

NORTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of North Lopham Parish Council meeting held at 7.30 on Wednesday
14th September 2016 at The Mess, St Andrews School, North Lopham

Attendance and apologies

Present were: Jan Tate (Vice Chair) Julie Crossley (Clerk), Dawn Eagles, Robert Carley, Mike Tipple,
Apologies received from David Hammond
William Nunn did not attend

7 members of the public attended including Marian Chapman Allen (BDC)

No declarations of interest.

13th July Minutes were approved and signed by Mick McManus

Jan Tate chaired the Meeting as Vice Chairman and welcomed all those attending;

Matters Arising

JT notified the meeting that the defibrillator had been used on Sunday morning but was sadly unsuccessful but the 999 call was made and the caller advised to collect the defib which they did.

1. Trod Update

NCC have placed an order with Open Reach to re site the telegraph pole and move the water meter outside Mr and Mrs Baxters house which is to be lowered. Mr and Mrs Home are arranging for the removal of their hedge which is encroaching on to the highway.

There was a discussion about how much of the remaining verge would be lost or whether the road be narrowed to accommodate the new footpath.

2. Water in Tanns Lane

A resident had contacted **DH** to raise their concern about the ongoing problem with water being discharged onto the highway. **DH** had visited the offending property, contacted the Water Board and Environmental services who are aware and the concerned resident has been asked to update them if this continues. Currently Tanns Lane is dry but this may become a problem in due course.

3. Local Plan

JLC noted that a local resident had attended the Attleborough Meeting and had provided her with the Settlement Boundary and preferred sites documentation. She had also helpfully had communication from Councillor Marion Chapman Allen about what this meant for North Lopham and the question was raised as to whether the proposals regarding the boundary be put to the public. **MCA** explained that NL is not a service centre we have a school, shop and pub and 21 businesses registered but do not meet the criteria of 5 (only

4) If the proposed new boundary is agreed then small developments can take place but only within the new settlement boundary and only 20 more properties can be built in the village to fill in the gaps. There will be no building outside the revised boundary. Members of the public or parish councils can raise queries between 19th September and 31st October and all documents will be on the BDC website during that period. There will be no amendments until 2036 and it will give Parish Councils much stronger say in proposed planning applications.

Discussion whether we should have a public meeting so that villagers can consider the proposed changes took place but MCA advised that as NL has no real local development it is unlikely to be of any benefit to the village.

4. Views on policing

DH emailed Lorne Green, Police Commissioner regarding his consultation document. He advised him of the traffic calming measures currently in place and requested that it would be beneficial to have traffic teams at relevant busy periods to support the CSW team. He noted that crime in the village is minimal.

5. Speeding and DPD

JT read out various emails between **DH and DPD** and also another resident who had copied **DH** into his email to DPD. Members of the public raised their concern about not only DPD vans which are easily recognisable but other offenders. It was reported that the drivers can be abusive. One person noted that she had been overtaken 3 times whilst driving through the village. Another person raised concern about the speed of vehicles in Kings Head Lane where children often play.

Advised to take registration numbers and report to DPD or the Parish council or the Police.

Concern was also raised about parking by the school at drop off and collection times. In particular same offenders who park outside Mr and Mrs Cosh's house blocking the road so that the crossing lady cannot be seen. The school has been written to but other than ask for consideration they have no power to stop parents parking irresponsibly.

Extending the yellow lines to prevent parking dangerously might resolve the problem. Speak to Stephen Askew.

A query was then raised from the floor about speed humps. MCA advised that the cost is prohibitive and would only be considered if there was sufficient evidence and justification but not whilst there was so much austerity. There would need to be Police reports on speeding. Similarly chicanes were discussed where the road narrows so only one vehicle can pass. Again MCA advised there is only highway funding for tarmac and gravel.

There were strong feelings about the speed of traffic, inconsiderate drivers and the concern for young children playing or cycling in the village.

JLC said she would raise the issue with Stephen Askew regarding costs as attendants indicated they would be prepared to fund raise.

6. Rangers

The Rangers will be attending the village to undertake a number of tasks such as;

- a) siding out footpaths
- b) re-seeding verge outside Octavia House, resident to be asked to cease parking there.
- c) Tidy edges of verges facing onto the road
- d) Rod and clear drains
- e) wash street signs as appropriate
- f) Tanns Lane tidy sides of road and clear any soil or grass from middle of road.

7. Lopham News/Cock Crow

JLC had been approached by a resident to ask why we had both publications. The Lopham News is now costing £35.80 per month and is repeated in the main in the Cock Crow. It was understood the Cock Crow was in publication first. Those in attendance felt that they preferred the Lopham News.

8. Partnership Scheme

JT noted that at the last meeting **DH** had suggested that the PC use the funds available from the Partnership Scheme to fund the erection of White Gates at either end of the village so that drivers are aware they are entering the village. These are white gates made of plastic so low maintenance and it might encourage drivers to be more courteous.

A number of people felt that they would be damaged by HGV's and tractors and would not prevent speeding by those individuals intent on doing so. **MT and MM** both felt that whilst the gates were low maintenance the area around them would need to be cut and cared for and this would not happen. **JLC** suggested there be a vote by the PC as to whether we should apply for the funding and the majority felt that the money could be better spent.

9. Cutting back in Jubilee Lane

Thanks was given to **MT and DH** for cutting back the brambles in the lane making it easier to walk down.

10. Primrose Lane

JLC read an email from a South Lopham resident about concerns about the cutting of the lane being limited only to a narrow single track. Groundscape do cut the lane twice a year but do not do a clearance. The residents email was forwarded to them and they have said they will provide a price for a bigger clearance. A discussion with SLPC will take place when that is received.

Finance

JLC Advised that there had been no income in the preceding 2 months.

Approval requested for outgoings sought;

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£35.80 Lopham Newsletter x 2 for July and August
£110.00 Groundforce up to 31.07.16
£192 Clerk Salary – October
£48.00 HMRC – October
£50.00 SLCC membership
£25.00 donation for internal audit

£10.00 room hire

Planning

Approval of applications for	45 The Street 3PL/2016/0758/HOU 74 The Street 3PL/2016/0791/HOU 8 The Street 3PL/2016/0784/F 92 The Street, 3PL/2016/1027
Pending	3PL/2016/0826/F The Chapel

Any other business

JT advised that some repairs were reported to NCC Highways re 11 Church Corner where a grate and drain are broken, also outside 30 The Street and the sign post has been damaged at The Cherry tree junction.

MT said that on the corner by the Water Tower the kerb stone is broken and he has moved it as it was dangerous. **JLC will report.**

Concern was raised about overhanging hedges/brambles over the footpath from the Kings Head towards the south of the village. The usual request residents to address any overhanging or dangerous foliage to be put in the Newsletter.

MT advised the meeting that several people had approached him about the noise from clay pigeon shooting which went on all weekend and into the evening. This was thought to be a fund raising event. **JT** said she will speak to Noise and Nuisance Department.

A resident raised concern about the amount of dog excrement down The Drift. This is private land and it is only the good will of the farmer that people can walk their dogs there. The Parish Council cannot erect a bin.

DH had noted that Yard Sale items were being left on the verges overnight. . Now the evenings are drawing in items left out could cause an injury. He asked that people take their items in at night.

Meeting finished at 08.45. Next meeting is on the 9th November 2016