

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Lingwood Village Hall, Station Road,  
Lingwood on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 6.30pm.

**Welcome:** Vice Chairman of the Parish Council Richard Morton welcomed 5 members of the Council, 1 parishioner, Rob Norman + 1 from Galliford Try, Tony McKie from BADCOG, District Councillor Jess Royal and Clerk Sonya Dickinson. Jayne Smith from the Royal British Legion and Colin Goff + 1 from Lingwood & Strumpshaw Air Scouts arrived @ 7pm.

**Apologies** were received from Chairman David Robinson, Councillor Ian White, PC Steve Godden, Village Hall, Leg-its and Park run Chair Phil Henry.

**Minutes of the last APM 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023:** Were read out and signed as a true record.

**Matters arising:** Electric Vehicle Charging points; As these didn't look likely to be installed by the end of March, the Clerk asked the Parish Partnership and Lana Hemsall if their grants could be held over to the next financial year. They both agreed.

**Report by the Chairman:** Richard read David's report. In summary: Our Neighbourhood Plan, which has recently been successfully approved will now face its adoption referendum in May. Thanks again to Mike and his team for their tireless work on this important project.

The Parish Council has continued to support the delivery of the dualling of the A47 between Blofield and North Burlingham for safety reasons, however, the legal challenge raised has significantly delayed this project.

Speeding - We have moved our Speed Awareness Monitor (SAM) around the village to try and tackle the problem.

Councillor Ian White, has become a Trustee on the newly formed Buckenham Ancient Woodland Trust and spearheads our support for the trust to purchase a large slice of Buckenham Woods. With the help of the British Legion, we managed to carefully remove the memorial plaques from the Methodist Chapel and onto the exterior wall of the Village Hall. This provides a great new remembrance landmark in Lingwood and we are grateful to the Hall and its volunteers who are now upgrading the garden area underneath and around the plaques.

We continue to work towards installing Electric Vehicle Charging Points at the Village Hall.

I've been representing the Parish at local cluster meetings and it was great to use the combined pressure of 7 local Parish Councils to lobby for the re-opening of the Postwick Park and Ride.

With grant funding and a donation from the Parish Council, a new defibrillator has been installed in North Burlingham. It's on the side of PDM Garage on Main Road (what3words location: fear.cried.apart).

Finally, I'd like to thank my fantastic group of Councillors, I think we work well as a team and with Sonya's expert guidance, we have delivered many improvements around the village and continue to provide the best service we can for our parishioners without raising the precept charge. We do not have a full complement of Councillors and we hope we can recruit further to help us continue to maintain and enhance our wonderful parish of Lingwood and Burlingham.

Thanks, were also given to the volunteers of the Parish.

(Please see full report attached).

**Adoption of Chairman's report:** Proposed by Mike Ingram and seconded by Roz Simpson.

**Reports from County and District Councillors, Local Clubs & Organisations:**

District Councillor Jess Royal – What a wonderful year it has been. I have met a lot of lovely Parishioners that have supported me. Jess read her report, (please see full report attached).

Richard – Thank you for all you have done for the Parish.

Tony McKie from BADCOG – BADCOG celebrated 40 years and were pleased to be nominated for the Community at Heart Award. We manage 14 sites, among them, Lingwood Churchyard, Lingwood Pond, part of Buckenham Woods, the largest schemes are Howes Meadow and Jary's Meadow. We hold work parties throughout the year and although volunteer numbers are good at the moment we would always welcome more.

Tony McKie reported as footpath warden for Lingwood – I check the condition of 11 footpaths, which I walk twice a year looking for hazards. I report the issues to Norfolk County Council, there were 7 issues last year. I also send a report twice a year to the Parish Council.

Richard – Thank you for all your hard work with BADCOG and as footpath warden.

Rob Norman from Galliford Try – I am here to explain the central reservation closure and the points on the e-mail forwarded to me. We haven't taken the decision lightly to close the central reservation. It is part of the process, that junction was always going to be closed prior to opening the new junction, it is known as a dangerous junction. We are a heavily regulated industry. There will be a lot of extra HGV traffic through that junction, so for safety reasons the central reservation has to close and a small diversion to Acle and Brundall is needed, especially to keep the larger vehicles on main roads. Local residents don't have to use the main routes.

We are in contact with Cantley Sugar Beet factory and they will be encouraged to use the diversion routes.

Ref the Contractors risk assessment, we have to take into account all behaviour and collect the data.

The Windle central reservation will also be closed to stop people from doing a U turn. The diversion adds 4 minutes to the journey time.

The comment that no one will do a 7 mile detour to go from Lingwood to Yarmouth route. We expect Locals will take local routes.

To turn out across the slip Road at Acle will make it busy both ways. This will be local traffic as everyone else will follow the main road diversion.

Comment we are used to sugar beet lorries. We will be putting more traffic through so we need to keep it safe.

This is the route chosen by a public consultation and roads have to close to build the roads.

Clerk – Most people chose that option because we thought that the road and junctions would be able to be built without closing the routes we use until it was nearly ready to be opened.

Q. How many years down the line will it be finished? A. We will know in July where we stand but we have started. It should be about 2 years until it is opened.

Q. When is the junction going online? A. @ 2 years.

Risk assessments are done and safety of the road user is a top priority, especially where people will be diverted to by Satnav. Life is far more important.

Q. Will you monitor it over the next couple of years to see if more accidents are caused by the diversion? A. There will be ongoing monitoring to ensure safety.

Going back to the e-mail enquiry: Emergency services supported the closures to improve safety. Non car connection between North and South Burlingham could a temporary roundabout be put in place? A. We couldn't build anything suitable and would have to close the A47 to build it. I will send a comms piece to the Clerk.

Clerk - Good because people want to know and we haven't been kept informed. The legal road closure notice was a blanket one for 2 years, which just informed us about the road closures but not when they were going to happen.

Public – The closure before and the suggested diversion meant that big vehicles were sent through the back roads. Rob – If you spot anything like this, let me know.

Is there a website where you can find out if the A47 is going to be closed? Rob – “Onenetwork” National Highways are doing work with Google and Satnav to help inform road users of road closures.

Richard – Thank you very much for coming to answer questions.

Rob – We are looking to do an event in the next month or so, with the archaeologists, if anyone wants to come along.

Scouts – We want to highlight that we need a new site in 2034 and not 2038 as was quoted in the previous minutes. It isn't as far away as you think, especially as we have to raise funds to purchase and build. We would like @ 1 acre.

The Council has asked County Farms if they have any land suitable and Richard asked the land agent again when he saw them.

If land was rented off County Farms, they may want a moveable building, we would rather purchase the land for certainty.

Richard – The Clerk can check if County Farms would liaise with the Scout Group directly.

Richard read the report from the Scout Group – In summary: 1<sup>st</sup> Lingwood & Strumpshaw Air Scout Group was established in 1963. The group has @ 70 young people. There are many activities and the Scouts have helped the Community at several events.

*(Please see full report attached).*

*Jayne from the Royal British Legion – Acle & District includes Lingwood, Reedham etc. and now also includes Brundall as their branch closed down. We are trying to keep the Acle branch running. We have meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month, tea and coffee is supplied free of charge and we have speakers attend the meetings now. We have had more people attend recently. There is now a veteran card that gives preferential treatment at GP's. In June there is a chap from the Paget Hospital talking about it.*

*The Poppy Appeal raised a really good amount last year at £11,118.17*

*D-Day 80 is coming up has the Royal British Legion been contacted?*

*Scouts – We are coming with our standards and Pat Howes was going to ask if another Scout Group could come. All are welcome.*

*Clerk - Jenny asked Fancy Jacks to come along. David spoke to coffee companies but couldn't get any to come along. The W.I. were asked if they could do cakes but they are not attending.*

*Jayne - Strumpshaw Coffee break might be able to make suggestions? Clerk - They would have to have their own power. Cheryl – Did you say you knew a bugler? Jayne – Yes but he might already be booked.*

*Police Report – The Clerk read out the report sent by PC Steve Godden – In summary:*

*Our Priority Setting Meetings (PSM) are every 3 months. anyone and everyone is most welcome. The PSM for December 2023 set the priorities as Road safety and Antisocial Behaviour and the most recent meeting was held via Teams on the Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024, where the priorities remained the same.*

*Over the past few months we have been concentrating on road safety and with that comes parking complaints. We have had a couple of complaints around Lingwood in regards to parking and those individuals have been spoken to about where and how they should park their vehicles. The majority have listened to our advice and are parking more sensibly and considerately.*

*We have also been concentrating on speeding. The closure of the Blofield junction onto the A47, has caused problems. We have been carrying out speed checks in the villages as drivers have been using Brundall, Stumpshaw and Lingwood as a rat run and we have had many complaints. We have acted on these complaints and carried out spot speed checks. A small fraction of drivers have been stopped and prosecuted for excess speed as a result.*

*Lingwood village hall and the dug outs at the back have been subject to damage in the past and Antisocial Behaviour recently. We have been patrolling this area and now the nights are getting lighter, we will be there more often as lighter evenings invite more footfall and youths, who will congregate.*

*(Please see full report attached).*

*Village Hall – The Clerk read out the report sent by Phil Henry – Significant changes have recently taken place to the board of Trustees at the Village Hall with Ben Bethell stepping down, after a long association with the hall. A few other long standing Trustees made the same decision and we are extremely grateful to the contribution they have all made. At the AGM held last month I was elected as the new Chair and we were delighted to welcome a number of new Trustees to the board, all of whom will go on to make a valued contribution to the future of Lingwood Village Hall. Activities at the hall have continued to pick up during the last year with hall income increasing through regular hire and greater footfall in Hug a Mug and Whiskins. Expenditure has also increased, partly through the hiring of more staff and cost of living increases, but overall the Village Hall finances remain in a relatively healthy state. The War Memorials have recently been moved from the Methodist Chapel to a prominent place on the wall on the outside of the hall facing the MUGA and a small team of volunteers have made a start on tidying the area up. There are plans to add a bench and some flowers and if any parishioners would like to volunteer some time to help with this or any other activities at the hall then we would love to hear from you. We have an exciting programme of events planned during 2024. The first community fete for a number of years will be held on the Village Hall fields on 30<sup>th</sup> June with local groups encouraged to attend. We are also trying to bring more live music to the hall. The Dan Leathers Pr/Am Petanque event will take place for the second year on 6<sup>th</sup> June with all proceeds raised going back into the community. For a full programme please follow Lingwood Village Hall on social media, check out our website or contact Kerry or Cherry in the office at [lingwoodvh@gmail.com](mailto:lingwoodvh@gmail.com) or 01603 713430.*

*Park Run and Leg-its – The Clerk read out the report sent by Phil Henry – Lingwood parkrun takes place every Saturday morning at 9am on the fields behind Lingwood Village Hall. It is a 5k / 3.1 mile timed run or walk, not a race, and is free for all participants. We welcome runners and walkers of all abilities. There are no winners and losers at parkrun. If you don't fancy running or walking why not come along and volunteer instead? Volunteering at parkrun is an opportunity to learn new skills and we welcome young people aiming to complete the volunteering section of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.*

*The Lingwood Leg-its running group was originally created as a Couch to 5k running group around the time Lingwood parkrun was launched in March 2019. Since then it has grown in size and our numbers are now in excess of 50. We welcome runners of all ages and abilities and pride ourselves on our inclusivity. All of our runs are free to join and we meet every Thursday evening at 6.45pm for a social run of between 5k and 10k.*

*In June we are holding our annual marathon relay where teams of any size run a relay of marathon distance consisting of multiple laps of the Lingwood parkrun course. If anyone is interested in joining the Leg-its then follow us on social media or email us at [lingwoodlegits@gmail.com](mailto:lingwoodlegits@gmail.com) (Please see full report attached).*

*Buckenham Ancient Woodland Trust (BAWT) – The Clerk read out the report sent by Ian White – Buckenham Wood is an ancient wood which means it has been present since 1600, and it sits in Strumpshaw but borders Lingwood Parish. It is a beautiful woodland and has significant environmental importance. It was all in private ownership and approximately 20 years ago the east section was sold to Strumpshaw Parish Council, and then the west section was sold to another private owner a couple of years ago. The central section (approx. 7.4 acres) was proposed for sale 2 years ago, however Strumpshaw Parish Council did not wish to acquire it and suggested the formation of a local charity in conjunction with Lingwood Parish Council to do so. Following well attended open community meetings in early 2023 a charity was formed Buckenham Ancient Woodland Trust (BAWT) which was registered with the charity commission in June 2023. Website <https://www.buckenhamancientwoodland.org/>*

*Our first fundraising event was a very successful Barn Bance in March here in the village hall – and the trustees would like to thank especially the village hall team for their support throughout the year. Various grants have been applied for, and we have recently been awarded monies from the UK SPF Pride in Place Community, which mean we will be able to proceed with the land purchase this year. There will still be a lot of work to do. With the current landowner's permission and support from Lingwood and Strumpshaw Air Scouts and Yare Valley Rotary Club, two clean up events were held in January, which removed copious bags of waste and over 100 tyres. There is still an area of waste that requires covering with sand and gravel that will need mechanical diggers to achieve, and this is being planned for the end of the bird nesting season. As we move forward, we now need volunteers for both woodland and non-physical support work and also people to become members of BAWT (which is free) to help us steer the future of the site. (Please see full report attached).*

**Neighbourhood Plan:** *Mike Ingram – In summary: After 2 ½ years of meetings, engagement events and consultations, I am pleased to say that Broadland District Council formally approved the Plan on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and a referendum will now take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024, which all registered voters in the Parish can take part in. A majority vote in favour of the Plan will result in it forming part of the Development Plan for the area and will protect the Parish and benefit all those who live here.*

*(Please see full report attached).*

*Richard – Thank you Mike, it's been a bit of a slog but you and the committee have done a fantastic job.*

**To invite contributions or Questions from the floor:** *Jayne - The Memorial plaques; I have asked if there can be a hook in between them to hang a wreath. The area has had slabs put beneath it, which looks tidy but they mentioned a bench is going there. We need to get to the plaques to hang a wreath so as long as the bench doesn't stop this, it will be ok. We can enter it into a War Memorial competition.*

**Closing Remarks:** *Richard – We've had a pretty successful year. Thank you all for attending. The meeting closed at 8pm.*