

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held at the Lingwood Methodist Chapel, Chapel Road,
Lingwood on Tuesday 3rd September 2013 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Ben Bethell – Chairperson, Marina Tubby – Vice Chair, Mike Bredbere, Cliff Fountain, Tony Gould, Giles Mack, Hannah Paul, Ian White and Sonya Dickinson – Clerk.

13/103. Welcome & apologies for absence: Apologies received from Councillors Lauren Bean, Ian Chapman, Krisy Little and Richard Morton.

13/104. Declarations of interest: 12 a) ii) Tony Gould – Tony and Ann Bone to step out when discussed. 12 b) Ian White – a friend has an allotment. Cliff Fountain and Ben Bethell, any Village Hall matters.

13/105. Public Forum: We were joined by 9 members of the Public along with County Councillor Brian Iles and District Councillor David Ward.

A resident came to complain about the new entrance put in by the owners of Church Farm House, Lingwood Road, Lingwood. Whilst away on a family holiday the new entrance was put in, with the JCB breaking through the bank and hedging and filling in a drainage ditch, 2 large posts have been put in, on a blind bend. Previous applications from other residents had been refused due to being on a blind bend and even residents further along the straight piece of road had been refused and entrance to their property. Contrary to belief there has never been an entrance here, a gate was put across a piece of hedgerow to block a gap where livestock were getting onto the road after a car had skidded off the road and broken through. The house and land are up for sale and the land may become land locked if not sorted out soon.

Highways have no record of having been asked permission.

The Parish Council can ask Highways to look into it as a creation of a new access needs permission. Councillors also asked Brian Iles to ask Highways to have a look at it.

Maureen asked if there was any money left for flowers for the raised bed on the green. It was originally agreed that £250 could be spent and @ £121.77 has been spent so far, so there is still some left.

David Ward reported that the wheelie bin rubbish collection is changing, grey bins would soon be able to take tetra packs and glass bottles so he said the bottle banks will not be worth having in the future, it would be better to have textile banks when the bottle banks drop in popularity.

Councillors noted that the school collects textiles to raise money and that the can bank was re instated after it was seen that cans were still being brought to the recycling area even though the grey bin already takes them.

Bedroom tax: there have been problems and BDC are doing everything they can to help anyone who has been penalised unduly. Welfare benefits July 2013 max benefits £350 - £500 per household per week, compensated if any disability etc. If anyone wants help they are to contact Broadland District Council.

Norwich has 4,500 new houses planned from the Tesco area to White Woman Lane. The housing problem will be looked at in the next 5 years.

Q: The housing bedroom tax, is there a high amount affected. A: Yes there are not many 1 or 2 bedroom houses for people to downsize to but there should be soon. There are problems for developers as the grants aren't there.

Brian Iles – There was a judicial review on the incinerator and they cannot see why it can't go ahead.

Better Broadband, BT are putting better broadband in Kings Lynn, Norwich and Gt Yarmouth as there is money in it but County Council, with a grant, are making sure by the end of 2015 all villages will benefit. If you are within 1 or 2km of a green box you should get 24-25Kb but beyond 2km you will get less.

Lingwood have already had the fibre optics fitted but it has to be paid for.

Cliff Jordan is no longer in charge of County Farms, Steve Morphew is now in charge, the team who the Council normally deals with is the same.

13/106. Minutes of the meetings 13th August 2013: Were signed as a true copy.

13/107. Matters Arising from 13th August 2013 Meeting: Planning application 20130912 An e-mail received from Broadland District Council planning dept. and circulated to Councillors, one of the windows to 1 bedroom was taken off as per the revised plan seen by Councillors but BDC planning officer said 2 windows were necessary on the other larger bedrooms due to building regulations. Councillors would like District Councillor David Ward to look into it although it may be too late as the application consultation period is over.

13/108. New Village Hall Plans: It was agreed to move this item up the agenda so that Michael Spicer did not have to stay for all of the meeting. Michael is the architect employed by the Village hall Committee and came along to the meeting to show the proposed plans and to answer any questions. The detailed application should be done by Sept to Jan 2014 and out to tender March 2014. Brian Iles suggested a foundation grant. Ben said he would also go to BDC with David Ward.

13/109. Planning: a) 20131082 – Front and Rear Dormer Window, 18 Briar Close, Lingwood, NR13 4PB.

Decision: Unanimous Support.

13/110. Correspondence: Network Rail are coming back to Marina within 20 days with regard to her query about the rumour of Automated Rail Barriers.

b) BDC invitation to Councillors.

13/111. Website: a) Request from the Lingwood Post Office to advertise. The Kings Head Pub also wishes to advertise. Tony Grosvenor, the Webmaster, would prefer the Council to vet the ads before being sent to him. **Decision:** It has been agreed that Sonya can vet the content. Ben will call and see David and Terry.

13/112. Grass Cutting Contracts 2014 and beyond: This is not a decision piece, just a conversation. The grass cutting could be re rigged and some of it could be done by the Council. The Green and Village Hall could be done by buying a grounds tractor at a cost of @ £2,500 p.a. Currently the Parish Council pay @ £1,250 for the green to be cut and @ £550 towards the Village Hall grass cutting, the Village Hall spends @ £2,000. The grass could be cut more often. It could be proposed that £25,000 of Section 106 money could be spent on a grounds tractor, BDC has already said it would be possible.

The Village Hall could store it and provide someone to cut the grass, the Hall would pay @ £1,500 and the Parish council would pay @ £1,000, saving both parties money even with the annual running costs @ £600 there would also be the benefit of more regular cuts. These figures were worked out on a 15 year life.

There would have to be a fuel and maintenance log as well as a usage log to tot up how often it is used and by whom. Insurance would be agricultural and anyone with a valid driver's licence would be able to drive it although competence training would be advisable beforehand.

Decision: Councillors agreed that Ben should look into it more, in readiness for the new hall.

13/113. Millennium Green: a) Wicksteed quoted for replacing 4 rubber mats and the rubber seat on the vandalised Hurricane Swing. **Decision:** It seemed a bit expensive so Ben will ask Herbie how much he would charge to put the rubber mats down.

b) To discuss quotes for the new equipment. **Decision:** Put on next agenda as not all quotes are in.

There has been damage to a tree on the green and it looks like it has killed it, a new one needs to be bought but larger than the other ones as it will be a year before it takes.

The seat nearest the Village Sign has been roughed up by scooters being run along it.

Decision: Ben will sand and treat it.

The hedge along the Green and Post Office Road has been cut on the outside by Highways but they have left the inside. **Decision:** The Council will get it flailed on the inside this time.

9.30pm -Councillor Cliff Fountain left at this time.

13/114. Finance: a) Authority to pay was given for: i) Mrs M. Bredbere – Bulbs and plants for raised bed on the Millennium Green. £121.77 inc VAT (Chq No. 793).
ii) A. Gould – Receipts for 2 osteopathic treatments after sustaining a back injury whilst on working party pulling up ragwort. £68.00 **Decision:** Clerk to ask the Insurance Company if Employers Liability will pay or if the Council pays is it accepting responsibility and future claims.
b) Allotment charges for October 2014 to 2015. **Decision:** Councillors decided that there should be no increase next year and it will remain at £36 for full sized plots.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.40 – Next meeting Tues 1st October 2013.