

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Methodist Schoolroom, Chapel Road, Lingwood on Tuesday 15th January 2013, 7.30pm.

Present were: Ben Bethell – Chairperson, Marina Tubby – Vice Chairperson, Lauren Bean, Tony Gould, Ian White and Sonya Dickinson – Clerk.

13/01. Welcome & apologies for absence: Apologies received from Mike Bredbere, Cliff Fountain, Krisy Little, Richard Morton and Hannah Paul. Brian Iles also gave his apologies. Ben informed the Public that Ray Britt had resigned as Councillor and that his resignation had been accepted, Broadland District Council will be informed and then there can be a co-option if an election is not required. It would be good to try and find someone with Ray's skills and abilities

13/02. Declarations of interest: Marina Tubby, anything to do with the Primary School. Ben Bethell anything to do with the Village Hall and Item 10. a) ii). Sonya Dickinson Item 10. a) iv).

13/03. Public Forum and reports from Committees (including Reading Room and Village Hall): We were joined by 10 members of the public.

Village Hall – The planning application is in at the moment and is going to Planning Committee at the end of Jan or Feb. The surface water drainage enquiry is what has held it up so far but all tested and ok. The sale of the small plot on Norwich Road is still going through and the Parish Council loan is still not yet required and may not be.

Residents of South Burlingham said it was an interesting meeting at Beighton PC on 8th January where they went to show their opposition to the exception site for Beighton at South Burlingham. Three points were No 1 The Housing needs assessment said that 3 houses needed but they only provide 2/3 of the requirement so that there should not be any empty in the future if requirements change, so in total at 2/3 = 2 houses should be provided, Broadland then tells what to provide. No 2 Beighton are going to reassess why the other sites were not useable as the haulage site especially is not on a flood plain. No 3 They will do another call for land which the residents would like to get involved with.

Finally the residents note item 7. Motion is on and respectfully request the Councillors pass the motion.

Ben asked Kate Devries about the apparent preliminary plans that are imminent. She has said that due to the opposition so far Broadland Housing has decided not to do preliminary plans yet.

A resident spoke to Mark Walker and he says this site is on the radar but is not going to be pushed forward.

13/04. Minutes of the meetings 18th December 2012: Were signed as a true copy.

13/05. Matters arising from 18th December 2012 meeting: Tony Gould said that the bin lids are a result of the bin emptying contractors not replacing the lids properly in spite of Tony's memo to Broadland when the bins were only 3 months old. Clerk to send a note to BDC to ask for help to pay for new lids (costs researched in 2012 @ £72 each lid) and put on next month's agenda.

The notice board has finally been put up on the green and Ben is not 100% happy with it as it is not quite level or parallel with the path, this may be due to the fact it has been stored for quite some months and may have warped.

The Village sign post is in the ground ready for the tarmac path to go around, a stone has been put in to allow for a time capsule. Mrs Simpson has set up a memorial fund and is willing to spend some on the Millennium Green and possibly will fund a bench around the sign or at the far end of the green looking towards the Church. Mrs Simpson has requested if she can place a Liquid Amber tree on the green as a memorial to her late husband. The Millennium Green will have to be put on the February Agenda to discuss all of these items.

13/06. Correspondence: other than in circulation to Councillors or requiring a response. None.

13/07. Beighton & Moulton St Mary Exception Site in South Burlingham:

Proposed Motion - This Council opposes the proposed exception site for houses for Beighton and Moulton in the parish of Lingwood and Burlingham.

The above motion was proposed by Ben, Seconded by Tony and passed unanimously.

13/08. Highways: There has been a complaint about the size of a tree at the end of St Andrews, and the residents are losing light in their homes and have requested that it is taken down or trimmed back. This is a Broadland District Council Tree on their parcel of land adjacent to the green. **Decision:** Clerk to write to BDC to ask if they can trim the tree or remove it as the residents are losing light into their homes.

13/09. To consider a boundary change for North Burlingham/Burlingham Green, as requested: Richard Morton request this be on the agenda as North Burlingham and Burlingham Green feel cut off from Lingwood and South Burlingham due to the A47. It was also due to the apparent ease BDC requested a boundary change for South Burlingham. Richard is not here so it will be put onto the next agenda.

13/10. Finance: a) Payment requests: i) K. Monsey December Cemetery including hedges and clearance of soil £497 (Chq No 183).

ii) Ben Bethell – Line marking spray, oak post for sign and laminated signs for Millennium Green. £102.30 (Chq 751). Ben treated the oak post with what was left over from the Jubilee beacon.

iii) Broadland Pest Management – Allotment rat traps 12/11 to 6/12/12 £80 (Chq 752).

iv) Clerk's expenses Oct/Nov/Dec £211.63 (Chq 755).

v) M. Hanton invoice for 25% of Village Hall grass cutting £540 inc VAT (Chq 757). This was originally agreed as the Village Hall was once the only green space in the Village and was struggling, so perhaps it can be discussed that this could be one of the Council's savings for 2013?

b) To consider CPRE subscription 2013. £29 **Decision:** All in favour to carry on subscribing. (Chq 756).

(N.B. Chq 754 was cancelled due to an error).

It was realised that now Ray Britt has resigned there needs to be a new third signatory, it was unanimously agreed that it should be Councillor Tony Gould, Clerk to sort out forms from bank.

c) To consider the precept for 2013/14. The Clerk/RFO granted special dispensation to the Councillors allowing them to set the budget.

The budget indicates that the Parish Council will be short by £1,562.60 if the precept stays the same as last year. The reason that there is a shortfall is because the precept was not put up for years even though more amenities and inflation meant costs were going up. The increase last year was to try and get us nearer to our outgoings and we still need to increase this year to try and make up the rest of the deficit, however this year the Government have changed the Council tax collection system meaning we have fewer band D properties to collect from so they have given a grant for the shortfall, Broadland have decided that if a Parish Council increases their precept they will not pass on this grant.

There has been an appeal from a few Parish Councils and a few Conservative Councillors met and agreed to discuss not to pull the grant and it is going to Committee on 24th January. There is also the fact that next year they are discussing a complete cap on increasing the precepts.

Decision: Increase the precept by 8% = £1148.16 putting the total up to £15500.16, this is equivalent to £17.06 per band D property. This will be put into a newsletter. If Broadland decide to stop or change the grant the Parish Council will have to meet again on 29th January to discuss the decision and consequences further.

This Council remains one of the lowest charging Councils in Broadland.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.35 – Next meeting Tues 5th February 2013.