

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF LANGWORTH GROUP PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY, 7th JANUARY 2014 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, LANGWORTH**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Y Green (Chair), Mrs C King, C Buttress, C Judge,
Mrs G Walton, Mrs S Burnett, M Herbert
County Councillor I Fleetwood, District Councillor C Darcel
Mr J Dearman (Flood Warden)
Mrs C Myers (Clerk), 3 residents

APOLOGIES: Councillors Miss J Scott, P Bowser

The Chair opened the meeting by expressing with regret the passing of two local residents, Mrs Sylvia Bruntlett and Mrs Sandra Prescott. A period of silent remembrance was held.

89 PARISHIONERS ITEMS

Two residents were present to express their concern at the understanding that a local tourist attraction was to house tigers and carnivores.

The Chair explained that the matter had been referred to the Planning Enforcement Officer, WLDC who it was understood was investigating the matter.

90 POLICE REPORT

A written report had been received as follows:

- 7/12/13 – Anti-social behaviour was reported with stones being thrown at a villager's window.
- 7/12/13 Horses loose on the A158 near to The station. These were rounded up and returned to the field.
- 13/12/13 - Theft of diesel from parked lorries on the A158 during the night.
- 29/12/2013 – A two vehicle collision on the A158.

91 NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3RD DECEMBER 2013

Proposed by Councillor Mrs S Burnett, seconded by C Judge that they were a correct record.

92 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

CC Ian Fleetwood reported on the proposed construction of a footbridge on Hawthorne Road, due to the building of the eastern bypass.

93 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

DC Chris Darcel reported on damage to Fiskerton Village Hall caused at a recent booking.

94 CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

A Flooding Issues – Flood Warden Mr John Dearman stated that Langworth had been very lucky in the recent storms, compared to much of the nation.

The Flood Wardens had carried out a river inspection and reported further substantial growth on the trees growing in the bed of the Barlings Eau which would potentially cause a back up of water. The Clerk would inform the Environment Agency and request removal.

B Highway Matters

- i) **Temporary Closure of Scothern Lane** – It was noted that although the proposed closure notices for Scothern Lane were in place works had not commenced. The Clerk would make enquiries.
- ii) **Report on meeting with Highways Officers held on 6th January 2014 concerning correspondence, notes made as follows:-**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Yvette Green, Mike Herbert
County Councillor Ian Fleetwood
Mrs Christine Myers (Clerk)
Mr Alan Aistrup, Highways Department, LCC
Mr Alan Brown, Highways Department, LCC

The meeting had been called following concerns by Langworth Group Parish Council about lack of response to correspondence sent by the Clerk to LCC Highways North, in particular four emails sent on 12 July 2013, reminders in September and a follow up by County Councillor Ian Fleetwood.

The Clerk stated that similar communication problems had occurred during 2012 when she was advised by Mr Brown to send communication to Highways via another email address. This had proved satisfactory for a short time but the lapse had re-occurred resulting in no replies.

Both Highway Officers acknowledged and apologised for the lack of dealing with these items and hoped that since the situation had been brought to light in November that adequate answers had been supplied. It was, however, pointed out that there still remained one item which had not been answered - namely concerning ownership of land at the corner of Barlings Lane of which a resident was currently in communication with solicitors.

The Chair emphasised that the Parish Council were regularly approached by residents about items of concern and being a representative body were required to provide replies; the repeated lack of communication by the Highways Department was clearly not acceptable. This reflected poorly on parish council members when they could not reply to parishioners within a reasonable time frame.

Mr Aistrup explained that he had put a system into place which should eliminate such problems in the future and stated that an acknowledgement should be sent within 10 days.

Discussion ensued about local items relating to highway issues which were currently of concern, namely the suggestion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) on Barlings Lane as an idea to deal with the problem of vehicles parking on the grass verge and footpath along Barlings Lane. The Chair and Cllr M Herbert stated that they felt frustrated that no one seemed able to provide an effective solution to this problem. The kerbing is being damaged; the grass verge is now badly rutted; children, disabled and elderly people and other pedestrians are being forced on to the road. The recent work carried out to repair and resurface the footpath seems to be for no avail.

The Highway Officers present appeared reluctant to introduce a TRO because of the precedent that it would set within Lincolnshire. They offered no other solution to the problem. The Chair and Councillor M Herbert stated that the Parish Council had tried and are still trying to deal with this re-occurring problem and so still wanted to understand the costs involved if such a measure was to be introduced.

- iii) **Traffic issues – Stainton** – Following a review by the LCC Highways Department it had been confirmed that the speed limit through Stainton could be reduced from the national speed limit to 30mph. This was agreed by members at the meeting.
- iv) **Drainage problems – A158/Providence Row** - LCC Highways had apologised that remedial measures had not been undertaken before now and that they would seek to have the entrances to the kerb offlets cleared in the near future.
- v) **Barlings Lane Parking problems** – The Clerk was instructed to request the LCC Highways Department to provide costing for block paving the verge fronting properties on Barlings Lane and also to provide further information and costs of implementing a Traffic Management Order along Barlings Lane.

Councillor Mike Herbert agreed to compose and deliver (the Clerk to print) a letter on behalf of the Parish Council to residents of Barlings Lane concerning the parking problems.

- v) **Barlings Lane/A158 junction** – LCC Highways had stated that it is still their intention to bring drainage cleansing equipment to the site to seek to address this blockage but the works would require full traffic light control on all four legs of the junction. They had stated that they would attempt to arrange a night time attendance by their contractor.
- vi) **Road Traffic Act** – Councillor M Herbert requested that the Clerk try to obtain a hard copy of the Road Traffic Act.

C Parish Plan – Nothing to report at present.

D Play area gate – finger entrapment – a quotation of £60 was approved for works to the gate as recommended in the annual play equipment inspection report.

95 FINANCE

- a) **Grass cutting contract – 2014 season** – The contract by Veolia Environmental Ltd was approved for the 2014 grass cutting season.
- b) **Request for funding, West Lindsey Citizens Advice Bureau** – Members agreed not to make a donation to this organisation.

It was also noted that the Clerk had received 5 individual requests for funding from this organisation all sent in separate envelopes through Royal Mail.

- c) **Accounts for payment** – proposed by Councillor C Buttress, seconded by Councillor C Judge that payment be made:-

Elpeeko – printing (Parish Plan) - £16.00
Langworth Memorial Hall – Hire of hall - £107.00
Langworth Memorial Hall – Lease of play area - £70.00
Mr P Malone – play equipment inspections - £16.00
Mrs C Myers – expenses - £42.63

96 PLANNING

- a) **Application 130734 – Lincoln Security Ltd, Station Road, Langworth – application for proposed B1 – B8 use with ancillary trade counter and facility repair and sell lawn mowers, tools and equipment** – No objections.
- b) **Planning Enforcement Matters** - The Planning Enforcement Officer had confirmed that she was investigating items within the parish.

97 CHAIRMANS COMMENTS – None.