

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF LANGWORTH GROUP PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2014 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, LANGWORTH**

PRESENT: Councillor C Judge (Chair), P Bowser, Miss J Scott, Mrs C King,
C Buttress, Mrs S Burnett, M Herbert
County Councillor I Fleetwood, District Councillor C Darcel
Mr Simon Sharp, Principal Area Development Officer, WLDC
Mrs C Myers, Clerk Mr J Dearman, Flood Warden
31 members of the public, PCSO Jackie Parker

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs Y Green, Mrs G Walton

98 PUBLIC FORUM

Outline planning application number 130773 at The George, Langworth, including means of access for up to 36 dwellings, including affordable provision, ancillary convenience store A1, public open space, ecological reserve and landscaping – The Chair welcomed Mr Simon Sharp, West Lindsey District Council Principal Area Development Officer.

Mr Sharp addressed the meeting and stated that at this point comments were being sought on the application. He was currently in discussion with Anglian Water and the Environment Agency with regard to the problems with the sewerage system in Langworth and Lincolnshire County Council and the Internal Drainage Board regarding flooding. He stated that he wished to allay fears of residents in that he would not be taking the application forward without in depth confirmation regarding the flood defences.

Mr Sharp stated that the shop and affordable housing shown on the plan was included as a result of the recent housing survey carried out in Langworth. The affordable housing would initially be made available for local residents.

Questions/points raised from residents included flooding/sewerage problems; concern of the additional traffic emerging from the site (35 dwellings – potentially 70 vehicles); the possibility of providing a lay-by for vehicles calling at the shop – large vehicles could not access the car park; the preference to 2 storey dwellings rather than 3 storey (3 storey dwellings not being in keeping with surrounding properties), overdevelopment of the site.

The Chair thanked Mr Sharp for attending the meeting and answering questions and stated that the Parish Council would be discussing the matter and formulating their own comments later in the meeting.

99 POLICE MATTERS

Incidents were reported as follows:-

- A. A theft from a front porch reported in Chamberlains Close
- B. A theft of cast iron goods on Station Road. Persons were arrested the next day and the vehicle used in the crime seized pending court proceedings.

C. Elderly residents on Station Road are having their doorbells rang in the early hours of the morning.

On 4th March 2014 Police and Crime Commissioner Alan Hardwick will be attending Langworth Coffee Morning with PCSO Jackie Parker. He has stated that he would like to have a chat and answer any questions possible. The Clerk would publicise this.

100 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor Mike Herbert declared an interest in Item 7b)i) on the agenda – Barlings Lane.

101 NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7TH JANUARY 2014

Proposed by Councillor C Buttress, seconded by Mrs Chris King that the notes were a correct record.

102 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

CC Ian Fleetwood reported that the proposed closure of Hawthorne Road, Cherry Willingham was under inquiry.

103 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

DC Chris Darcel, stated that over 2000 signatures had already been collected from surrounding villages in connection with the proposed closure of Hawthorne Road, and that he would be speaking at the Public Inquiry. The on-line petition was continuing for anyone wishing to contribute their objections to the closure of the road.

104 CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

- a) **Flooding Issues** - Flood Warden John Dearman stated that Langworth had been exceptionally lucky during the recent periods of heavy rainfall and that the river and its banks had held extremely well.

The Environment Agency had agreed to remove trees on the Barlings Eau downstream of the road bridge. They had stated however that they may not be removed this year but would be flagged up as a high priority.

b) Highway Matters

- i) **Barlings Lane – A reply from LCC Area Highways Manager read as follows:-**

'Traffic Regulation Order – Barlings Lane

I have had the opportunity to make further enquiries about the scheme implemented in Waltham, NE Lincs. I understand that the Waltham parking restrictions were implemented by the Highway Authority as part of a wider programme of similar restrictions in a number of communities within

NE Lincs. The highway authority undertook to promote the TRO's as a departure from their previous practice and following discussions with Dept for Transport representatives over the legality of such schemes. The Parish Councils were not involved in the legislative process and the enforcement of the resultant restrictions is undertaken by NE Lincs parking enforcement officers with the penalty charges for offenders being in accordance with the authorities published schedule.

You will recall the discussions at our meeting during which it was explained that Lincolnshire County Council does not implement similar Traffic Regulation Orders. The scale of the Lincolnshire highway network and the complexity and variation of the issues which arise in connection with vehicles parking on footways means that to date the authority has not adopted policies similar to NE Lincs, whose area is very restricted by comparison. This authority is always careful to ensure that measures adopted in any location on the network are transparent and undertaken within guidelines that are equally applicable to all areas of the network. Where any particular measure is one which is likely to generate similar requests across other areas it is important that the decision to proceed is taken with the full understanding of the wider implications and that the particular area being addressed is demonstrably a high priority site when compared with other sites with similar issues.

In the light of the above comments I trust you will understand that I am not able to answer your question over the costs of any TRO's. If your Parish Council, having completed its own enquiries into the operational benefits of the Waltham Scheme, remain convinced that similar proposals would receive the support of the majority of Barlings Lane residents and accordingly continue to seek a TRO installation then I would need to seek the views of the authorities political leadership as to whether they would wish to expand the role of the Civil parking Enforcement team into this new area activity.

Accordingly I would be grateful for confirmation that your Parish Council believe such a proposal has the support of the village population after which I will seek guidance from the authorities leadership. Should you wish to discuss the issue at a future meeting of your council, CC staff would be happy to attend.

Verge Paving

As indicated at the meeting, the priority for all available highways funding within the county is currently carriageway maintenance. Whilst the potential for ongoing damage to the grass verge on Barlings Lane is recognised, this problem is regrettably widespread across the counties network, where highway widths are restricted, parked vehicle numbers increase and traffic volumes exceed those anticipated at the time of the areas development. I am unable at the present time to allocate funds to the Parish Councils suggested block paving of the verges on Barlings Lane and it is not possible for me to give a meaningful indication of when works such as these are likely to feature again in the authorities works programmes.

As requested, my colleague Noel Robinson has measured up the area of verge which would need to be paved and our estimate for the cost of block paving the section between No 22 Barlings Lane and St Hugh's Drive, would be approximately £25,000. This is based on a sufficient construction specification to withstand repeated vehicle over running, which incorporates a 90mm thick bituminous base layer as well as sand bedding and Stone sub base.

Please do not hesitate to contact me further if I can provide any further information in relation to your Parish Councils possible funding of works in Barlings Lane. Clearly LCC retain responsibility for the safety of the existing verge area and should there be areas of damage which present possible risks to pedestrians please do not hesitate to let my staff know.'

- ii) **Traffic Regulation Order** - Councillor Mike Herbert offered to draft a reply regarding the TRO and bring to the next meeting for members consideration.

In the meantime members approved a draft flyer prepared by Councillor Mike Herbert to be delivered with the Langworth Locals on Barlings Lane and Scothern Lane.

- iii) **Block Paving** – It was considered that the cost provided for the block paving seemed excessive. Councillor Mike Herbert offered to draft a letter to the Highways Department for consideration by members at the next PC meeting.
- c) **Parish Plan** – Councillor Mike Herbert reported that a request for funding would be made to Community Lincs.
- d) **Training talk on trees** – 26th March – No Councillors wished to attend.
- e) **Training session on Community Engagement, 27th February** – Cllr Mike Herbert and the Clerk agreed to attend.
- f) **Library provision for Langworth and Stainton By Langworth** – Notification received that the mobile library usage in Stainton By Langworth between July 2012 and August 2013 was less than 6 people per 30 minutes of stop and therefore the existing stop will cease after 6 May 2014.

The mobile library usage in Langworth had exceeded 6 people per 30 minutes of stop and would therefore be continued with a mobile stop of at least 30 minutes per month.
- g) **Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places** – WLDC are currently reviewing the facilities for voting and to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable the polling places are accessible for disabled electors. It was noted that the Polling Station for Langworth, Stainton and Newball is Langworth Memorial Hall. Voters could also opt for a postal vote if preferred.
- h) **Play equipment – Catch on gate** – Lincoln Metalcraft had fitted a plate to the gate to alleviate the risk of a finger entrapment which the Play Equipment Inspector considered should sort the problem out.

105 FINANCE

- a) **Internal Audit** – Mrs B Solly, Internal Auditor had carried out an interim audit of the Council accounts to 31st December 2013 and reported that they had been kept to a high standard.

b) Accounts for payment:-

Mrs B Solly – Internal Audit - £30.00
Mrs C Myers – Expenses - £27.45
Lonsdale Direct Solutions - £58.75
Lincoln Metalcraft – Play area gate plates - £72.00
Mr P Malone – Play equipment inspections - £16.16

c) Funds in Parish Council account at 31 January 2014 - £9820.24

106 PLANNING

a) Outline planning application number 130773 at The George, Langworth, including means of access for up to 36 dwellings, including affordable provision, ancillary convenience store A1, public open space, ecological reserve and landscaping - 130773

Langworth Group Parish Council held a Public meeting on 5th February 2014 in order to discuss this application when 31 residents attended along with 7 Parish Councillors, the local District and County Councillor, the Clerk to the Council and Mr Simon Sharp, Principal Area Development Officer for West Lindsey District Council.

The Council ask that the following comments to be taken into account:-

Concern is expressed with regard to overdevelopment of the site. It is felt that 3 storey dwellings are not in keeping with surrounding properties.

Traffic problems are envisaged:-

- Parking problems would occur with the siting of a shop on the Main Road. Lorries could not pull up on the main road to purchase items - Could provision of a lay-by be considered?
- The development would generate many extra vehicles from the properties driving onto the main A158, therefore access from the site should be considered in depth.

The main concern from both the Parish Council and the public present was the impact on surrounding properties and the possibility of flooding. Please also take into account any comments made from residents of neighbouring properties.

The local Flood Wardens have studied the Flood Risk Assessment for the proposed development and their findings are detailed below:-

'We make no comment on the possibility of the properties to be built flooding as the developers seem to have taken this into account.

- P8 Para 4.5 To our knowledge the George field has flooded in 1981, 1993, 2007, -Jan 2008 and Jan 2013 which is later than 1993 as stated.

- P8 Para 4.10. We do not know what the 'Langworth reservoir' is and flows are not contained in bank.
- P9 Para 4.15. What specific plans are there to address this issue? What underground storage system is to be provided? What has a properly maintained site drainage system got to do with the sewerage provider?
- P11 Para 6.8. At the present time the LCC highways surface water drainage maps are incomplete. In our view the drainage of the A158 from the bridge to the George car park entrance by the ditch on the north side of the A158 along the George property, there being no outfall into the Barlings on the south side of the A158.
- P11 para 6.10 We note the statement 'ideally reducing the flood risk where possible'
- P12 Para 6.16. The foul sewer adjacent the site should have the capacity to accept flows from this development subject to confirmation by Anglian Water. **At the present time the sewerage system in Langworth cannot cope with the present volume of sewerage causing frequent sewerage floods on Scothern Lane.**
- P13 Para 9 and 10. We welcome the statements in these two paragraphs.
- P15 Para 9.4. We note the statement 'There will be no significant adverse impacts as a result of this development.'
- **In conclusion.** As flood wardens we would like WLDC planners to put the following restrictions on the application:-
- **No development should take place until Anglian Water has upgraded the Langworth sewerage system to enable it to cope with the additional flow of sewerage.**
- **No development should take place until Lincolnshire County Council have established a proper system for discharging surface water from the site and the adjacent A158.'**

The vote was unanimous that the Parish Council would like to see the development go ahead providing the Flood Wardens comments are fully adhered to.

b) Planning Enforcement matters – Nothing further to report. The Clerk would contact the Planning Enforcement Officer requesting an update.

107 CHAIRMANS COMMENTS

The Chair stated that he felt it had been an exciting meeting and that the views on the planning application would be put forward on behalf of villagers.

108 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 4th March 2014 - 7.30pm – Memorial Hall