

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Lingwood Village Hall Meeting Room, Station Road, Lingwood on Tuesday 1st November 2016 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Richard Morton – Chair, Marina Tubby – Vice Chair, Ben Bethell, Mike Bredbere, Tony Gould, Brenda Jones, Giles Mack, and Sonya Dickinson – Clerk.

16/126. Welcome & apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Ian Chapman, Roz Simpson, Simon Stevens and Ian White.

16/127. Declarations of interest: None.

16/128. Public Forum: We were joined by 6 members of the public, District Councillor David Ward and County Councillor Brian Iles.

Brian: Budget – there is a £22 million overspend on Children's and adult services already. They have cut so much in recent years that there is not much else that can be cut but they are working through it.

Devolution – The results of the surveys meant that Norfolk County decided by a big majority not to have devolution. Suffolk does want it. It has gone to Government and the results will be known in November. Brian is now undecided so he will vote however Parishioners wish. Points to remember are that 4 districts in Norfolk voted against it so now not able to vote and only 3 districts from Norfolk and all of Suffolk want Devolution so it may be an unfair mix. The Secretary of State says that there must be a Mayor to get the extra money.

Q. How can Norfolk be in if there are only 3 Norfolk Districts that want to be in, if the overall vote from the 3 districts is yes will all get a share? A. Yes.

Q. What happens if we don't vote in, will Suffolk get all of the money? A. Some of the money, not as much.

When Cambridge was in the mix it was said that if 1 said no then the whole thing was finished but now will go ahead.

Highways Q. – Now that there is a different Chancellor, will the duelling of the A47 get put back again? A. No, the re design has been completed. Councillor Richard Morton went to a meeting about the A47 and it is 99% sure the money is ring fenced for the project no matter what chancellor there is.

David Ward – David apologised for not being able to attend for quite a while, due to other meetings and holiday. New Welfare reform update – Changes to benefits, they will be cut. The idea is that anyone who is on benefit can work, the emphasis is to get people back to work.

The Greater Norfolk Food Enterprise has been given a 10 hectare field for industrial food purposes and phase 1 is due to start.

There are lots of projects in the melting pot at the moment i.e. new waste contracts etc.

Q. Will householders notice? A. No they shouldn't notice.

Public – Rats at the Allotments, the rat man has still not been down to the allotments. A. The Clerk will try and contact him again.

Q. Bus Shelter? A. The Bus shelter should have been fitted today but is definitely being fitted tomorrow.

Q. Any news on the 'Live Work' Unit application. A. The plans were passed.

David Ward let the Council know that he had an enquiry about the flooding on Norwich Road from Homelea to Station Road, at the end of Christine Avenue. David contacted Highways as the drains are blocked. The Council is aware that there used to be a drainage pond in the front garden of Vintner House and that, along with the filled in ditches along Norwich Road properties, possibly contribute to the problem.

The Clerk will also contact Highways but has heard that they haven't enough budget to clear drains.

David Payne - Councillors agreed at the last meeting to pay £150 for the Millennium Green signs that explain the Noon Marker, the invoice should be made out to the Parish Council. David brought along a sample of the material the signs will be made out of and he had forwarded pictures of the signs to Councillors via the Clerk. David mentioned that over @ 7 – 8 months were worked out mathematically and has worked out well but Nov 1st it wasn't where it should have been so he's marked it.

The other sundial at Peters' Wood – A lady from BDC grants Dept is coming to visit the Clerk on 10th November to help sort the grant out. David said he would like to be able to instruct Dave Spooner to do the base before Christmas.

16/129. Minutes of the meeting 4th October 2016: Were signed as a true record.

16/130. Matters arising from 4th October 2016 Meeting: 16/122. By now Councillors should have had an invite from The Village Hall for 16th November. Yes.

16/131. Action Log: Time Capsule. – bring items to the next meeting. Sundial, signs to be ordered and put onto the beacon. The Grant for Peters' Wood Sundial to be completed. - BDC visiting the Clerk on 10th November to discuss. Pedestrian Access being used as drive access on corner of Post Office Road with Chapel Road. – Clerk will ask Highways again. Allotment Hardcore. – Ben will ask Sally how much to move the Village Hall hardcore. 30mph on South Walsham Road. – Still to hear back. BDC e-mail regarding Heritage Ranger Scheme Volunteers. - Giles still to look into it. Phone-box replacement with Red phone-box. – The modern ones cannot be replaced with a red one. Pond Plane tree. - pruned and canopy raised.

16/132. Planning: a) 20161649 MUGA – Parish Council application for Four Lighting Poles (Retrospective). This is the Parish Council application and was put on the agenda for info only.

16/133. Correspondence: a) BDC Tree Warden event 7th December 7 – 9pm. Circulated to Councillors and Ernest.

b) NALC letter warning Councils of the Governments intention to have automatic precept referendums, costing @ £1,500 if a Council increases its precept by more than 3%.

Decision: A 3% rise on a small precept such as ours is @ £600 so less than the referendum cost, to recover that plus the £1,500 referendum cost would mean a 10.5% increase only to receive the 3% increase. Larger Councils with higher precepts can afford the lower percentage increase and if not the £1,500 does not wipe out the increase. Clerk to write and say that this Council does not wish for automatic referendums. Give our precept as an example.

c) Public Meeting/Police Accountability Forum being held on Thursday 10th November from 5.30pm in Great Yarmouth.

16/134. Bus shelter Request: For Post Office Road by the end of St Andrews. The Bus Shelter on Norwich Road is to be installed tomorrow, until it is known whether it is well received by the Community with no vandalism, nuisance etc., it would be unadvisable to purchase another one just yet. **Decision:** Wait and see how it goes and re visit the request in March.

16/135. Burlingham Green – Dell Farm possible uses: NPS wrote an e-mail asking the Council if they had any ideas for alternative uses for a set of traditional farm buildings at Dell Farm. **Decision:** Their suggestion of a Burlingham Woodland Walk educational access hub is a good idea, suggestion from this Council for a Community Room for the Village.

16/136. Trees: Request for 2 silver birch trees on Clarkson Road to have crowns raised, be pruned and be cleared away– quote £300. – Points made: Why would the Council pay for trees that aren't our responsibility? Presumably the resident had a survey done and the drain damage potentially made by the roots was highlighted before purchase, why did they think parishioners would want to pay? If this was on green space owned and run by the Council then the trees would have to be maintained by the Council. They did think the Parish owned the land or would know who the land owner is and would want to sort it and take them down. The land isn't ours and so the trees aren't, the Crown probably owns the land and trees. Ben asked if they took the tree out would anyone mind? A. There would be no concern or issue if the trees are pruned, managed or eventually taken down by them.

This piece of land was cut with the verges, up to a few years ago but since contractors changed and changed back again, it seems to have been missed. **Decision:** The Council

does not feel that it is responsible for these trees. The Clerk has asked Highways and will ask again if they will take responsibility, the Parish Council will get the Parish Handyman, Sean, to clear the area and then make sure it is cut by the verge contractor next year onwards. The Clerk will forward the minutes to the resident as requested and inform Garden Guardian that the area is to be included in verges contract again.

Orchard trees: - The Hacon's incomparable pear needs replacing. **Decision:** Anne forwarding a link to Sonya for her to order one.

16/137. Highways: Highways Rangers coming to the area soon.

16/138. Finance: a) Payments received from: i) Broadland District, CIL Levy 1/4/16-30/9/16 = £493.20

b) Payments requested: i) Viking Stationery £69.58 (Chq No. 2029)

ii) Norfolk County Council Allotment (£130) and Burlingham Rent (£25) April 2016 to Oct 2016. £155. (Chq No. 2030)

iii) The Play Inspection Company £108.05 (Chq No. 2031)

iv) Anglian Water – Allotments £126.19 (Chq No. 2032).

v) M. Blackburn - Crown raising 1 plane tree, and reducing an ash tree at the pond and removing for chipping. £160 (Chq No. 2033).

vi) Allotment grass cutting £60 + VAT = £72 (To be paid out of cash allotment payments)

vii) K. Monsey October Cemetery grass £202 (Chq No. 221).

c) Norfolk County Council Rent review on Allotment site from £260 p.a. to £350 p.a. October 2016 or £380 p.a. if defer to October 2017.

Decision: This is @ 40% rise and is not acceptable. The rise isn't seen as such by NPS as the amenity land at the front of the site wasn't charged for in the past because it cannot be used for anything, due to it being a filled waste site but they are now wishing to charge rent for it. It was resolved that the Clerk writes to NPS to inform them the Council thinks the rent increase is unnecessarily high and does not want this piece of waste land at the front of the site, as it cannot be used for allotments, a meeting on site may be necessary.

d) Royal British Legion donation for wreath. **Decision:** It was resolved to give £50.

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.05 -
Next meeting 6th December 2016.
At Lingwood Village Hall.*