NOTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF LANGWORTH GROUP PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 13th MAY 2014 IN THE LANGWORTH MEMORIAL HALL

<u>PRESENT:</u> Councillors - Mrs Yvette Green (Chair), Mrs Sheila Burnett, Mike Herbert, Mrs Gill Walton, Clive Buttress, Chris Judge,

County Councillor Ian Fleetwood District Councillor Chris Darcel Flood Warden - John Dearman Clerk - Mrs Chris Myers 1 resident

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs Chris King, Miss Jackie Scott

1 PUBLIC FORUM

The resident present raised comments about the recent outline planning permission given to The George, Station Road, Langworth for outline residential development

The resident was reassured by County Councillor Ian Fleetwood that this application was for outline permission and when a full application was submitted further consideration would be given. County Councillor Fleetwood agreed to meet with the resident to discuss any further items of concern.

2 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Mrs Yvette Green was proposed as Chairman for the 2014/15 year by Councillor Chris Judge, seconded by Councillor Mrs Sheila Burnett.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed by Councillor Mrs Green.

3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Chris Judge was proposed as Vice Chairman for the 2014/15 year by Councillor Clive Buttress, seconded by Councillor Mrs Sheila Burnett.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed by Councillor Judge.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Mrs Yvette Green and Mike Herbert declared their interest in item 9bi on the agenda regarding Barlings Lane, as residents of Barlings Lane.

5 POLICE MATTERS – Nothing to report

6 NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1ST APRIL 2014

Proposed by Councillor Clive Buttress seconded by Councillor Mrs Sheila Burnett that they be signed as a correct record.

7 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

CC Ian Fleetwood reported that highway resurfacing works were being carried out in the locality.

8 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

DC Chris Darcel commented on the lack of sports facilities in his Ward and would be seeking more detail on funding.

9 CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

a) Flooding issues - The Flood Wardens stated that the trees growing in the Barlings Eau had only been trimmed, not removed.

Notification had been received that Anglian Water would be working in Scothern Lane to upgrade the sewers.

b) Highway Matters

i) Safety issues Barlings Lane/Traffic Regulation Order – A reply had been received from the Head of Highways North Division, regarding items raised concerning Barlings Lane as per the attached letter.

Councillor Mike Herbert offered to take up the matter of the width of the Lane etc with the Health and Safety Executive on behalf of the Parish Council. This was agreed.

- ii) **Traffic Regulation Order** Agreed that the Parish Council await the outcome of the final paragraph of the letter.
- iii) Parking problems, Barlings Lane Councillor Mike Herbert produced photographic evidence of parking on footpaths on Barlings Lane. The Clerk was asked to print some 'No parking flyers, similar to a recent front cover of a Langworth Local so that these could be put on windscreens of offending vehicles
- iv) Traffic chaos during road works on Station Road Barlings Lane/Scothern Lane as diversionary routes - Traffic chaos had ensued recently during road works on the A158 with the closures being at peak flow time of traffic.

Following discussion the Clerk was instructed to write to the Head of Highways pointing out the problems caused and requesting that in future when road works were planned that the closures do not take place until after 7.00pm, more adequate signage be implemented, ie narrow roads – and consideration given for the widening of Scothern Lane from the bridge to the railway crossing in order that the Lane can accommodation additional traffic.

v) Removal/Replacement of street light – Barlings Lane – A street light had been removed due to it being badly corroded. The Clerk was awaiting notification of when it would be replaced. c) Parish Plan – update – The Easter Egg Hunt had been successful and raised £105. The funds to be paid to the Clerk for banking.

10 FINANCE

a) Audit of Accounts/Completion of Annual Return - An inspection of the accounts had been undertaken by the Internal Auditor and stated as being maintained to a high standard, there being no issues she wished to bring to the attention of the Council.

The Council duly approved the contents of the Annual Return of the closure of the Accounts to 31 March 2014 and answered Yes to all questions on page 3 of the Annual Return. All in favour.

The Accounts would be submitted to the External Auditor on the required date stated by them.

b) Income

Community Chest Fund – Parish Plan - £524.00

Big Society Fund – Parish Plan - £400.00

WLDC - Precept - £12,000

*Fox & Hounds, Reepham - Langworth Local advertising donation - £30.00

*Barlings Country Park - Langworth Local advertising donation - £30

*The Clerk pointed out that the payees of the two donations had requested that they be split between the three village organisations – Langworth Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch, Langworth, Sudbrooke and Scothern First Responders and the Memorial Hall.

c) Payments

Best Kept Village Competition - £15.00 (previous payment cancelled)

Elpeeko – printing – Parish Plan - £24.00

Veolia – Grass cutting - £355.52

LALC – Lunch – C Darcel, P Bowser - Finance and Risk Management Course - £14.00

Lonsdale Direct Solutions – Langworth Local - £61.80

Zurich Municipal – insurance premium - £356.82

Langworth Memorial Hall – hire of hall – Parish Plan – 25.00

Hazel Walker – Purchases for Easter egg hunt – parish plan

Langworth Memorial Hall – donation from Fox & Hounds, Reepham/Barlings Country Park - £20

Langworth Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch – donation from Fox and Hounds,

Reepham/Barlings Country Park - £20

LIVES – Sudbrooke, Langworth and Scothern First Responders - donation from Fox and Hounds Reepham/Barlings Country Park - £20

Mrs C Myers – Expenses - £41.17

Agreed unanimously that the above payments be met.

d) Parish Council Insurance schedule - The Chair and Clerk had checked the insurance renewal schedule which appeared to be in order.

11 PLANNING

- a) Applications 131170/1 The Old Vicarage, Stainton conservatory No objections 131190 – Highway verge, Scothern Lane, Langworth – Control and telemetry equipment for underground storage tank 0 No objections 131238 – Langdale Lodge, Station Road, Langworth – erect 2 bedroom dwelling – Deferred in order to obtain further information
- b) **Permissions** Appeal APP/N2535/X/13/2205963 Lakeside, Barlings Lane 130925 Limewood House, Church Lane Stainton dining room extension
- c) Refusal TPO work 032938 Two Limes, Station Road, Langworth
- d) **Planning Enforcement Matters** Communication from the Planning Enforcement Officer stated that a possible planning breach brought to her attention by the Parish Council was within the permitted development limits.

12 CHAIRMANS COMMENTS

The Chair remarked that several dead pigeons had been found in Langworth. It was suggested that she inform DeFRA so that should any more be found they were aware.

It had been drawn to the Parish Council's attention that the traffic on Newball Lane had been overwhelming due to the recent addition of Tigers at the Falconry at Newball. It was suggested that the traffic situation should be monitored by residents for a short while before taking any further action.

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 3rd JUNE 2014, 7.30PM - MEMORIAL HALL

Minute 9b) refers



My Ref: AJA/LANGWORTH/336262/ACS

Your Ref:

Date: 10 April 2014

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Dear Mrs Myers

RE: SAFETY ISSUES ON BARLINGS LANE

Thank you for your letter of 4 April 2014 in response to our previous correspondence of 26 November 2013.

Firstly I would like to thank you for your acknowledgement of the work undertaken to achieve a higher level of compliance with the 30mph limit currently in force.

I note your concerns regarding the width of Barlings Lane and the lack of any footway for much of its length and I am fully aware of the use of lane by residents, visitors and other road users.

As I have stated before Lincolnshire is a large rural county and many of the road that serve local areas are of insufficient width for two way traffic to pass within the metalled carriageway. Passing using the highway verge is accepted as the norm and if done considerately is safe for all road users. The Highway Authority cannot be responsible for road users who choose to drive in an inappropriate, discourteous or even dangerous manner. It is the motorists' responsibility to drive in accordance with the prevailing road conditions and layout.

You are correct in your assertion that there is a Code of Practice and regulations associated with highway works. These are known as Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual — Traffic Safety Measures and Signs for Road Work and Temporary Situations. This is backed up by a Code of Practice "Safety at Street Works and Road Works". It is clear from the titles of these documents that they apply only to temporary situations and are designed to inform the road user of unexpected obstructions, to protect road users from the ongoing work and to provide a safe working environment for those undertaking the works. It cannot therefore be considered appropriate to apply these requirements to the normal conditions that apply to historic road networks.

Lincolnshire's road network consists of some 3000km of road with a nominal width of 4.5m or less. This represents almost one third of the entire network, much of which will be similar to Barlings Lane in nature.

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Given that there is currently an estimated backlog of essential maintenance work in excess of £400 million, I regret that your expectation of the County Council funding this type of improvement is too high. I regret that I cannot foresee any prospect of this type of improvement being funded in the foreseeable future.

In respect of the review of the current speed limit policy, members of the Scrutiny Committed have extended their review programme deadline until the end of May, when members of the working group will present their preliminary findings back to the wider committee. Therefore there is nothing within the public domain that it can report back at this time.

As requested I attach for information copies of the current Speed Limit Policy.

Finally, I would also confirm that work continues on the preparation of a report, initially for consideration by the Highways Portfolio Holder, summarising the implications of the County Council implementing Traffic Regulation Orders prohibiting the parking of vehicles on Verges and/or footways. I will of course keep you informed as soon as I have any indications of the likely views of the council's leadership.

Yours sincerely

ALAN AISTRUP

I.Eng. M.I.C.E. F.I.H.E.

Head of Highways - North Division