

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning Meeting held at the Lingwood Methodist Chapel, Chapel Road, Lingwood on Tuesday 8th September 2015 at 7.30pm.

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

15/100. Welcome & apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Tony Gould, Brenda Jones, District Councillor David Ward.

15/101. Declarations of interest: Ian White, Roz Simpson, 15/107. c) Parking on Post Office Close, they live on Post Office Close.

15/102. Public Forum: We were joined by 19 members of the public as well as Norfolk County Councillor Brian Iles.

Public – *I have a 3 year old granddaughter who used to like going to the park but got knocked flying by a big black dog and she is now petrified of dogs and won't go to the park anymore. The Police can't do much about it.*

. Why do dogs have to be penalised all year when families only tend to turn out and visit the park from May to September, in nice weather.

. There is no clear notice to say dogs should be on a lead.

. Seeing it from a dog owners perspective and parents perspective, what about providing a fenced off dog area?

. Dogs off lead have come up to my dog on a lead and if he gets frightened and bites who would be blamed?

. My dogs are on leads and it's children that come up to them, ours are friendly but we do tell them that they should be careful when going up to strange dogs.

. The discussion is going round in circles and if it is policed it could be stopped how?

. I have lived in Lingwood for 30 years and dogs have always been allowed on that piece of land. Ben responded to this – The land has only been owned by the Parish Council since 2008, the use has been changed to a play area, if houses had been built you wouldn't still be able walk dogs on there.

. National legislation says that dogs should be under control at all times so this means they should be on a lead if they cannot be called back.

. My dog is trained but if it sees a bird it will chase it and won't always come back immediately so I only let it off the lead on the fields near where I live, not on a park.

. If there is anyone on the park I keep my dog on a lead.

. Dog mess needs clearing up by irresponsible dog owners.

. Parents take children and their dogs to the play area, would they be penalised by not being able to take their dogs?

. Dogs should not be in a children's play area at all and on a lead by the other equipment.

. A fence would be good but may be a monstrosity.

. A dog to some of the elderly is their family and to have a place to let them off and socialise with other people would be a good thing.

. Children not under control by their parents are a problem. Ben responded to this – Children not under control would be less likely to hurt each other.

. I had my dog on a lead but saw 2 children climbing up the saplings and when I told them to stop the mother said I should not tell them but tell her, she should have been watching her own children.

. There needs to be sign posts to make it clear where this area is and the rules.

. In Australia they provide dog play pen areas.

. There was a radio show discussing this sort of thing and the Parish Council on it found if they enlisted the help of the dog walkers it was better.

. The top end of the field is suggested by the petition as the dog area.

. Common sense says that if it is the early hours, with no one around, would anyone be upset or even know if a dog was off its lead?

The e-mail in support of dogs being off the lead covered the fallow field piece as mentioned earlier.

15/103. Minutes of the meeting 21st July 2015: Were signed as a true record.

15/104. Matters arising from 21st July 2015 Meeting: None.

15/105. Action Log: The pedestrian drop curb access on Post Office Road being used by a resident on Chapel Road, 2 bollards have been put up by Highways to stop it but the residents are now using the corner drop curb on the junction, Highways have been notified.

15/106. Planning: The Live Work and Offices application on Lodge Road went to Broadland District Council's Planning Committee on 26th August and was unanimously rejected as using this green field site outside of the Planning boundary is of no benefit to the Community and would join Lingwood with South Burlingham.

15/107. Correspondence: a) BDC – Licensing Act and Gambling Act Policy Review. Comments by 9th October.

b) BDC – LDF/DPD, comments by 13th October.

c) A petition has been received about illegal parking on Post Office Close, too close to the junction with Post Office Road, by people visiting the Millennium Green. **Decision:** Clerk to report this to Highways again and send the petition into them. The corner access gate is a critical place and Emergency access gate, ask the Acle SNAP team to keep an eye out for illegally parked cars, Clerk to order a sign for the gate "Keep Clear – Emergency Access".

d) SLCC Notice of AGM 16th October 2015. **Decision:** Inform Clerk if you wish to attend.

15/108. Millennium Green: whether or not to allow dogs off the lead, on the Green. (A petition to allow dogs off the lead has been received + 1 e-mail letter for and 1 e-mail letter against).

The Council have heard good reasons for dogs on or off the lead to be allowed onto the Green.

Pauline's petition to allow dogs off lead has highlighted an area on the map that could be used for this and it is the back far right hand corner where the BMX area is.

The question as to whether there should be a time schedule and/or time of year allowed, it is not only children that may be scared of dogs running up to them, runners also get chased by dogs.

The Council's duty of care, mentioned in the e-mail against dogs off leads, is the Council should try to control the area but it is still the dog owners responsibility for the control of their dog.

Decision: It was resolved by majority (8 for and 1 against) that dogs should have a designated off lead area. Dogs must be on a lead on the Green apart from the designated off lead area, no dogs are allowed into the toddler play area or tied to the toddler play area railings, no dogs are allowed by any of the play equipment.

There needs to be adequate signage and a few dog tie up posts will need to be installed, a space for these could be on the strip of land to the right hand side of the path, leading from the Post Office Road footway to the toddler area.

Fencing of the off lead area would change the open aspect of the green.

8.30pm- The meeting was temporarily adjourned for a few of the public forum to speak.

. Parents with children shouldn't take their dogs on the Green at the same time as their children.

. Can there be more dog bins at the designated area?

. People that don't pick up the dog mess still won't pick it up if there's another bin.

. The sign could say 'In this area you can let your dogs off lead'. Or 'This is the only area that dogs can be let off the lead'.

Ben - There is merit in having a fence to control the dogs, it may be the only way but it would have to be a country style of fencing, perhaps post and stock fencing, the expensive part would be the vehicle access gate and wooden sprung gates at either end (opening inward).

. It was commented that the grass on the Millennium Green had been mowed well this year.

8.45pm - The meeting continued.

It would be best if the fencing decision was left until costs are sought. **Decision:** Clerk to get cost of fencing and gates.

Ben asked everyone to report any incidents to the Police and to keep telling dog owners who do not act responsibly.

8.50pm – 14 members of the Public left at this point.

15/109. Allotment Rent for October 2016 and amendments to Tenancy agreements:

Looking at the accounts, the allotments made a loss of £15.96 last year, it was agreed that they should be put up by £1 from £36 p.a. to £37 p.a.

Ben went to the allotments last week and in general the allotments look good, the track has been patched up by the allotment holders, with the hardcore supplied by the Council. With regard to the allotments that have not been kept up to the standard expected, there needs to be a stronger message to keep it up or lose it, perhaps with a deposit paid by everyone which will be kept by the Council and used if someone has to be paid to clear it. The question of deposit protection may be an issue.

Decision: It was resolved that the tenancy agreement stay as it is but the covering letter sent with the Allotment renewal Invoice states that the allotment will be inspected the second week in March and if the allotment has not been kept up, the tenancy will be terminated with no refund and offered to the next person on the waiting list, with 1 month's rent deducted from the fee to give the new allotment holder a chance to clear it before they start.

15/110. Village Hall: Offer of room space and naming.

The Village Hall Committee are very grateful for the help from the Parish Council and would like to offer the 1st floor room free of charge for the Parish Council meetings on a Tuesday evening. The Council can have input into how it is decorated and can put pictures up etc.

Richard – It seems a 'no brainer' as it is not being charged for.

As there is a Social Club, the whole building is licensed although the bar is not in this room, this will need to be checked out first.

Q. Has the Village Hall got enough furniture? A. Yes.

As seen tonight, parking can sometimes be an issue, there is more parking at the Village Hall.

Decision: It was unanimously resolved that the Parish Council accept this offer and move its meetings to the Village Hall when the room is finished, the Methodist Chapel will be given notice but the Council will pay for the room for a monthly meeting up until March 2016, even if the Methodist Chapel is not used.

The name of the room can be thought more about and decided at the next meeting, it can be brought up in matters arising as it is not an official Council decision.

N.B. Ben Bethell abstained from voting.

15/111. Highways: Brian Iles – The Burlingham Straight (A47) funding was sorted and the plans were said to be outdated and needed to be re done but they then said they were ok and the go ahead was given. Unfortunately the NDR is said to be £30 million short and £10 million is to come from Highways and £10 million from Government. Highways are taking £3 million from the pot holes fund and £7 million from capital expenditure i.e. new footways etc., this means there will be no capital expenditure funds for @ 3 years. The £10 million Government money may mean that the A47 Burlingham and Acle Straight may not be started until 2018.

Richard informed the Council that the Burlingham Green sign on the A47 had been done and the telegraph wire has been put back up on Dell Corner Lane.

It was asked if there was any need for Lingwood Lane to be accessed from the A47 anymore as there has been a spate of accidents along there, with 5 cars being written off in the last fortnight, it is becoming a bit of a rat run. If the Police have been informed of the accidents then Highways will use these statistics if they feel it is dangerous.

9.25pm – Brian Iles left at this point.

15/112. Finance: a) Payments received from: a) HM Revenue and Customs VAT £8,761.43
b) NCC Verge Grass cutting contribution £1,827.86
c) BDC Section 106 rest of claim for Village Hall outside accessible toilets and changing rooms. £12,125.36 (Originally £56,335 pledged but only had £44,209.64 Section 106 money left at the time, N.B. a further £55,000 may be needed for the car park as per the minutes of 3/3/2015, £100,000 was also pledged for the MUGA).

- b) Authority to pay given for: i) K. Monsey rest of July Cemetery grass £96 and August Grass cutting £192.00 (Chq No. 210).
- c) Retrospective payments: i) Viking Stationery £78.55 (Chq No. 934).
- ii) Broadland DC 1 x Dog bin emptying May to March 2016 £132.72 (Chq No. 935).
- iii) Broadland DC 3 x Bin emptying 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016 £492.96 (Chq No. 936).
- d) BDC Rate demand for land and small shed at Burlingham Green. £1,946.23 **Decision:** This is definitely a mistake, Clerk to telephone BDC.

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.45 – Next meeting is on
Tues 6th October 2015.*