

**MINUTES OF MEETING
FOR NORTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL AGM 2017
AND REGULAR MEETING OF 10TH MAY 2017**

1. Election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman
William Nunn was proposed as Chairman in his absence unanimously
Jan Tate was proposed Vice Chairman unanimously
2. To record attendance and consider acceptance of apologies for absence.
William Nunn sent apologies
In attendance were 6 members of the public and Steve Askew District Councillor
3. To record declarations of interest – None declared
4. To approve the Minutes of the AGM of the **11th May 2017** and the last meeting of the **8th March 2017**. Approved and signed by Councillor McManus
5. To approve the audit and Annual Governance Statements and Audit Accounting Statement. Signed by Jan Tate. Approved unanimously.
6. Letter of thanks from David Hammond was read to the meeting and thanks to Eric Bird, Peter Cook, Dave Hammond, Mike Tipple with regard to the work done on the fence around The Mere (removal of wood) To thank David Hammond for organising the replacement of the fence and working on it. M Mc will burn the old fencing this Saturday.
7. **Parish Plan** – JLC read Laurie Bradley's email and asked Leo Veerhag to advise whether this should involve someone from the Parish Council. **LV** said not necessarily. The subcommittee could report to the Council as progress is made. It would be useful to have a Parish Councillor on the committee. **LB and LV** met with Susan Heinrich from BDC to discuss the possibility of Breckland accepting proposals as set out in a Village Design Statement and were waiting to hear from her.

LV told the meeting that it had been found that there were 3 developments granted which did not appear to have been put to the PC.

Susan Heinrich had provided a copy of a plan with the proposed developments on Kenninghall Road and East Harling Road but this had been in 2012. Those on the Council in 2012 could not recall having seen these plans and would have remembered given their scale. **LV** queried whether it would be easier to get them reinstated as they had been previously passed. **Mmc** said it did not mean that it was easier to get the plans re-approved.

The Council reviewed the Plan that Susan Heinrich had provided. This should be compared to the current Plan within the Local Development Plan. **LV** will do some further investigation. He said that **LB** had drafted a separate note to say what they could do. The next best thing would be a village design statement. This would not carry as much weight as a Neighbourhood plan but can carry some weight. Unclear whether BDC would adopt such a plan. There are several other councils who have, so no reason why BDC wouldn't. Agreed to canvass residents to see whether there are concerns/interest about planning to decide whether we should go down the Neighbourhood Plan route. A plan can include other things, lighting, footpaths, playgrounds, traffic calming etc much wider than just

planning. There is no uniformity in the village. A Village Design statement might have minor costs but up to the residents to set out their interest.

8. **Buses** – the Clerk had received an email querying whether the Parish Council could assist in getting a bus in the village that went to Bury St Edmunds. This is not a PC matter. There is a Flexi bus which can be arranged to take passengers to the nearest stop to get the Bury St Edmunds bus. Simonds also run a bus from Garboldisham to Bury St Edmunds.

9. **School Crossing Patrol** – 2 parents were in attendance and a letter drafted by them was handed round to the Council about their concerns. Steve Askew (Councillor) was also in attendance and he was handed letter from the parents and NCC re the school crossing patrol. Went over the history. **JT** talked about Campaign earlier in the year when NCC relented and **SA** felt there is a reason to keep the Patrol. Retirement is too convenient. Its not the person its the patrol. Its a main road, Crown comes through regularly and traffic to Open Field. The NCC said they would re-monitor on 2 days. One of them was In middle of the Avian flu restrictions so traffic was lighter. It is a busy road and there are fewer children than in a town but that is not the issue and the school lies between 2 blind bends.

SA discussed what can be done to assist – photographs would add weight. Lorries meeting on bend. **DE** said that some parents do badly park making it more hazardous . Do a count of vehicles and children crossing. The parents in attendance will collect the data with the parents who had signed the letter. This information can be sent to **JLC** to pass to Steve Askew. **SA** was asked to see if he could get the flashing lights adapted to be put on a timer. **SA** said that this may lead to the NCC say that the flashing lights would negate the need for crossing patrol. One of the advised that her husband had stood in the road and received unnecessary abuse from a driver.

Could ask local Police for some presence now and again. **JT** agreed she would enquire

Asked about Community Speed Watch could they not stand nearer the school. Explained why this was not possible. Advised that signs are up re the speedwatch both end of the village.

10. **Pecuniary loss updates** – **JLC** reminded all Parish Councillors these need to be updated as applicable.

11. **Nest Pension Scheme** – employers duty to provide Pension. Now registered with Nest. **JLC** will opt out when welcome pack has been received but Council has to be registered to offer pension as employers.

12. **Tanns Lane** – Unfortunately due to personal reasons the ditches have not been cleared. Asked **DE/Mmc** to try and speak to Mr Wright as to when this can be done as Gary Overland at Highways can then deal with the pot holes.

13. **Trod update** – **SA** was updated. It was appreciated that Gary Overland is trying to get this underway. He has responded to various emails that he is liaising with his replacement to get a start date agreed. Updated the meeting with various emails regarding the Match Funding Grant from BDC as we are now in a new financial year. BDC have agreed this will still be available. **SA** will see if he can find anything out.

14. **Parking in Kings Head Lane** advised the meeting that residents were parking on private land but this now seems to have resolved. There have been occasions when cars are parked partly on the pavement and this really needs to be avoided if possible. Common sense issue and residents must try and park sensibly and avoid blocking the pavements or driveways. **MT** will keep an eye on the situation.

15. There is a vacancy on the Parish council. Any interested parties should contact the Clerk.

Financial Report

Balance of Barclays and NS&I account £3575.34 and £2762.81

Precept received £1800

Payment received for Inscription of Monument for Mr Bowhill	£13.00
bottle bank	£508.38

For approval of payment/in retrospect;

(I) Lopham News Jan/Feb paid Mar/Apr pending	£143.20
(ii) Payment for materials for fencing at The Mere	£513.84
(iii) Donation for Auditor	£25.00
(iv) Room hire	£10.00
(v) Came and Company PC Insurance	£288.46

All payments unanimously approved.

Planning Applications

16. no objections posted for **3PL/2017/0258/Hou** – conversion of garage to sun room at 14A The Green
Comments re the application for a property behind the chapel has been entered online

Meeting closed at 08.30 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....