

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present were: Ben Bethell - Chairperson, Marina Tubby – Vice Chair, Mike Bredbere, Tony Gould, Giles Mack, Roz Simpson, Simon Stevens, Ian White and Sonya Dickinson – Clerk.

16/25. Welcome & apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Brenda Jones and Richard Morton.

Ben welcomed all to the new Venue and thanked the Methodist Chapel for everything they had done for the Parish Council in the past as they were very accommodating.

16/26. Declarations of interest: Sonya Dickinson – Finance b) Annual Spinal column increase. Ben Bethell – Finance a) iv) Credit Card reimbursement. Simon Stevens – Finance a) i) training costs.

16/27. Public Forum: We were joined by 14 members of the public, District Councillor David Ward and County Councillor Brian Iles.

David Ward: Did the Devolution e-mail get passed on? No the Clerk didn't receive one.

There is a crisis on funds and County Council's are joining together to make 1 larger authority. The only County that has done it so far is Manchester and they will get 1 big budget to pay for all the items inc. Transport and infrastructure, housing, community safety and health and social care. Norfolk and Suffolk joined together is not deemed big enough so, 2 other Authorities, Cambridge and Peterborough are joining together with Norfolk and Suffolk, there will need to be a head of services or a Mayor in charge. This will be happening very soon.

There is a large increase in older people, 31% of people are over 60 in Norfolk. Thirty eight bids went into Government to form an alliance but only Manchester was accepted.

Q. Are the officials going to be elected? A. Yes.

Q. The Higher positions, are they elected Councillors? A. Yes.

Q. Will the purse be combined? A. Yes.

There are 1 or 2 good things, it can increase business rates without Government Permission.

Q. Will each County put a bid in? A. No all 4 Authorities will put the bid in together as 1.

Handy man Scheme is still going.

Pest Control will be phased out in October.

Revenue Support Grant – Will be phased out by 2020.

David will let Sonya know when the A47 junction meeting will be.

Brian Iles: NCC budget increase 3.99%. There has been £1.5million set aside for holes in the Road. There are also small Schemes that will be considered out of that money. i.e. Acle have parking problems and a Scheme to improve it is being considered. If the Council has a Scheme for parking or paths etc., let Brian know. Line marking, such as the extended H outside driveways to stop people parking, costs £60.

As was reported at the last meeting, the Defra subsidised Permissive path scheme has stopped, Brian has been on to Keith Simpson and they have talked about a new scheme and there isn't one available but they hope to keep the pressure on Government.

Meeting on 11th with the Highways Agency, question 1 about why the Road was closed into Burlingham, when there were road works last year and no one heard back as to why, question 2 about the lay by closure on the A47.

Update on the A47, Burlingham Dual Carriageway and the Acle Straight improvements – Burlingham is going ahead in 2017 but they need a new traffic analysis as the last one was done 10 years ago and things such as queries can cause delays so they need to make sure the scheme is comprehensive. Stage 2 will be 2017 – 2020 which is the Acle Straight design stage, they are trying to get it brought forward.

Devolution - Brian understood from Tom McCabe at Transport and Highways, the funding for each County will remain the same but additional money will be in the pot to start with to aid with the Co-operation, eventually it will be funded differently i.e. by the Mayor etc.

Public; Allotment holder – There is a problem getting cars onto the allotment site as the grass is so long, allotment holders from the back of the site are barrowing soil and grass etc.

around and dumping at the front waste site. The Council is not meant to make profit from the allotments so why can the grass not be cut and cleared?

The Clerk has asked a company for a quote and e-mailed NPS to see if Norse can come and clear the site for a discounted price as they used to use the site but has not heard back from either yet. The grass quote will be for once a month, which should keep it tidy. The Clerk sent a copy of the allotment accounts to the wife of the allotment holder when asked for proof of non profit, it shows the allotments are still over £500 in the red since the start. The Council will start to reduce the rent, which is currently £36 p.a. and will be £37 p.a. in October 2016 (including water), if it accumulates too much of a buffer.

It was reported that an old apple tree on one of the allotments is not being pruned properly, it is casting a shadow on the allotment, so can be kept trim but someone needs to check that it is not being killed off with over pruning.

Public; It was asked if the Orchard Trees had been ordered, they are local varieties such as Acons incomparable pear so cannot be purchased just anywhere. Whilst asking Ernest can he be asked about the Millennium Green tree?

Planning; 2 members of the public were here to complain about application 20160180, Willow Close, they have sent letters to the Council and Broadland District Council. Ben read the letters out with permission. Broadland hasn't visited and they feel the lengths of the gardens are too short for the bungalow to be turned into a house. There are 2 houses on the Close but they are tight in the corner, the rest are bungalows.

16/28. Minutes of the meeting 2nd February 2016: Were signed as a true record.

16/29. Matters arising from 2nd February 2016 Meeting: Allotments to be on the April agenda if the clearing quotes have come in.

16/30. Action Log: Allotment clearing and grass quotes still to come in.

16/31. Correspondence: a) Broadland local Plans Examination – Site Allocations DPD and Growth Triangle Area Action Plan – Any comments to be made by 7th March (e-mail circulated to Councillors 15/2/16). **Decision:** The e-mail has been read and there are no comments to be made at the moment.

16/32. Planning: a) 20160179 – Single Storey Front/Side and Rear Extensions, 18 Clarkson Road, Lingwood, NR13 4BA. **Decision:** Unanimous Support, noting that there may be some light issue from altering a flat roof to a pitched roof.

b) 20160180 – 1. Raising Roof to Provide First Floor Accommodation. 2. Porch to Front. 8 Willow Close, Lingwood, NR13 4BT. **Decision:** Unanimous rejection on the grounds that it is too large a scale, causing overlooking and light issues, the garage is too large and close to the Road affecting the street scene.

The New projector worked well, enabling the plans to be viewed clearly by all.

c) Letter from Broadland Planning and Enforcement regarding the N. Burlingham Island site. The site has been visited by officers and anything that is not classed as permitted development will be applied for shortly. **Decision:** Ben read the letter out.

N.B. NCC Brian Iles and a few members of public left at this time. 8.35pm.

16/33. MUGA: To consider quotes for MUGA.

Smiths Construction has been chosen but there has been a good amount of discussion about the lighting not being LED and the basket ball hoops. The basket ball hoops priced were for socket posts which can be moved but will be heavy, the moveable freestanding hoops are slightly cheaper but there needs to be somewhere to store both of these, the practice hoops fixed to the fence would be better but the markings would not be long enough so they would only be practice hoops. Ground colour, red or green? **Decision:** The lighting will be ok not as LED, ground colour red, Clerk to double check the line markings will be in different colours for each sport. Fixed basket ball hoops to be at each end, Clerk to ask if the basket ball lines could be stretched to meet the 2.4m fixed hoops, keeping the semicircle and centre circle the correct size.

Tesco's are doing community grants at the moment, the Clerk can enquire but can move on without if nothing can be sorted in a week.

16/34. Highways: Pot holes on Blofield Road, Lingwood, these were reported to highways and filled. Still awaiting a report re the layby on A47.
Reported to the Parish Council tonight; 1. Pot holes by Pack Lane and 2. The A47 Southern Bypass, the road surface is really bad.

N.B. District Councillor David Ward left at this time. 8.55pm

16/35. Finance: a) Authority to pay: i) Norfolk Parishes Training Partnership – Introductory Training for Simon Stevens £45.00 (Chq No. 970).
ii) Abbey Memorials £300 inc. VAT for Noon Markers (Chq No. 971).
iii) Scooper Dooper dog bin emptying in the 3 new locations, Burlingham Green, South Burlingham and Peters' Wood £88.75 (Chq No. 972)
iv) Ben Bethell, Credit Card reimbursement for Projector. £369.99 (Chq No. 973).
b) Spinal Column point increase for Clerk as per contract, commencing 1st April 2016, from SCP23 to SCP24, 35pence per hour = £18.20 per month increase. The Clerk left the room whilst this was being discussed. **Decision:** Agreed as per contract.
c) Churchyard Grants, St Peters, St Edmunds and St Andrews, was £130 each last year. **Decision:** It was unanimously agreed to give £130 again this year. (April 2016-17, Chq No's 975, 976, 977).
d) External Audit for Smaller Authorities, 2017 to 2022 – To stay in or opt out? **Decision:** It was decided to opt in to a group External Auditor rather than have our own. This only ties the Council in for 5 years from 2017 to 2022.

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.25 -
Next meeting is after the Annual Parish Meeting in April 2016.
At Lingwood Village Hall.*