

## LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Planning Meeting held at the Lingwood Village Hall Meeting Room, Station Road, Lingwood on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017, 7.30pm.

**Present were:** Giles Mack – Vice Chair, Ben Bethell, Ian Chapman, Tony Gould, Brenda Jones, Richard Morton, Roz Simpson, Simon Stevens, Marina Tubby, Ian White and Sonya Dickinson – Clerk.

**17/44. Election of Chairman:** Councillor Richard Morton resigned as Chairman this week. Ben Bethell was nominated and seconded as temporary Chairman and the decision was unanimous.

**17/45. Welcome & apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from, County Councillor Brian Iles.

**17/46. Declarations of interest:** Richard Morton – Planning b).

**17/47. Public Forum** (10 minutes allocated for Public participation): We were joined by 9 members of the public along with District Councillor David Ward.

District Councillor David Ward – BDC has an initiative, Dementia Action Alliance. Ben asked if they needed venues as the Social Club Room could be used as a day time drop in centre. David agreed it would be nice to find the people with dementia in the Parish and they could be invited to join the Alliance.

Public: Q. Bus shelter on Post Office Road? A. There have been 14 people that have put their names on the list to request a shelter, is that enough to warrant the cost? It would be nice to have one either end of the village. The item will be on the next agenda.

Maureen: Would it be ok to spend some money to re do the planter with different plants that won't need watering as much as it is difficult to keep it watered. Richard suggested asking the garden centre for advice with drought tolerant plants.

Councillors agreed to Maureen replacing the plants, Sonya can authorise payments for maintenance.

Public: At the last PC meeting it seemed fairly obvious that Option 4 was the preferred option for the A47 and he was horrified to see it was taken forward that the PC chose option 3. Was it reported wrong?

Ben: Options 3 or 4 were the most popular with option 4 being the most favoured, it went to cabinet and Richard made a mistake as he said 3 or 4. The press did misreport what Richard said and will retract their report if requested by Richard. Richard has stood down as Chair due to the mistake. The press have since done 2 reports about Catherine Blaiklock, the first says she backs option 4, the second report says she is against the dualling altogether, so they may not be getting it right.

Ben is uncomfortable that the PC was not clear on option 4 but asked David Ward why he favoured and suggested option 3?

David said that BDC Cabinet originally favoured option 2, option 4 caused a lot of problems with the gas main.

Ian White: The gas main can't be a problem or Highways wouldn't have suggested that route.

Tony Gould: The gas main is not a problem.

Public: It doesn't have an impact on Brundall and Blofield and they chose option 4, why did Highways come if option 4 wasn't a starter?

David: They've made their mind up which one they are going to do.

Tony: How can Highways make a decision yet? They must still be collating the questionnaires, so they can't have decided yet.

Brenda: The question is why our views were not represented by our District Councillor? Were you there for your personal view or your constituents view?

David: No one was there representing the PC.

Ben: Richard was and you should also have represented this Parish as our District Councillor. Option 3 cuts through the middle of our footpaths. David: They won't be there if option 3 goes ahead.

Richard has explained he spoke against 1 & 2 and admitted he got flummoxed under the pressure of speaking to the panel and said 3 or 4 instead of just 4.

Public: There will be more noise and more traffic and our ward member did not represent the Parish, he didn't say 3 or 4, he just said what he wanted – Option 3.

Ben: Why did you choose option 3 David? David: To keep away from the Gas main.

Marina: The majority voted for 4 so even though it went against your opinion, you should have represented your Parish/constituents.

Public: Perhaps you could have said it clearer that 3 was your opinion but still let them know that 4 was the Parish choice.

Is there any way the PC can go to BDC and say they've been misrepresented?

Ben: David at Highways is well aware that there are problems with how we have been represented but nothing can be done.

David: It will be down to the consultation in the end.

Ben: Other agencies and businesses have chosen option 3, which is right for their business or group, which is fair enough. The frustrating thing is, we won't know if the BDC decision for option 3 was swayed by our Ward member's choice?

Giles: What steps has David taken to show he has misrepresented us?

David: I've told Highways that the PC chose 4. The only way I can see is for the PC to write a letter to Highways and inform them.

Marina: They won't take notice of a letter now as the Consultation is over. (The PC Consultation form was sent in by the Clerk).

Ben: The PC feels let down by their Ward Member. Highways won't let the PC know how much sway BDC views have. Blofield chose option 4 so hopefully if not many others have chosen 3, it won't be the favoured route.

The press has not done us any favours.

Public: If the press hadn't been there, the public wouldn't have known.

Ben: Sorted our own house out and Richard has resigned as he made a mistake.

Public: Are BDC aware that the Public and Parish have been misrepresented.

Ben: Yes they are aware, Ben has been in contact, BDC said they would've gone for option 3 regardless and do not want to revisit it.

Ian: If they aren't swayed by representation, what is the point of us making representation?

Ben: BDC make their own decision, we wouldn't feel so hard done by if we had been represented correctly and they had still gone with 3.

Roz: We've got to keep pushing the footpaths and ecology pieces forward.

Public: Who advised them ref option 2?

David: The overview and scrutiny and Spatial Planning Depts.

Ben: Don't know why they picked 2 with expert advice and then swapped to 3 with no expertise.

Public: If it had been a fair and square decision people would have been ok with it, even if the result was still 3.

Ben: We've never had misrepresentation before and hope it never happens again.

**17/48. Minutes of the meeting 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017:** Were signed as a true record.

**17/49. Matters arising from 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 Meeting:** None.

**17/50. Dualling of the A47 Blofield to North Burlingham:** Councillors met on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 'on the pink', to discuss what went wrong at the BDC, A47 meeting. Richard resigned as Chairman as a result of the meeting as he had made a mistake under pressure.

Councillor Brenda Jones said the Council should give Richard their full support and felt he resigned to save the Council being looked at in an unfavourable light due to his mistake.

Ian: We are all untrained in that environment, with time constraints Richard got muddled, it could've happened to any of us.

Ben: the press stuff is an uneasy situation to be in as we can make mistakes, speak ad hoc etc. and get it wrong. I hope Councillors don't feel they can't do it in future for fear of failing or doing it wrong. The big thing is it's been dealt with in the right way. Rest Assured, Highways are well aware that option 4 was our preferred route.

Ian: Junction etc. are the next stage.

Simon: Did any of us think forward and put in the additions box if other options were taken? i.e. This route could be made better if ..... etc.

Councillors all agreed that Richard had not acted underhandedly but had made a mistake under pressure. The Parish Council are annoyed that District Councillor David Ward did not represent the Parish Council's views.

David Ward apologised to everyone and left the meeting at 8.20pm.

**17/51. Planning:** a) 20170526 – Single Storey Extensions to Front Elevation, St Edmunds Barn, Church Road, South Burlingham, NR13 4EU. **Decision:** Unanimous support.

b) 20170549 – Conversion of 3 Joined Outbuildings to a One-Bed Residential Unit. Church Farm, 23 Main Road, North Burlingham, NR13 4TA. **Decision:** Unanimous support.

*N.B. Councillor Richard Morton did not speak or vote as he had declared an interest.*

c) 20170570 – Construct a garage/car port in the front garden, Old School House, School Road, Lingwood, NR13 4TJ. **Decision:** Full support. (9 for and 1 abstention).

d) 20160981 – Change of Use of Former Stable/Cart Shed to 1 No. Residential Dwelling (Revised Proposal). Appeal APP/K2610/W//17/3166690.

This was originally for information only as the Parish Council had no objection to the development but it has since come to light that there are to be 9 trees taken down to allow access off South Burlingham Road, some of which are protected Oak Trees. Broadland District Council did not let us know or give the arboriculture report, had they informed the Parish Council then the application would have been turned down. **Decision:** Unanimous objection. The Clerk is to send a letter to the Planning inspectorate regarding the appeal, to let them know that the Council was unaware at the time about the tree removal and objects unanimously.

**17/52. Correspondence:** None.

**17/53. Highways:** Nothing to report.

**17/54. Finance:** a) Payments requested: i) Viking – Stationery £78.52 inc. VAT (Chq No. 2062).

ii) Smith Construction final payment for MUGA £1172.21 inc. VAT (Chq No. 2063).

iii) K. Monsey Cemetery Grass £170 (Chq No. 224).

iv) Patrick Pinker Game Farm Ltd. Pre payment for bait boxes £138 (Chq No. 2061).

b) Retrospective Payments i) British Gas, MUGA electricity £43.47 (Chq No. 2060).

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.55 -*

*Next meeting - Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017, At Lingwood Village Hall.*