

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held via Zoom, on Tuesday 8th September 2020 at 7.00pm.

Present were: Chairman Cathy Pye, Mike Ingram, David Robinson, Roz Simpson, Marina Tubby, Ian White and Sonya Dickinson – Clerk
N.B. Anthony Scott & Sophia Walker joined the Council at 7.10pm.

20/96. Welcome and Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Ian Chapman, Brenda Jones and Richard Morton.

We welcomed 5 members of the Public, potential new Councillors Anthony Scott and Sophia Walker, along with County Councillor Brian Iles and District Councillor Clare Ryman-Tubb.

20/97. Co-option of 2 New Councillors: The Council welcomed Anthony Scott & Sophia Walker who had applied to be Councillors. **Decision:** It was resolved to co-opt Anthony Scott & Sophia Walker onto the Council. Both signed their Declaration of acceptance in front of the camera and joined the Councillors (7.10pm).

20/98. Declarations of interest: S. Dickinson – Finance b) ii), c) ii) & vii). Chair Cathy Pye 20/105. Dark Village; as a neighbour of the Station & 20/104. As using the Chairman's allowance to purchase the gift.

20/99. For Council to agree to suspend the provisions of S85 of the Local Government Act 1972 in the light of the Covid 19 pandemic: Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 states that "if a member of a Local Authority fails, throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of their last attendance, to attend any meeting of the Authority they will, unless the failure was due to some good reason approved by the Authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the Authority. Due to Covid-19 and having remote Zoom Meetings, Cllrs Richard Morton and Ian Chapman have been unable to attend. Cllr Brenda Jones has also asked for 6 months from this month as she has other commitments. **Decision:** It was unanimously resolved to suspend the provision of S85 in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

20/100. Public Forum including reports from District and County Councillors: (15 minutes allocated for Public participation with a maximum of 3 minutes each).

Brian Iles – 1. At the moment there is £19 million of deficit to get over somehow. The lack of income due to Covid. Government said they would help to the tune of 70%, County haven't seen it yet but if it does come, the deficit will be down to @ £7 million. Additional money would have to come out of the rates. 2. I have always said County Farms is our biggest asset and it was agreed it would never go below 16,000 acres, there is currently 17,000 acres. The person in charge has gone and there has been no suitable replacement yet so it is in a bit of a state. I am talking with two people interested in purchasing some County Farm land at present. We need to keep County Farms now more than ever to produce our food. 3. Children and Adult Services have got to save money, it is difficult as more people are moving to the area. 4. A while back, County hall moved people in from outlying offices and let out the offices to save money, as a result there was a need for additional parking and a spend of £1.9 million was agreed. All of a sudden people are complaining about it.

Q. The people interested in buying pieces of land from County Farms, is this for development? A. No it is for access to a farm and additional farm land.

Q. Post Office Road was promised to be done 6 weeks from June. A. Paul Sellick has us on the list and it will be done as soon as they can.

Clare Ryman-Tubb – 1. Community at Heart Awards competition is running. People can nominate people via the BDC Website. The prize is £250 to support their group or project. 2. In addition to previous business support given due to Covid, there is a tourism grant with a pot of £2.5 million. The amount given is based on money spent adapting due to Covid. Details on the BDC website. 3. Solar panel group buying scheme for residents and businesses, this enables better prices.

Q. There have been 2 people litter picking for 10 to 15 years, can the Community at Heart be a long service award or does it have to be all in 1 year? A. No it can be over time, not specifically over the last year.

Allotments - The concern is that the allotments should not just be allowed to renew if they are not using them. Allotment No 12 has been a mess for @ 5 years, so should the allotments be visited before invoiced and if not kept up, be taken away and given to someone on the list. Rubbish other than compostable is being put in the compost area, soil, plastic etc. The newer allotments at the back have had brick rubble dumped. The previous lot of tiles and pipe clips was trade waste and as such is illegal without a waste transfer note.

Allotment Associations are banning carpets as the chemicals in them seep into the soil. This should be a new rule.

Cathy met with Julian at the allotments to take a look at the rubble and there is more there than is needed.

Cathy – the Section 106 that Strumpshaw is proposing to spend in Lingwood is for sport and play provision. The Village Hall is the best area to spend this money.

Ben – The Village Hall is grateful to have help with sports and recreation. Volunteers and staff want to make sure that whatever the money is spent on is inclusive. A pavilion would have to be locked, so is not fully inclusive. The back field has been developed with paths for park run and other users. The back field is becoming natural and diverse and could be used for more stuff but access is a problem. £30,000 sports and recreation could be spent on a granite chipping path to give access to the back field. £6,000 could be used to provide pre-school play equipment in a safe outdoor space, next to the petanque area.

Cathy suggested that Ben and Hilary from Strumpshaw get together to discuss.

20/101. Minutes of the meetings 7th July 2020: Were not signed but authorised for signature at the earliest opportunity.

20/102. Matters arising from 7th July 2020 Meeting: Did the developers of the Old School site come back to the Clerk regarding the Bus Bay? Not yet.

Has County Council come back re path on Station Road? Not yet.

Decision: Clerk to remind them both.

20/103. Correspondence: a) “Planning for the Future” consultation. (Closes 29th Oct.). The Government want to alter the way District plans are done. The first consultation finishes on 1st October. This is a consultation on re-jigging the figures on how many homes are needed. Cathy had spoken with Mike Burrell, GNLP Policy Manager, who advised a 60% increase would be needed for the GNLP area. BDC are going to write to try and get the numbers back down. Cathy asked Clare if she had heard anything, she hadn’t but will follow it up. Cathy had only heard about it as a fluke and asked Councillors if the Council should respond to this white paper, it may be we won’t have any extra housing. The deadline for this part is 1st October.

Ian – we may not only be expected to take 60% increase but may have to take more, depending on other sites in the Greater Norwich area.

S19 of the Local Plan is due to come out in the next year.

Mike – We should put our point forward.

Leave it up to Sonya to do the online form.

Councillors to do some homework for the other consultation ending on 29th October, ready for the next meeting.

b) Tina – (Plastic Free Lingwood) has organised a Parish Litter Pick for the 26th September.

c) Highways England want a virtual meeting with the PC by the end of September if anyone is interested? It’s a waste of time, they haven’t added anything we wanted to the A47 Scheme.

20/104. Presentation; to Roz and Pat Meo upon their retirement, after 30 years tending the station garden. Cathy agreed to use the Chairman’s allowance from last year to purchase a gift for Roz and Pat Meo. This will be from the Community as a thank you for tending the railway garden for 30 years. Greater Anglia would like to be there and it would be nice for Councillors to attend too. Q. Has Greater Anglia contributed to the gift? A. No but the person who adopts the station gets free travel so they probably think they’ve done their bit.

We could turn up to present and leave or arrange something else? It's a bit difficult with Covid to have a gathering. Greater Anglia could provide a plaque and flowers to present to them.

Marina – Thank you Cathy for contributing your allowance, it's appreciated.

Cathy – I will speak to Greater Anglia, work out a date and get back to Councillors.

20/105. Dark village - Report of meeting with MP re level crossings and station lights.

Cathy wrote to the M.P. and he came along to a meeting at the crossings with Network Rail CC Brian, DC Clare Ryman-Tubb and a few parishioners.

The lights at the crossing are different to the ones on the plan. They won't change them but will put hoods on. The other crossing, they were going to adjust the sound of the alarm but it didn't make a difference, they are coming back to adjust it again.

The representative from Greater Anglia said he would contact the team responsible and request hoods for the Station lights. Nothing more has been heard.

20/106. To consider use of Sec 106 funds - (Strumpshaw): Strumpshaw have £29,000 on sport and recreation and £6,000 on play equipment. Ben's suggestion above would be mainly on the Park Run/access to the back field for all and play equipment at the Village Hall.

We could use it on the Millennium Green but the Green has probably got enough for now.

There are concerns about parking and lack of toilet facilities at the Green already so putting more equipment would not be ideal.

Ben and Hilary to work out and come back to the Council.

The dog area was spoken about but don't think it is in the remit of sports and recreation.

Ben – Park run use it but the idea is it is meant to be inclusive for everyone.

Lots of people use the area for exercise.

Q. Was the £30,000 for a path from the Village Hall to Park run? A. It would include a link.

Some rough work with Sport England £25-30 per linear metre for a 5ft wide path @ 1000 m.

Hilary – Strumpshaw PC is very grateful to Lingwood & Burlingham PC for giving £1,249.46

CIL money towards their allotment 6 compartment shed. (It was resolved in June to give the CIL in exchange for some Strumpshaw Section 106 being spent in Lingwood).

The total needed is just under £5,000 with Lingwood CIL they have just under £2,000 towards it.

The Councillors will have a think about how L&B PC can help Strumpshaw with their £3,000 deficit. Put on next Agenda.

20/107. Allotments: a) e-mails regarding allotment fly tipping. The problems were highlighted by a few allotment holders. 9th August – trade waste was dumped at the allotments by a neighbour of an allotment holder. The Environment Agency was informed. 30th August @ 250 bricks were dumped there.

3rd September a load of mixed rubble.

This is of no benefit to anyone, there is enough room to turn etc. The roadway could have been improved but hasn't. No allotment holder has the right to allow anyone to dump anything, it is for the PC to give the permission. **Decision:** Clerk to include a notice 'No more Fly tipping' when the invoices go out. Ask Plot 12 to clean up the allotment and vacate.

b) Allotments rent for 2021-2022. A year's notice of increase in rent is required. The rent is currently £38 p.a., the same since 2018-19. As the allotments are not for profit, it was recommended by the Clerk to not raise the rent for next year. **Decision:** It was resolved to not increase the rent for next year.

20/108. Millennium Green – a) to consider fencing the dog exercise area. Speaking to dog owners on the green Cathy feels it is not viable as if fenced off, dogs will still be let off on the rest of the Green. A fenced area may also encourage people from other areas to come and the parking is bad as it is. Surely it won't be big enough for people to travel for?

Don't think the green is the right area for it.

It would be a good area to train puppies.

Fence all 4 sides? The back fence is good enough with only 9cm gaps being within the 10.5 cm gap maximum.

The mounds should be removed? No other dog areas put in mounds and logs etc. for natural interest. It's just that long grass encourages ticks.

It would make the Green smaller, is there anywhere else it could go? **Decision:** It might be dependent on costs, Clerk to cost it ready for the October meeting. Ask the Public.

b) To consider concreting the 'covid rock snake' around the flower bed. It's a nice idea but it looks a mess at the moment. There are @ 162 stones, some aren't even decorated.

If it is around the raised bed will it be on the path? Clerk to check.

Decision: It was resolved to get the Parish Handyman to set the snake around the raised flower bed.

c) to consider establishing a wild flower area. Cathy met on the Green with Tony from BADCOG. It would be best on the triangle to the right, if looking down the Green from the sign, plus a 5m strip. A Woodland area could be on the other side. The grass would have to be killed, first during the winter, Ernest would be able to do that. The ground would need scarifying and seeding in the spring. Burlingham Wild Flowers or Ernest's contacts could provide the seeds.

The original natural triangle on the right could be the wildflower area, the extra 5m strip may be too much. Sounds lovely, the next stage would be to contact the Wild Flower people to ask for advice? In principle but ask for costings per metre of wild flowers and doing the work. Clerk to meet BADCOG to check the area etc. and report next month.

d) Report - update on fencing north area. The posts have been ordered and will be delivered mid October.

20/109. Highways and Verges: Post Office Road, they area aware.

Granary Close drain is leaking where they repaired it. All in hand it is being repaired at the moment.

20/110. Finance: a) Payments received – HMRC VAT claim £3,137.49

b) Payments Authorised: i) K. Monsey July and Aug cemetery grass £ 375 + £150 Hedge = £525 (chq 257).

ii) S. Dickinson – repayment for measuring wheel and line spray £30.12 inc VAT (chq 2304)

c) Retrospective payments: i) S. Dickinson – bin for village hall £155.94 inc VAT. (chq 2291)

ii) S Dickinson beacon plaque £ 27.95 (chq 2292)

iii) EAS Millennium Green grass £169.22 July (chq 2295)

iv) The Play Inspection Co. annual inspection June 2020 £243 (chq 2296)

v) The sign shed MUGA sign £24.96 (chq 2297)

vi) S Donovan – M. Green £165 labour less £33 to HMRC + £18.50 parts = £150.50 (chq 2298 + 2299 to HMRC)

vii) S. Dickinson cleaning equipment for M. Green £6.90 (chq 2300)

viii) S. Donovan replace post for Post Office/Station Road bin £25 less £5 to HMRC labour + £15 parts = £35 (chq 2301 + 2302 to HMRC)

ix) Jackson Fencing – posts for bow top fencing £560.57 inc VAT (chq 2303)

x) K. Monsey - June Grass £220 (chq 256).

d) To consider adding the new youth shelter bin at the village hall, fitted on 1st September, to the bin contract. **Decision:** It was unanimously resolved to put the bin on the Parish Council contract and pay for the weekly emptying.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.55
Next meeting of the Parish Council is on 6th October 2020, via Zoom.