

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Methodist Schoolroom, Chapel Road, Lingwood on Tuesday 6th September 2011 at 7.30pm.

Present were: Ben Bethell – Chairperson, Marina Tubby – Vice Chairperson, Lauren Bean, Mike Bredbere, Ray Britt, Cliff Fountain, Tony Gould, Richard Morton and Sonya Dickinson – Clerk.

11/156. Welcome and Apologies: No apologies were received.

11/157. Declarations of Interest: Ben Bethell 12b) as his wife is an allotment holder, Marina Tubby, School matters, Mike Bredbere, Millennium Green, Richard Morton, Burlingham Cottage Gardeners, Lauren Bean Item 11a) as lives near and 12b) as she is an allotment holder.

11/158. Public Forum: We were joined by District Councillor David Ward and 15 members of the public.

It was asked who is responsible for the footpath markers and posts as a marker and gate is broken at the public footpath by the Church. Tony Bowyer the footpath warden was present and informed us that the marker was repaired 2 days ago and Norfolk County Council has been informed about the gate. From this year NCC are not going to cut the footpaths anymore. BADCOG may keep some of the footpaths clear for the Parish but as they are volunteers they will require some financial help with fuel costs etc. the main routes they could do would be Post Office Road to Church Road, the route to the Community wood and Norwich Road to Burlingham Road. The biggest problem is and always has been the route from Station Road to Chapel Road as the Railway weeds and brambles grow through and over the fence. The route from Burlingham Green to the Church Richard Morton volunteered to mow. Clerk to get quotes for cutting and BADCOG will also get back with costs for each footpath they could manage.

BADCOG members present, Tony Bowyer and Anthony McKie were informed that that the meeting can be adjourned when the Pond is discussed so that they can give their input as they currently manage the Conservation side or West compartment as it is preferred to be called. The other members of the Public would also be able to comment.

The allotment gate lock is not working and people have started dumping rubbish at the site again. Commercial rubbish such as tins of varnish etc. have been found and people from the nearby bungalows are bringing wheelbarrows of garden waste over.

The hose supplying the rear of the allotment site was cut through by someone trimming the hedge but has now been mended. Rat control is still needed at the site.

There have been rumours that the BMX track is being taken away which is not true. Ben has spoken with the Police and the problems are not being caused by the BMX users but the draw of the new facility to others. The boys who attended the meeting were thanked by Councillors for using the bin and for clearing the big stones from the area.

It was commented that it was nice to see a focus on the good the kids are doing rather than the negative.

11/161. Correspondence: other than in circulation to Councillors or requiring a response.

a) BDC Sex Establishment and Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy for comment by 23rd Sept. The policy is able to be viewed on www.broadland.gov.uk/business/4142.asp. **Decision:**

This document has been written by experts and Councillors have nothing to add.

b) Future of Standards – Parish & Town Survey – replies by the 1st October. (e-mailed Councillors 4/8/11). **Decision:** Questionnaire completed at the meeting.

c) e-mail from life coach directory requesting a link from our website – organisations page, to theirs. (e-mailed Councillors 13/8/33). **Decision:** Concerns over endorsement of the site, it was resolved not to put a link from the Parish Website.

d) Annual Meeting for Towns and Parishes Tuesday 11th October 2011 6.45pm BDC. (e-mailed Councillors 13/8/11). **Decision:** Inform Clerk if you wish to attend.

e) Norfolk RCC invitation to “Local Food” meeting at Dereham Weds 14th Sept 10am. (e-mailed Councillors 24/8/11). **Decision:** Inform Clerk if you wish to attend.

f) Broads Authority Consultation on proposed changes to the DPD. Comments by e-mail to LDF@broads-authority.go.uk no later than 29th September. **Decision:** There are no material changes so no Comments from this Council.

g) Broadland District Council cessation of "Parish Skip" service from 1st October. There are sufficient facilities at Strumpshaw for our Parish, the last skip from BDC is on Sat 10th September.

h) NALC AGM Sat 1st Oct 10am – 1pm, Dereham. **Decision:** Inform Clerk if you wish to attend.

i) NALC "Why Quality Status?" event at Barnham Broom Weds 12th October 10am – 12 noon. **Decision:** Not enough Councillors were elected on for this Council to be eligible.

11/162. Millennium Green: The loose proposal as to the layout of the Millennium Green, put the sign and notice board near the front of the site near the hedge, the beacon for the Jubilee in the middle with an avenue of trees up to it, Ernest Hoyos will be consulted. There will be an area reserved for future car park or building, not to say there will be any but tree planting in a designated area should be avoided to save a problem in years to come. **Decision:** It was resolved to use this block plan. Signage for the green is to go up on the new notice board with the BMX area having 2 signs specific for that area, quotes to be sought. The notice board needs more sturdy posts i.e. concrete as the 4 supplied are said to warp in the sun. Highways also need contacting as the Council may need permission for the sign and notice board to go along the hedge.

The BMX track needs a working party to tidy up, put topsoil and seed the BMX area.

11/163. Pond: The meeting was adjourned whilst the pond was discussed to allow public participation. There had been 2 professional reports done in previous years both saying that the water quality needed improving. Ray has written thoughts on the pond having spoken to the public and professionals. There are too many ducks and they are making the water quality bad. The causeway from the South to the West edge has eroded, the Conservation area had no water for most of the summer. The pond is a relic of the original Village Green and must have had a natural spring and not just be from road "run off".

Members of BADCOG informed the Council that the natural progression of a village pond is that it fills up in winter and dries up in summer. There are too many ducks but the Western Compartment could be more of a conservation area if there were only a few ducks. Some of these ducks can't fly and have been brought here when unwanted by someone.

Richard is to ask Dr Martin George if he could have a look at the pond and give some advice. Due to the over population of ducks nothing else can live in the pond as they eat everything and make the water quality poor thus making pond dipping impossible.

Is it to be a duck pond or conservation area, it can't be both.

Most Councillors would keep the ducks managed rather than taken away all together.

One quote had come in to board both sides of the causeway and fill in the space by material from the bottom of the pond and topped with hoggin. Other erosion sites are the Northern side (by the school) where the water is approaching the wall the decision is to ignore it and leave it as it is or build a deck over the water? Most would leave it as it is but the concrete edgings should be removed when the water level low as they look like they've been dumped. The South side revetment has rotten wood, this could be graded down to the waters edge instead of a 3ft drop but it may make it too steep.

BADCOG data base shows there is wildlife over there but it needs more reeds and wetland plants, the tallows have to be cut down every year. Dirty water cannot be put into the Western side until the Eastern side is cleaned up a bit. A sluice gate could be used to re-open the 2 sides but make it able to be managed.

The RSPB should be asked for a humane way of removing most of the ducks.

It was agreed that there was much to think about before it is discussed in full at the Facilities Committee meeting on 27th September, BADCOG are invited to talk at the meeting.

The meeting was re-opened.

11/164. Jubilee Celebrations 2012: Monday 4th June 2012. The Beacon is on the list to be lit between 10 to 10.30pm. The Church has arranged a celebration for the weekend 2nd to 4th June but this will complement those and not clash.

Things to arrange include portaloos, bunting, bar licence, car parking or encourage people to walk? Live music i.e. local talent, bouncy castle.

This is to be discussed at tomorrow's Comm Com meeting.

11/165. Highways: Highways will not re-prioritise the gritting route to take Heater Lane off and put Post Office Road on, a grit bin is to be ordered by end of September ready for highways to place at the corner of Post Office Road and Vicarage Road in October.

11/166. Planning: a) 20111204, Alterations & Extensions, 21 Post Office Close, Lingwood, NR13 4EW.

Decision: Unanimous support. N.B. Lauren Bean declared an interest and did not vote.

b) 20100386 - Part Re-development of Commercial Site for 10 Dwellings (Outline), The Hamper People Ltd, 31 Norwich Road, Strumpshaw. Info only - Planning permission granted.

11/167. Finance: a) Permission to Pay: i) The Garden Guardian August Highway & M. Green Grass cutting. £430.96 inc. VAT. (Chq No. 636).

ii) K. Monsey – Cemetery grass August £ 180 (Chq No. 166).

iii) K. Monsey – Sign Grass August £ 54.00 (Chq No. 637).

iv) Whitehouse Enterprises Notice board £500 + VAT (Chq No. 638) and bench £200 + VAT (Chq no. 639 cancelled as no invoice received).

b) Allotments: i) NPS Rent Review 2011, 3.37 acres of Bare Allotment Land. Increased from £230 p.a. to £260 per annum, this will take effect from 11 October 2011 with the first payment being due on 6th April, fixed for 3 years. **Decision:** It was resolved to accept the 12% increase as the old allotment site had to be brought into line with the rent of the new site.

ii) To discuss the rent payable by tenants 2012-13. **Decision:** Looking at the projections for the next few years and as the rent of the land has increased it was resolved to increase the rent by £2 per allotment from £34 to £36 for October 2012.

iii) To discuss the need for a Rat exterminator for this autumn Broadland Pest Management has quoted for £80 for the initial set up and £60 each for 2 further visits = £200. **Decision:** It was resolved to accept this quote to keep the rats under control.

c) Request from Burlingham Cottage Gardeners Association for a contribution towards the upkeep of Burlingham Green. Suggested amount £100. **Decision:** It was resolved to give £100. (Chq No. 640).

11/168. Projects in progress: None discussed.

11/169. Lingwood Reading Rooms: Finance: Request to pay J Jenkins, Invoice for cleaning £60. The cheque is to be paid but future payments may have to go through PAYE.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22.15 – Next meeting Tues 4th October 2011.

Communication Committee Meeting on Weds 7th September 7.30pm at Lingwood Reading Room.

Facilities Committee Meeting on Tues 27th September 7.30pm at Lingwood Methodist Chapel.