

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Methodist Schoolroom, Chapel Road, Lingwood on Tuesday 6th November 2012, 7.30pm.

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

12/188. Welcome & apologies for absence: Apologies received from Ray Britt, Ian Chapman, Krisy Little, Richard Morton, County Councillor Brian Iles and District Councillor David Ward. Mrs Pauline Clark gave her apologies for the Reading Room Section. Ben welcomed everyone and thanked the Reading Room Management Committee for coming.

12/189. Declarations of interest: Marina Tubby, anything to do with the Primary School. Mike Bredbere, item 12/196. Millennium Green (neighbour).

12/190. Public Forum and reports from Committees (including Reading Room and Village Hall): We were joined by 8 members of the public including members of the Reading Room Management Committee.

It was reported that some ties are missing from the trees and other ties looked tight. Ben said it was good to get feedback so that the issues can be addressed. Marina and Ben will sort them out at the weekend.

12/191. Minutes of the meetings 2nd October 2012: Were signed as a true record.

12/192. Matters arising from 2nd October 2012 meeting: None.

12/193. Correspondence: other than in circulation to Councillors or requiring a response.

a) Norfolk County Council invitation by Charlotte Angelbeck to receive press releases and public information notices from Norfolk County Council. **Decision:** Clerk has registered and is already receiving and sending some through to Councillors and to Tony Grosvenor to put onto the website.

Tony has reported that the Parish website has received over 1000 hits since it has been running.

12/194. Reading Room: At this point the meeting was opened up for the Reading Room Committee to comment.

The Parish Council have been the trustees for @ two years and the Management Committee stayed on. Discussions about the fabric of the building and what needed doing to keep it open were being had with no clear guidelines. Money from Broadland District Council came in and was used towards a search and survey of the building, including a Disability Discrimination Act Report (DDA), which DJ Designs is carrying out at present.

The report suggested considerable works need doing to guarantee the long term future of the building. The costs were commercial costs and some of the work was to get it up to an A standard and not necessarily what needs to be done immediately.

David says the windows do have purged ventilation and are only 6 years old and there is nothing wrong with the floors.

Sylvia asked how much of the report will be taken at face value and done even though it may not need to be done at all, such as the windows.

The criticism is that £75,000 is far too much to be spent and the money spent should be the case of need rather than wish.

A balance of need and wish would be needed to make sure the building has a long term future. If done properly for instance, the brick work should need re-facing to keep weather out for years to come but the windows can be left until they actually need replacing.

David said that the chimney is not coming away from the building.

DJ Design's brief was to tell the Council what was needed to bring it up to specification.

The Committee said the porch was built for people to take off their wet stuff and to keep it out of the main building. The weeds at the front and side are an eyesore and the hedge is now 10ft tall, it was supposed to be done in the Council's hedge cutting schedule, weed killer is

needed. The report says the roof is not insulated but it is. The fear is that the costs and the list that is growing may make the Council decide not to do anything at all.

At the Reading Room Committee meeting last month the Committee did think the best thing to do would be to stand down as they felt they have been left out of decisions. The Councillors could not see why there was a problem with the permitted £250 spend for emergency and safety critical works, only having to come to Council for anything over this amount should not be a problem.

We need to look forward, look at the report together and have the fears that there is no support from the Council put to rest now.

The list of works needed to come from somewhere and an independent report seemed the best route to go so that the Committees had something to work to.

Tony asked why there is a them and us culture, why can't both Management committee and Trustees work together instead of against each other and get grants together.

Both Committees need to get together and write a plan of what needs doing first and get quotes. Perhaps a Reading Room Committee can be set up, made up of Councillors and Management Committee members, to sort out the next course of action and bring it to the Council. Failing that a Councillor should be on the Management Committee.

It was suggested that no more committees be set up but more Parish Councillors should go to the Management Meetings. The Management Committee is responsible for getting the money in and the trustees to get the maintenance done.

What are the priorities? The roof felt not too bad but an extra row of felt at the bottom would help. Toilets? Not an issue. Concentrate on agreeing and not disagreeing – do outside first. To tackle the outside of the building: Back roof pitch.

Cannot reallocate the recycling money as it was used for the Village Hall planning permission. It usually goes to the village hall because the bins are on Village Hall land but when the planning money has been recouped some can go to the Reading Room.

Q to the Parish Council – How do they see the Reading Room?

The Council liked Tony's idea to regenerate the hall as a meeting space and have a projector and internet access so it can be used as a resource space and opened a couple of mornings a week for people without internet access to come and use, although it hasn't been officially decided.

More people are needed to help manage the Reading Room as the current team are flagging and would step down but need to be reassured that the building would be ok. **Decision:** Parish News ad should be put in.

The Parish Council feels that spending so much on something that is used so little would not be good use of Parish funds but grants could be raised. The Parish Council agreed to take it on to relieve the burden of the sole trustees who were liable for it and charged every time a trustee changed, the intention is not to shut it or spend all of the Parish money.

Public Consultation – What to do with the Reading Room? Want to spend the money.

Business – Every business needs a plan to show where the money is coming from and going to.

The Reading Room is part of the Parish and can have money spent on it as the Parish Council is not here to make a profit.

Vote: Do the Council want to spend time and effort and some money on the Reading Room or not?

Decision: There are not many public buildings in the Parish and we need to look after what we've got. Keep the Reading Room running and go forward.

Short term the Reading Room is ok – Where do the Management Committee go from here?

The Management Committee can ask for the quotes for the top of the hit list, getting new hirers in is more of a challenge. For continuity, the Parish Council can only move to the Reading Room when works complete.

Clerk to give copies of the report to the Management Committee to get quotes for January's meeting.

12/195. Planning: a) Appeal Ref: APP/K2610/D/12/2186198 - Glee Barn, Acle Road, Lingwood, NR13 4ER. Proposed Double Garage, Workshop and Studio. **Decision:** The

Parish Council rejected the application and the decision hasn't changed so the representation is to stay as it is.

b) 20121526 – Rear Extension – Revised Proposal, Doncaster House, 33 Norwich Road, Lingwood, NR13 4BH.

Decision: Although this is a large extension the plot is large enough to take it. **Unanimous Support.**

12/196. To discuss the proposed exception site at South Burlingham for Beighton and Moulton St Mary residents: Letter received from NPS and Broadland saying no other sites available.

At our last meeting Pauline James was asked to go back to NPS & Broadland to see if any further sites are available as the site in our Parish at South Burlingham would set a precedent to build more in South Burlingham which has no amenities. There is so much land in Beighton some near to Hopewell Gardens, Hantons lode and Chapel Road would all be better sites than the one at South Burlingham. This Council would prefer the affordable housing and exception sites to be closer to amenities. The Village Hall site, if sold would supply 13 affordable houses. A housing need assessment could be carried out to see what further need there is.

Decision: Ben will thank Pauline for going back to NPS but ask why and how the call for land was sent out.

The housing needs survey – Write to Kate De Vries and ask how to do a housing needs assessment for Lingwood & Burlingham.

12/197. Millennium Green: Request for Scooter track and practice area.

Ben had already had a quote for a trim trail track around the green which is for @ 500m of pathway around 3 sides of the green, which can have items of exercise and play equipment as well as benches, strategically placed along the track at a later date. The 3 sides of the green are from the path near St Andrews along past St Peters and St Edmunds up to the new Badger homes, along their fence and back down to the front gate of the Green. It will be within @ 10m boundary from the edge. The quote received was for @ 1.1m wide tarmac with treated wooden edging. **Decision:** It was decided by majority to investigate more quotes. It will be called a trim trail but there is no reason why children on non motorised scooters, roller skates and bicycles shouldn't be allowed to practice on the track. The benches eventually purchased for the green should have backs on so it is more comfortable for older people to sit on.

The BMX mounds are not looking good, the hole is filling with water and the track is not being used and was not even used much in the summer holidays, so it will need to be levelled. It has served a purpose for those youngsters who required it and built it but now it is off trend.

Decision: Removal of BMX features to be discussed further.

12/198. Highways: 2 pot holes on the Blofield Road, near Home Farm at the top of heater lane, need attention. **Decision:** Clerk to report to Highways.

The Cox Hill Road sign is missing. **Decision:** Clerk to report to Broadland.

12/199. Finance: a) Payments Received: i) BDC Section 106 money for pond work £8042.88

b) Retrospective payments: i) Mazars External Auditor £342.00 (Chq No. 737).

ii) Norfolk County Council Allotment rent £130 and Burlingham Green rent £25 = £155.00 (Chq No. 743)

c) To consider a donation request from Lingwood Primary School for Christmas fete.

Decision: 2 hours free Reading Room Hire. This is to be booked through Ruth Cox and a copy of the letter to be sent to Ruth Cox also.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.37 – Next meeting Tues 4th December 2012.