780 plus VAT which was felt to be excessive. Dawn Eagle has a number for another stonemason she will pass this to the Clerk.

9. Financial report –

Payments made and received since last meeting
Clerks fees £192 plus £48 PAYE
Grass cutting £353.00
Newsletter £51.50
NALC £135.32
Jan for paint £21.36
Mess Hire £10.00
Church donation for CS Audit £25.00

Presentation of Annual Accounts audited by Chris Stringfield reported an income of £4420.06 for last year with expenses of £4547.86. Deposit account stands at £2205.50 and current a/c at 31.03.2014 was £1842.76. There was a discrepancy of 0.40p. The Chair gave thanks to Chris Stringfield and a donation of £25.00 was approved and made payable to St Nicholas church.

10. Village clean up - Special thanks to Lesley and Eric who cleaned the benches and Jan who painted the fence. Lesley Bird said that they had collected 14 bags of rubbish and a tyre. Her thanks to Angie and George at the Kings Head who provided refreshments and to all the volunteers.

11. Highways update - Jan Tate had provided an update about the white lining which should be done within 12 weeks ref 466321 and Rangers to cut back the grass on the paths but there is staff shortage so asked to be patient – ref 463447.

12. Willow Tree – it had been reported that a willow tree has fallen into the pond. HP said that she had asked Gerald to remove it which it is hoped he will and if not then DH will arrange to do so with others. The current position of the tree could be a potential attraction for children.

13. Affordable Housing - Still no suitable land available but Housing Association remain interested if any becomes available.

14. Solar Farm Planning Meeting – Breckland have confirmed that this will be on the 9th June 2104 in Dereham at 9 a.m. and Heather Burlingham on 01362 656212 co-ordinates the meeting and should be contacted for details. The meeting was advised by Tim Colyer that Alan Briggs hopes that all 3 councils will have the opportunity to speak .

15. Any Other Business - The Clerk asked that the Council deal with the Post Office signatories again as the previous form was sent to Mike Cox and we now had a new form.

A member of the public asked about Primrose Lane being cut and it was confirmed that the Clerk would ask RGM to deal. The cost to be shared with SLPC.

Also asked about the 20mph near the school and were advised that this had been put forward but declined due to lack of funding although it is not enforceable but we can apply again.

Discussion took place at the end of the meeting on the PC vacancy and the PC offered this to Loraine Makowski-Heaton

Items for next agenda

Conservation area in cemetery

Solar Farm application update

Next meeting will be on Wednesday the 9th July 2014

Signed as agreed