

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held at the Lingwood Methodist Chapel, Chapel Road,
Lingwood on Tuesday 21st April 2015 at 8.30pm.

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

15/042. Welcome & apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Brenda Jones, Krisy Little and County Councillor Brian Iles.

15/043. Declarations of interest: Richard Morton, Item 15/050. As he is a member of Burlingham Cottage Gardeners. Sonya Dickinson 15/052. Finance Item a) ii) Expenses.

15/044. Public Forum: We were joined by 9 members of the public.

It was asked if the rubbish along the Granary Close fence line could be reported to the Railway again as it will become a health hazard if it gets worse.

Chris Gates, Chairman of Burlingham Cottage Gardeners came to let the Parish Council know that the Cottage Gardeners are respectfully declining the offer of the extra £1,500 for the Storage building and signing the building over to the Parish Council but thank the Parish Council for their offer and positivity.

The perception is that the last five years fundraising just to sign it over would not be acceptable as many of the Cottage Gardeners have become emotionally attached to the project. Their understanding is the Parish Council will still be giving the £1,000 as promised plus an additional £1,500 = £2,500 but the building would become Parish Council property and no longer belong to the Burlingham Cottage Gardeners.

If the Community Group folded then the Parish Council may be held accountable to Parishioners who asked why a large sum of money was given to a Parish Group. The council will discuss and decide under item 9. But can ask Chris questions now. Q. Could the £1,500 be a loan and not a grant? A. The problem with a loan is the terms would have to be spelled out.

The Marquee reserve fund will have to be used on the building if the Council does not provide any extra grant, so if a Marquee is needed, would the Council offer any grant, offer the £1,500 as a loan, or put the money to one side in the Council account as a reserve so they can purchase one.

BDC are giving a grant towards the building and have asked what would happen to the building if the Burlingham Cottage Gardener Group ceased, they were told that the building would be offered up to other Community Groups. Ben thanked Chris for answering all of the Council's questions.

15/045. Minutes of the meeting 24th March 2015: Were signed as a true record.

15/046. Matters arising from 24th March 2015 Meeting: None.

15/047. Planning: a) 20150404 – Single Storey Rear Extension, 68 Station Road, Lingwood, NR13 4AZ.

Decision: Unanimous support.

15/048. Action Log: No change.

15/049. Correspondence: a) BDC letter regarding their resolution to support the National Farmers' Union campaign to the Government to ban the sale of and public use of releasing sky lanterns (commonly referred to as "Chinese lanterns") into the environment. They recommend to Broadland's Parish and Town Councils to support the NFU campaign, furthermore, pending the introduction of a nationwide ban, the Council prohibits the release of sky lanterns from land in its ownership and calls upon Broadland's Parish and Town Council's to take a similar approach. **Decision:** It was resolved by majority to log the Parish Council's objection to sky lanterns and ban the use on any Parish Land.

15/050. Burlingham Green storage Building: To discuss the proposal from Chris Gates, Chairman of Burlingham Cottage Gardeners. At this point Richard Morton left the room. Just to clarify the amount required is a further £1,500 as £1,000 has already been agreed. This amount is to make sure they do not use all of their working capital on the building. As stressed at the previous meeting, the Parish Council would not be comfortable just handing the £1,500 over for a contingency fund and does not want to set a precedent, that is why it requested, in return, the building is signed over to the Parish Council but could remain under the control of the Burlingham Cottage Gardeners.

As Chris said earlier, the Burlingham Cottage Gardeners have refused this option and have asked if there are any more options that can be put forward to vote on.

Some options could be:

Option 1: The £1,500 is given but if BCG fold, the Council has a say as to what happens to the building, this means the £1,500 grant is used towards the building and they keep their marquee fund as working capital.

Option 2: The Parish Council could guarantee that if a Marquee is needed the £1,500 would be loaned to them to purchase it. The delay in getting a cheque signed etc. would be alright as they could pay credit card and the cheque could be sorted at the next meeting, before their statement comes in.

Option 3: A loan is given for the building with terms and conditions, they keep their working capital.

Option 4: Give a £500 grant towards the building and a loan of £1,000 if required for a new marquee.

Option 5: Give a £500 grant towards a marquee if and when required.

The current offer remains on the table.

At this point the meeting was adjourned as there was a question about why Section 106 money is no longer a factor. Ben found that Section 106 money could not now be used as there was a contradictory fund received from another source.

Chris thanked the Council for leaving the offer on the table but would still decline and asked if any other grant could be given.

The meeting continued and a proposal was put forward to guarantee a loan of up to £1,500 as and when a marquee is needed. **Decision:** It was resolved to guarantee a loan of up to £1,500 for a marquee if needed, the terms to be agreed at the time of the loan.

At this point Richard Morton re-joined the meeting.

15/051. Highways: It was pointed out that it was a waste of Council money as the 'No Parking School' was re-painted outside the old Primary School on Chapel Road.

The Burlingham Green sign on the A47 has still not been replaced.

The triangle of grass left on the footway, where the old telegraph post was taken away, has not yet been done but there are white markings so it may be imminent.

Telecoms have still left a wire hanging over the 'caution horse' sign on Dell Corner Lane.

15/052. Finance: a) Permission to Pay was given to: i) Burlingham Cottage Gardeners £1,000 as per 2014 agreement. (Chq No. 903).

ii) S. Dickinson – Clerk's expenses, stationery etc., Jan/Feb/March. £199.52 (Chq No. 904).

iii) Broadland Pest Management, allotment rats £60. (Chq No. 905).

iv) Norfolk County Council rent; Burlingham Green £25 and Allotments £130 = £155 (Chq No. 906).

v) The Play Inspection Company Ltd. £108.05 inc Vat (Chq No. 907).

Ben said a special thank you to Cliff Fountain, who will not be re-standing as Parish Councillor, for all of his hard work and time on the Council.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.35 – Next meeting is the AGM of the Parish Council on Tues 12th May 2015.