

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Lingwood Village Hall Meeting Room, Station Road, Lingwood on Tuesday 19th September 2017, 7.00pm.

Present were: Ben Bethell – Chairman, Tony Gould, Roz Simpson and Sonya Dickinson – Clerk.

17/123. Welcome and Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Ian Chapman, Brenda Jones, Richard Morton, Simon Stevens, Marina Tubby and Ian White.

17/124. Declarations of interest: None.

17/125. Public Forum (10 minutes allocated for Public participation): We were joined by 25 members of Public, most of whom had come to discuss the Millennium Green. The Council had put a notice out for people to come and discuss the Millennium Green and their expectations. Ben asked what the main issues people had come to discuss were; Parking, dogs, Post Office Road hedge, the road markings that were moved 2ft into Post Office Close, vandalism, the main grass being cut but not behind the houses at the edges. Other items that came up were the dog bin taken from Buckenham Road and the overflowing dog bin at Peters' Wood. Ben answered the non Millennium Green items first; A. The dog bin from Buckenham Road is being relocated to near the Village Hall as it was not well used, and the Village Hall has had problems with people either not picking up after their dog or picking it up and throwing the bags into the hedge between the hall and School or into the V. Hall compound. The overflowing dog bin will be emptied next week; we are changing contractors as the previous one has let us down.

Parking; is an issue, photos show that people are parking illegally and you can't get a pushchair or pedestrian past. A. This is not legal and should be reported to 101. The more times it is reported, the more likely something will get done, the Parish Council cannot enforce highways issues.

Parking was raised at the time the park was built. A. When the park was built, a car park was discussed but as well as it costing too much, some people were against it as it will move issues to the car park. Easy access to the Green would mean vehicles could misuse the Green. It would cost £60,000 – £70,000 for a car park and it was thought that the money would be better spent on park equipment.

There are two sides to the mums parking by the park, some mums may be passing and just stop off on the way home to let the children let off steam but others drive to the park instead of walking from home, misusing the parking on the road. The park is popular with people from outside the village but this is a village and not a large city park.

One day there were @ 12 cars parked along Post Office Close and it was difficult to pull into the Close.

There have been near misses, there are dozens of photo's showing the illegal parking and it is an accident waiting to happen, safety is a major concern.

I can get around the green with my dogs but I am not able to walk to and from, why is there no disabled parking?

No one should be parking closer than 10 metres of the give way lines.

Upton has their park next to their village hall so the hall car park can be used, why can't the park be put at the Village Hall? A. It was thought that the Village Hall should be for Sports and Recreation and the park on the Green be less formal, the park was put on the only suitable land at the time, it can't be moved now.

Why wasn't the park put with the Village Hall? A. The Parish Council negotiated for years with Norfolk County Council for some land for a park and in 2008/9 the land at Post Office Road signed over. The Parish Council built the park in 2010. The Village Hall and Parish Council are separate.

The safety on that Road, as a mum it's frightening. A. If there was a car park it would have to be locked every night and have good fencing.

Thorpe Rec has an automated barrier.

Ben; There were issues at the Village Hall, the Police came immediately and sorted it out. The Police don't know we are having problems unless people ring 101. There is a Safer

Neighbourhood Meeting (Snap panel) coming @ November and people should come along to talk to the Police about their concerns.

If we want to stop the parking on the Road what is the solution? A. It wouldn't be so bad if they didn't park so close to the junction. Take photo's and dial 101 to log the incident. We can set a date to re-group and see if still got the problem.

Dog issues: Some owners don't clean up after their dogs. A. Repeat offenders may be able to be tackled.

Dog walking area? A. The top of the green is a free area to let dogs off the lead, rather than where the children play but this is not an official dog walking area.

Some not responsible dog owners do have dogs on a lead as the dog poo is near or on the path.

Some dog owners are responsible but others let their dogs off as soon as they get to the green and the dog fouls the play areas.

Humans are fouling the park. A. Toilets are not viable because of the running costs and associated trouble that will come with them.

CCTV? Unless a good ¾ shot is taken, it's difficult to prosecute.

Could put flags in the fouling but children running freely may pick the flags up.

Spray painting the dollops was suggested.

Banning dogs is banning 90% of responsible dog owners.

The row of Hedge planted at the back of the Green was to block sound to St Edmunds from the BMX area, which is not used much at the moment but may be when BMX is popular again.

The grass isn't cut to the boundary, I can't access the M. Green side of my hedge to cut it. Can it be cleared back and then kept up? A. The grass isn't cut to the boundary because it would have cost so much to clear, it was cleared a couple of times but when it needed clearing back again, it was agreed to be left as a wildlife boundary. Some residents would like it cut back and some would like it left as an extra security measure. The verge on Avondale was cleared and added to the grass cutting schedule and Clarkson Road triangle, now orchard, was added to the grass cutting schedule.

The M. Green grass cutting contractor cuts @ 10pm sometimes, is this necessary? A. This is due to if it has been raining, he has to fit it in some time so apologies if it is a disturbance.

The trees and hedges are good and have blocked some of the sound to my house.

Vandalism: From children @ 8 years old and up, they are also lippy when asked to stop their anti social behaviour. A lot of the children are known.

The children were climbing up the saplings and when asked to stop, gave verbal, the Police were called and they did come out. A. If 101 is called to report vandalism each time, it will make Lingwood a 'hotspot' and the Police will be aware we are having problems.

Won't the recent knife crime on the Green make it a 'hotspot'? A. No, although this is major it is 1 incident.

Speeding on Post Office Road? A. This wouldn't make the Green a 'hotspot'.

Ben mentioned the SNAP Panel: Residents should come along to the next SNAP Panel meeting and bring the parking photo's along and mention the Vandalism at the Green. Police numbers are low so they have to prioritise. The Police are the ones with the power, not the Parish Council.

The parking photo's can be put onto the notice board.

Couldn't there be a part funded PCSO for Lingwood? A. This would have doubled the precept, which although wouldn't cost that much per person it would be enough to have to hold a referendum. It was voted against by the Parish Council.

Can there be steps up to the slide as it is slippery. A. We can look into it.

Ben said it was nice to see so many people at the meeting and hoped that questions had been answered and that people didn't feel it a waste of time.

17/126. Millennium Green - Parking, dog fouling, anti-social behaviour and vandalism, trees and hedges: Ben is going to the Green to take a look at the hedges. Clerk to ask Highways to trim both sides of the hedge along Post Office Road.

8.10pm – Planning Meeting.

At this time all but 3 members of the Public left the meeting.

17/127. Minutes of the meeting 5th September 2017: Were signed as a true record.

17/128. Matters arising from 5th September 2017 Meeting: None.

17/129. Planning: a) 20171510 - Conversion of Outbuilding to Garden Room, Home Farm, Dell Corner Lane, North Burlingham, NR13 4SX: **Decision:** Unanimous support.

b) 20171539 - Single Storey Side/Rear Extension, 16 Willow Close, Lingwood, NR13 4BT.

Decision: Unanimous support.

17/130. Correspondence: None.

17/131. Highways: Nothing new to report.

17/132. Finance: a) Retrospective Payments: i) Eibe Play £536.27 inc. VAT for Zip wire parts. (Chq No 2093) ii) Viking Stationery £71.98 inc VAT. (Chq No. 2094) iii) M. Bredbere, plants for M. Green £5.97 (Chq No 2095).

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.30 -
Next meeting of the Parish Council for Planning, 3rd October 2017, at Lingwood Village Hall.*