

# **LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held via Zoom, on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020 at 7.00pm.**

**Present were:** Chairman Cathy Pye, Vice Chair – Brenda Jones, Mike Ingram, David Robinson, Tony Scott, Roz Simpson, Alex Tosh, Sophia Walker and Sonya Dickinson – Clerk

**20/145. Welcome and Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Ian Chapman, Richard Morton, Marina Tubby and Ian White.

**20/146. Declarations of interest:** S. Dickinson – Finance b) ii), iii) & iv). Cllr Roz Simpson – Millennium Green, as a neighbour.

**20/147. Public Forum Including Reports from District and County Councillors:** (15 minutes allocated for Public participation with a maximum of 3 minutes each).

We were joined by 3 members of the public along with District Councillor Clare Ryman-Tubb. County Councillor Brian Iles and District Councillor for Acle, Lana Hempsal.

County Councillor Brian Iles – As already discussed the Budget is being worked on at the moment. Things change every week due to the uncertain and difficult times. At the moment it is looking like a 1.99% increase on general rates plus a 2% supplementary increase for adult social services. All departments came up with savings ideas to help keep this figure down. NCC has stood up well in comparison to other Counties. Highways have done very well to keep up with the demands on them. County Farms have had problems and now have a temporary leader. There are 17,500 acres at the moment and they will never go below 16,000 acres. County Farms contributes @ £2.5 million.

Highways have a new system for treating pot holes to save money.

Railways; I was impressed with how they provided information.

Cathy – Greater Anglia are going to lower and re-angle the platform lights and Network Rail are putting hoods on the crossing lights.

Brian – I am not standing at the next election and the Conservatives have elected Lana Hempsal to stand.

District Councillor for Acle Lana Hempsal – I will be standing in the next County Council election and have asked Sonya to forward the agendas and minutes so I can keep up to speed. I am the planning portfolio holder at BDC. The next local plan consultation round is on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and I am hoping you will be content with the plan.

District Councillor Clare Ryman-Tubb – The help hub phone lines will stay open until 10pm on weekday evenings. District Council Covid support advisors have been employed and are funded by Central Government.

Business grants for the second lockdown have been offered. Over £1 million has been given out to 788 applicants.

The elections next year are for Police and Crime Commissioner and County Council elections.

Cathy – The BDC Heart of the Community Awards last month, there were 10 categories and we had 7 nominations from our Parish, with 3 of our nominations winning.

Clare- That was a fantastic result for the Ward.

Public – I want the Council to be aware that last Weds, Mr Sunak in the House of Commons said there was £4 billion available for Local Communities in England for things to benefit the whole of the Community. We need a Health Centre as we are a fast developing Community, could the Council consider applying for some of the money? More figures are to be released in January.

Cathy – We can look into it.

Anne – The request for a footpath near the railway crossings, has Highway come back yet?

Clerk – I have asked and I will chase them up for a reply.

Cathy – GNLP. I understand there is a meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December, I will send the link to Councillors. All comments need to have beside them, further investigations needed.

Lana – The footpath and Medical Centre could be put into the GNLP. This can be incorporated and if any money left it can be funnelled into that. It would be good to look into doing a Neighbourhood Plan.

**20/148. Update from Plastic Free Lingwood:** Cllr Mike Ingram – Congratulations to Environmental Champion of the year, Tina, this is very well deserved.

Tina – Well done to Anne and Tony for their nomination.

This is a Nationwide initiative with 717 Communities taking part so far. The first litter pick was in October 2019, the campaign was introduced to the Parish Council in November 2019. In February and March 2020 we had an article published in the Parish News and Village Book and in March we were going to hold drop in meetings but due to Covid-19 these were cancelled. April the litter pick was cancelled. A Spar customer survey received 39 sponsors. In September 2020 a litter pick was carried out with 11 pickers. October 2020, Hug a Mug and the Social Club were the first single use plastic free businesses in the Parish. December 2020 there is a Zoom Meeting, the details are on the facebook page, this needs a Councillor present. We need more Community Groups to spread the single use plastic free message, we would like to get the Scouts, Church and Schools on board.

Mike – The following motion is proposed:

1/. The Council agrees to put a member on the Plastic Free Lingwood steering committee.

Mike is happy to continue.

2/. The Council agrees to support all Plastic Free Communities initiatives in the area.

3/. The Council pledges not to use single use plastic at any of its meetings.

**Decision:** It was unanimously resolved to pass this proposal.

Cathy – Thanked Anne and Tony for their many years of service as litter pickers. They worked with the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) for a few of those years.

Alex – Is there any way a litter pick can be arranged for North Burlingham?

Tina – We can help arrange a more formal litter pick. I will contact you directly.

**20/149. Minutes of the meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020:** Were not signed but authorised for signature at the earliest opportunity.

**20/150. Matters arising from 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 Meeting:** Was the fireworks letter sent to the M.P.? Clerk – Yes but I forgot to copy in NCC Brian Iles and DC Clare Ryman-Tubb.

Highways and grass verges – The parking on PO Close, people are parking across the pavement and now the piece of fencing has been put on the boundary with Roz, there is nowhere for pedestrians to pass. Can we put notices on the fence to say No Parking on the pavement?

Why was the Beacon plaque put on the back of the Beacon where no one will see it? A. It may have been the flattest part, the Clerk will ask Sean.

**20/151. Action Log:** The SAM 2 has arrived and will be put up shortly. This will get moved around the Parish to places previously agreed with Highways.

**20/152. Correspondence:** a) E-mail from resident opposing the proposed fenced dog area.

b) E-mail from a resident who would like the dog area due to dogs running onto the play area.

c) Thank you letter from Royal British Legion for the £100 wreath donation. £1,000 was raised from Lingwood, Beighton and Moulton St Mary.

d) Free visors for local voluntary care workers, School workers, Church groups and volunteers. The Clerk ordered 100.

e) Resignation e-mail from Cllr Marina Tubby. Councillors were sad to hear that Marina was resigning; she has been an important part of the Council since 2008 and will be greatly missed.

**20/153. Planning:** a) 20202071- Change of use from agricultural to recreational use. Land to the rear of Weaver Barn, Buckenham Lane, Lingwood, NR13 4NJ.

There are issues with drainage on the whole field, the proposed pond could assist with drainage for the whole field. They may try for development once this is recreational use.

Unless the land is allocated for development, technically it can't be built on, until earmarked on the GNLP. It is also outside the planning boundary. **Decision:** Unanimous Support.

**20154. Millennium Green –** a) To discuss fencing the dog exercise area. Fencing off the open space for a small part of the Community does not seem right, it will also attract people from outside of the area and parking is already a problem. The area was meant for open play so the play area should not be fenced off. There could also be an access issue as disabled owners can throw a ball whilst on the path but if they are only allowed to do it in the enclosed

area, they will have to leave the path to do so. Some dog owners don't adhere to putting their dogs on a lead in the correct area anyway so will continue to let the dogs off in the park area even if a specific area is fenced off. Some people are not aware that dogs are only allowed off lead in the old BMX area, even though there are signs up in the notice board and on the rules boards. The Village Hall may have a dog area in the future if funds allow. **Decision:** It was resolved to not fence off a dog area but to support the Village Hall if they have one in the future. Signs for the off lead dog area need to be clearer, perhaps a coloured map or poster could be put up.

Cathy has ordered some notices for Covid-19 saying sanitise your hands and keep your distance. Sonya put a couple of posters in the Notice board last week to remind people.

b) Wild flower area. Sonya has spoken to BADCOG and the area to be sprayed off in preparation needs to be done by a licenced insured professional, she has asked the grass cutters to quote but needs to specify the exact measurements. Cathy mentioned that the Woodland Trust would help with a hedgerow or a copse of trees. Sonya said that adding more trees and hedges to the Green would be a costly maintenance issue in the future and we already have a hedge at the front and many trees on the Green. We also have Peters' Wood, the Community Orchard and a small copse on the Allotment site.

There are websites for re-wilding areas.

Would the Council like the whole triangle as marked or just up to the Tree and a strip down to Post Office Road? BADCOG recommended at least a metre between the edge of the path and the wildflower area, for grass cutting and keeping the path clear. BADCOG would advise what seeds. Standard summer ones?

Q. Is the tree in the triangle a memorial to someone. A. Yes, we should contact them prior to make sure they are ok with the wild flowers all around the tree, if not the triangle could just go up to the tree.

**Decision:** It was resolved to ask Mike and Maureen Bredbere if it is ok for the wild flowers to go around the tree or just up to it and measure accordingly. A strip of half the width of the grass to the path, from the triangle down to Post Office Road should also be wild flowers. Write to the owners of the 2 houses with gardens on this boundary to let them know.

c) Rock snake. Cathy sent a photo of a suitable area for the snake which would cause less trouble to the grass cutters. Sean said it would be hard to set it in without causing trouble to the grass cutters.

Tina went and looked at the snake and it looked a sorry state as many of the rocks had nothing left on them, so unless people want to do their rocks again, it should be left and not concreted in. It was a lovely idea but it has gone too far now and been left to the weather for too long.

We could ask anyone if they have any nice photos of the snake in its prime and could put them onto the website and in the Parish scrapbook to remind people.

d) Logs – Sonya still to get quotes to replace the palisades around the basket swing.

e) Benches – The dangerous one has been taken away. Still to order 2 replacements.

**20/155. Pond:** Belt of Sallow along north edge of pond to be coppiced down to either previous coppice points or to just above water level and brash and timber to be removed from site. To discuss quotes.

Only one quote has come in so far. Choose this quote if the other does not come back within the week at a lot less.

**20/156. Highways and Verges:** a) A47 Update. Cathy sent a copy of the minutes. There was a lot said that wasn't on the minutes. They said the bridge would be half a million pounds but seems cheap. The Walk, Cycle and Horse-riding Review (WCHR) to forward to Councillors. We are still pressing for a bridge or underpass from Lingwood to North Burlingham, near the bottom of Lingwood Road and a footpath/cycleway from the Whitehouse to the Windle or all the way to Acle. These were both on the original plans but are not now. Highways England (HE) are looking for Norfolk County Council to fund. Chris Gates is writing to M.P. Jerome Mayhew to forward to the Secretary of State. Cathy will send any correspondence Chris has sent plus the HE WCHR report.

Sophia – The footpath from Church Road has been ploughed up. The Clerk has reported to Highways Public Rights of Way and Trail Maintenance dept. they have acknowledged but not reported back yet.

Roz – The map on that footpath has fallen down. Roz to send a picture to Sonya to forward to Highways when she reports it.

Station Road potholes and Post Office Road dips to be reported again.

**20/157. Finance:** a) Payments Received: i) Norfolk County Council Parish Partnership grant for SAM2 £1,525.

b) Payments Authorised: i) K. Monsey October cemetery grass £110 + Nov £110 = £220 (Chq 259).

ii) S. Dickinson – Reimburse Clerk for Credit Card payment to Amazon for a combination lock for the MUGA light box. £14.99 (Chq 2328)

iii) S. Dickinson – Zoom payment Dec to Jan £14.39 (Chq 2328)

iv) S. Dickinson Algae and Mould remover and applicator £42.89 for the M. Green rock. (Chq 2328)

v) S. Donovan £ 280 labour + £ 153.05 inc VAT for parts = £433.05 and £ 70 to HMRC to install fence at the Millennium Green. (Chq 2329, 2330 + 2331)

c) Retrospective Payments: i) Westcotec for Speed Awareness Monitor (SAM2) £3,050 + VAT. (Chq 2326). Received £1,525 from NCC Parish Partnership grant.

ii) Wave/Anglian Water – Allotment water £207.25 (Chq 2327)

d) CPRE voluntary Subs usually £36. **Decision:** It was resolved to keep it to the minimum payment. (Chq 2332)

e) Donation to Lingwood and Strumpshaw food bank. This will be called Healthy Not Hungry as they are not actually storing food as per a food bank. Strumpshaw PC are donating £100 to help the scheme get up and running, if the money is not used it will be refunded.

**Decision:** It was unanimously resolved to donate £100 (Chq 2333)

f) To discuss setting the Precept for 2021 to 2022.

The Clerk ran through the budget which was forwarded to Councillors prior to the meeting. It was recommended the precept was increased by 0% to 2% rise only. **Decision:** It was resolved to keep the precept the same as last year at £27,753 which was £31.25 p.a. per Band D property = 0% rise.

BDC say we have gone from 888 Band D properties to 886 Band D properties, if this is correct when the final figures come in, it will be a 0.23% rise to £31.32 p.a. per Band D property, even though we will get the same money as last year.

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.59*  
*Next meeting of the Parish Council is on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021, 7pm, via Zoom.*