

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting,
held at the Lingwood Village Hall Meeting Room, Station Road, Lingwood,
on Tuesday 4th April 2023 at 8.10pm after the Annual Parish Meeting.

Present were – Chair David Robinson, Ian Chapman, Cheryl Grace, Mike Ingram, Paul Jones, Richard Morton, Ian White and Sonya Dickinson – Clerk.

23/33. Welcome and Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Vice Chair Brenda Jones, Roz Simpson and Sophia Walker.

23/34. Declarations of interest: Sonya Dickinson – Finance b) i), ii) & iii). Mike Ingram – retrospective payment in Finance.

23/35. Public Forum including: (15 minutes allocated for public participation with a maximum of 3 minutes each). We were joined by 8 members of the public and County Councillor Lana Hemsall. Lana – Scrutiny committee: Doing a review of care provision at County. There are 400 providers, from large providers to small micro providers. Organisation called Norfolk Care Association 20th April on You tube.

I am out and about with Highways tomorrow. If Sonya could let me know of any Highways issues by 8am tomorrow, we can look at them while we are in the Parish.

Public – Safety issue: the missing footway on Station Road, children have to cross twice to get to the school. @ 25 yard is to be completed.

Clerk – We did look into a Parish Partnership but it was going to be half of the £14,000 estimated cost. I did contact the Railway on Highway's behalf to see how much they would charge them to work so closely to the track, permission has to be sought if within 20 metres of the track, and they said they probably wouldn't charge anything but couldn't say for definite. The money would come out of the precept, which comes out of the Council tax. There is a footway on that road, so it didn't seem right to pay for a footway ourselves that Highways won't provide. I don't think there are many Parishes that have to pay for their own footways in the middle of their village.

Lana – Some Council's use their green infrastructure money. When you have development in Lingwood, now you are completing a Neighbourhood Plan, you will receive 25% Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) instead of 15%.

Public – To half do a path is criminal, there is 1 large tree near/in the way, which would make it a bit narrower, but it would still be wide enough. They did a narrow path around a telegraph pole years ago, which we campaigned to get the pole removed.

David – We made the decision not to pay half via the Parish Partnership scheme for a footway that Highways should pay for.

Public – So we are having to wait for a child to be knocked over? There is no crossing lady anymore with all of the cut backs.

Lana – The year after next, I will have a grant again, that might be able to go towards it.

The capital for Highways has all been spent. Highways rarely pay for footways these days as usually developers provide the footways.

Public – The School children 20mph flashing sign is only one way.

Clerk – It was thought that people coming into Station Road from Norwich Road wouldn't build up enough speed or have a chance to register the sign as the school is close to that junction. The sign was expensive, @ £6,000 although the Parish Council only paid half as we got a Parish Partnership Grant.

Public – It's all down to money.

Councillor - We haven't got a bottomless pit of money, it would come out of the precept which is paid for by Council tax.

Public – Community Speed watch, did that get off the ground?

David – There were not enough volunteers, we needed at least 6 but only got 5. People would like it but don't want to volunteer as it can be confrontational.

Public - Children's safety, parents could do it?

We have a Speed awareness monitor (SAM) that we move around the village but it can only be put up on specific posts recommended by Westcotec and agreed by Highways.

Cheryl – Could the SAM be put up on Station Road to collect data to see if it is worth looking at another 20mph flashing sign for the school?

Clerk – It would have to be far enough down the road to register the speed but yes that is a good idea. We will look when we move it next.

David – We do understand that speeding is a problem.

Public – Allotment hedge between the front allotments and the back is @ 20 ft high.

Clerk – It was trimmed down to 5ft and the front allotment holders were supposed to keep it trimmed down each year but it overgrew so the Parish Council paid for it to be cut down again and it was agreed again that it would be kept up by allotment holders.

Public - It needs trimming to 5 ft again.

Clerk to get prices.

Public – Allotments as you enter on the left there used to be enough room to park 5-6 cars. It overgrew with brambles and restricted the parking and last year the Clerk allowed a contractor to tip wood chips and it restricted it to 2 parking spaces. The woodchip had a stump with it and chopped up fairy lights. As a Council you have a duty of care, you have been complicit in an illegal act.

Clerk – The woodchip should have been used to keep the weeds down.

Ian – I am a waste contractor and if you are using it to keep weeds down, it is not classed as waste. If they've chipped the wood, it is not a consignment of waste. We didn't know there were fairy lights in when it was put there.

Public – Allotments – With less parking at the front it is forcing people to drive around the back. The parking space at the end near my allotment has an oak tree, which I reported last year as some branches looked dangerous. Sonya did come and look at it straight away and reported it to Norfolk County Council but nothing has been done.

Clerk – I did get a tree surgeon to come and price up trimming the oak tree but thought I'd better check with NPS County Farms, who we rent the land off, who was responsible for the tree. They said to leave the tree to them.

Lana – Let me know the details and I will ask about the tree.

Public – As you enter the allotments, the 4th on the left has not been attended to, this is not fair on the other allotment holders. Could this be rented out to someone on the list?

Clerk – There is one allotment vacant, I have offered it to someone but will chase it up.

Public – If Richard could look at putting some rat poison down again.

Richard – The rat poison is on order, I will do it as soon as it comes in.

Public – A resident has tipped rubbish on the allotment site, can the Parish Council put a sign up saying no fly tipping, even garden waste.

Public – We need a contractor to clear the heavier stuff that has been dumped.

Ian – We try to keep the allotment rent low and all of this costs money.

Public – I wouldn't mind paying more but some might not.

Public – I have offered to do digger work if you hire a digger. A farmers tractor was in there to clear it up last time, but it made a mess.

23/36. Minutes of the meeting 7th March 2023: Were signed as a true record.

23/37. Matters arising from 7th March 2023 Meeting: None.

23/38. Correspondence: a) A call from the neighbours of the Reading Room to say the front door had been damaged. They did a repair on the door for us, which is really good of them.

b) A complaint was e-mailed from the Gypsy and Traveller Association, regarding the same poster the Traveller Times had sent a picture of in March. They highlighted the equalities act. The Clerk responded as per the Traveller Times response. *"This poster has not been put up by the Parish Council and does not in any way reflect what the Parish Council wishes to encourage. We are keen to foster unbiased and accurate information and reasonable discussion."*

23/39. a) 2023/0544: Proposed single storey rear extension. 10 Lingwood Gardens, Lingwood, Norfolk, NR13 4TL.

Decision: Unanimous support.

b) 2023/0609: General purpose grain store building (revisions to approved scheme 20210669). Church View Farm, South Burlingham Road, South Burlingham, Norfolk, NR13 4FA.

Decision: Unanimous support.

c) Norfolk County Council - regarding whether we wish for Street lighting for the Chapel Road Development:

Decision: It was resolved to have no street lights.

23/40. Highways: Dell Corner Lane Horse rider sign is damaged and pointing the wrong way. The lorries loading sign is also damaged. Clerk to report to Highways.

A47 Lingwood Lane sign travelling East is damaged. This is National Highways.

Pot hole on Norwich Road, near the house with the large oak tree. Clerk to report to Highways.

Pot hole on Lodge Road when leaving the village, near Lingwood Hall. Clerk to report to Highways.

Ongoing flooding problems on Church Road by the Cemetery and on School Road by the Station Road junction.

Clerk to send the details to Lana by 8am tomorrow.

23/41. Neighbourhood Plan: Nothing to report. (See APM).

23/42. Methodist Chapel Memorial Plaques: The Stonemason came to take a look at the plaques and has quoted for removal and storage for 1 year maximum. £875 + VAT. He said there will be some damage to the wall. They are suitable for being outside.

The Methodist Chapel have said they would like the wall to be made good after, but we can't get quotes for this until the plaques are removed.

We could build a wall to mount them on, it would have to be double skinned as they are heavy.

The British Legion came to us (to put outside to be accessible to all, originally asked if could go outside at the Village Hall).

The Millennium Green might be prone to vandals so the Cemetery might be better, it would be better for remembrance Sunday. We could ask Rev David if they could go in the Church?

We must check with the Methodist Chapel if they have checked the deeds to make sure there isn't a covenant to say they can't be removed.

23/43. Buckenham Woods: Councillor Ian White – Me and David went to a meeting at Strumpshaw about purchasing a section of Buckenham Woods. Then on Saturday there was a meeting at Lingwood Village Hall.

Michael has been elected as the trustee from Strumpshaw Parish Council.

The woods being purchased is 7.4 acres, the price has been agreed with the landowner. There is another meeting Wednesday 12th April, 7.30pm at Lingwood Village Hall for people interested in membership or people who want to be a trustee. Five more trustees are needed. There will be differing terms for each trustee so there won't be a time where all trustees leave at once. We need to form a charity, submission to the Charity Commission hopefully by the end of May.

Stipulations for a charity are that it is of Community interest. Interested parties will be kept informed. We intend to improve and maintain the woods for all. The consultation showed that most users are from Lingwood. We would like to get some youth involved. If you are interested there will be a social media presence going forward and I will report at Parish Council meetings.

David – Trustees will not be held financially responsible.

Ian - A paid membership scheme was loosely discussed, where only members could use the wood, but it was decided not the way forward as it would make it not for community use and wouldn't be supported by the Parish Council.

Q. What is the arrangement with telecoms?

A. About £1,000 p.a., which could go towards maintenance.

Public - One thing mentioned at the meeting was it was the middle chunk of 3 pieces of woodland.

Ian – Strumpshaw own one end, the piece on offer is in the middle and the other end is privately owned.

David – Most people don't know the middle part isn't public as there is no fence between the Strumpshaw wood and this wood.

Paul – You can see the old bluebell woods covered in brambles in that section.

Ian – Good maintenance and management could improve it.

Paul – Just a flight of fancy, but you could dig an amphitheatre.

David – Theatre in the wood sounds nice.

Public – If you don't say how much it costs, how can the public get involved?

Ian – We can't make the price public yet, possibly in the next 3 or 4 months. The current owner did want it to be public land as they offered it to Strumpshaw Parish Council first, but they couldn't afford it, so they involved Lingwood Parish Council.

23/44. Successful Parish Partnership bid for Electric Vehicle Charging points & parking:

The bid to the Norfolk County Council Parish Partnership scheme for the electric vehicle charging points at the Village Hall site was successful. This includes resurfacing and 4 charging points.

- 23/45. Finance:**
- a) Payments received: i) S. Dickinson - repayment of £35 ICO Subs that were believed to be direct debited from the Clerk's personal account but paid from the Parish Council Account by direct debit.
 - b) Payments Requested: i) S. Dickinson – Host presto invoice for N. Plan Website £7.20 March to April (chq 2520).
ii) S. Dickinson – repayment for purchase of extra wildflower seeds. £131.97 (chq 2521).
iii) S. Dickinson, Clerk's expenses Jan/Feb/March £222.04 (chq 2522).
iv) Norfolk County Council Allotment rent Oct 22 – April 23 £130. Burlingham Green £25 (chq 2523).
v) The Play inspection Co. £195.59 (chq 2524).
vi) Collective Community Planning £660 (chq 2525)
 - c) Norfolk Association of Local Councils (NALC) Subscription 2023-24 £528.78 + NALC Parish Council Website £70 (£105 without subscription). (chq 2526 & 2527). There was an option to pay the NALC to manage the Website content £140 p.a. The Clerk currently runs the website. We could do with some help putting the data from the Speed awareness monitor onto the website. **Decision:** It was resolved to trial this for 1 year to see if it improves the website. (chq 2531).
 - d) Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) Subs 2023-24 £146.00 (chq 2528).

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.38
Next meeting of the Parish Council is the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council
on 9th May 2023 at 7.30pm.