

NORTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of North Lopham Parish Council meeting held at **7.30 on Wednesday 8th March 2017** at The Mess, St Andrews School, North Lopham

Attendance and Apologies

Present were : David Hammond (Chair), Jan Tate (Vice Chair), Julie Crossley (Clerk), Mick McManus, Mike Tipple, Robert Carley

Members of public: 6 in attendance plus District Councillor Marion Chapman Allen

Apologies from: Dawn Eagle non attendance William Nunn

1. Record of Declarations of interest - None
2. Agreement of minutes of 9th January 2017 – approved and signed by **MMc**

3. Matters arising

A) Pond Fence costs – **DH** £346 or the wooden posts and metal straps + VAT. This does not include concrete costs. The current fence is unsafe and needs replacing. Approved by **JT**
seconded by MMc

(B) Parish Plan – **DH** – Ongoing for some time, and the neighbourhood Plan seen to be too expensive. Discussed with Leo Verhaag and Laurie Bradley and we are told that BDC will not adopt a parish plan within terms of the Local Plan. Spoke to Sue Heinrich at BDC Neighbourhood Planning Liaison Officer. **DH** read out her email. Mr Verhaag advised that a Parish Plan can bring other things in other than planning, it is community led and BDC may be prepared to adopt this. Mr Verhaag considers it is common for smaller villages to go down that route. Need to talk to BDC and they may find they have to adopt it. Need guidance and support to get this off the ground. Hoped **WN** would be here to pass the papers to as he works at BDC and he would know what weight this might carry. **DH** asked if Mr Verhaag would lead this or whether he would prefer **DH** to speak to **WN** first. Mr Verhaag agreed that he would liaise with Sue Heinrich at BDC together with Laurie Bradley to see what might be achievable. **DH** will also speak to **WN**.

(C) Jubilee Lane – it has been recently upgraded to a Restricted By Way – which means you can take a horse and cart/bicycle but no motorised vehicle other than a disability scooter. **DH** a Letter of thanks went to John Rednall who had cleared Jubilee Lane and done a fantastic job.

(D) Tanns Lane – area approx 300 yards long where surface is in a disgraceful condition and needs urgent attention. **DH** contacted NCC who will repair the road when the ditches are cleared either side, so that the existing water can drain away. Graham West has dealt with this. **DH** has contacted Peter Wright, who has agreed to clear the ditch on the northern side and will seek assistance from John Rednall.

(E) Trod **DH** Telegraph pole has now been moved. The path should be started in April. Will be 3 way traffic lights at Harling Road junction for a week or more.

(F) Openfield (BDR) re rat run – **DH** – **WN** advised that lorries will be coming through the village to go to biomass at Snetterton. **DH** has rung them to advise that this is not permitted. Member of the public mentioned that BDR are grain producers they would not likely be going to Snetterton.

(G) Police Presentation – following presentation at Watton CSW teams are now permitted to forward to Police registration of vehicles where driver is seen using mobile phone. Also where

lorries over 7.5 tonne are suspected of using route as short cut.

(H) Website – N.L. News – **DH** This took some time to set up. Andy Gray help set this up in 2 years to date we have only had few comments. Anything negative or positive is welcomed.

(I) Letter re sport equipment – **DH** had been approached by Pauline Packer secretary of Lopham Society re obtaining Adult Sport Equipment, funded by Village Hall Committee. **DH** advised that he had written a letter in support from the NLPC. **Tim Colyer** who is on the Village Hall committee advised they are looking for Match Funding and approaching Tesco for further funding. There is already a group who use the field on a Tuesday for physical exercise. No one on the Council objected.

(J) Date for village clean up -**JLC May 13th** **JT** will phone Dereham and **JC** will collect the bag on the 12th from Thetford and ask George and Angie at the Kings Head if they will provide refreshments, volunteers should meet at The Mere at 09.30 where bags, gloves and grabbers will be provided.

(K) email re grit bins -**JLC** having contacted the NCC it was found that North Lopham was not on the grit bin map but this has now been rectified and the bins will be filled in the autumn.

(L) Confirmation of shared cutting of Primrose Lane with SLPC and £60 has been received from SLPC now waiting for Mr Frizzels invoice – we have his insurance and other details -**JLC**

(M) Broadband, contact BT or EE to connect to fast broadband. Or contact www.betterbroadbandnorfolk.co.uk or contact NCC on 0344 800 8020 for update.

5. Finance Report. JLC

Balance of current Account £ 1962.10 and NS&I £2762.87

Approval for payment of

Clerks Salary	£192.00 – April
HMRC	£48.00 – April
Room Hire	£10.00 March

Approved by **JT and MT**

Income

50% of Primrose Lane from SLPC	£60.00
Mr Hendersons headstone	£50.00
Gill Oslers headstone	£50.00
2 further headstones	£80.00

6. Reports on any outstanding planning applications

3PL/2016/1562/HOU -Alterations and extension – Planning permission given

3PL/2016/1519/F – Erect 3 detached houses – refused then approved on

2PL/2016/1533D

3PL/2016/1513/VAR – Variation to plans re Chapel – refused

3PLL/2016/1514/LB – Variation to plans re chapel – refused

3PL/2016/1541/O – Erection of 2 dwellings at 7A The Green – refused

MCA talked about appeal and resubmission now that BDC have met their land housing supply. This has led to planning applications being declined especially if they fall outside

the settlement boundary. Discussion about the difficulties regarding this. Any applicants who wish to speak to Marion Chapman Allen should contact her at Breckland.

7. Any Other Business

MCA Breckland have made an increase to the Council Tax of £4.95 pa which is very modest in comparison with other councils.

Asked about Parish Plan **MCA** was not able to comment but noted it is not a Planning Document and she is not a Planning Policy Officer.

Mmc several complaints about overgrowing hedges obstructing the footpaths, and residents parking on the verge. Residents are asked to step outside onto the footpath and check that hedges to ensure that they are not encroaching onto the path which could potentially lead to injury especially in the dark.

The pond is blocked between number 1 and 2 drain outside the Backlogs bungalows. **Mmc** has opened the drains and there is something obstructing **MT** volunteered to attend with **Mmc** on 9th March.

Tanns Lane water blocked near Dawn Eagles property. Ditch is blocked.

JLC asked to contact Groundforece re Graveyard 4-5ft rough ground adjacent to the hedge which ne current back and will get a price for that.

Thanks and presentation of a plant to David Hammond who has been on the Parish Council for 4 years, last 3 as Chairman. He has now stepped down. There is a vacancy on the Parish Council and anyone interested should attend the AGM on 10th May 2017 or contact Parish Clerk.

Meeting closed at 20.55.

Signed.....

Dated.....