

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF LANGWORTH GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2014 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, LANGWORTH**

PRESENT: Mrs Yvette Green (Chair), Chris Judge (Vice Chair), Miss Jackie Scott, Mrs Sheila Burnett, Mrs Chris King, Clive Buttress, Mike Herbert, Peter Bowser, Mrs Gill Walton
County Councillor Ian Fleetwood, District Councillor Chris Darcel, John Dearman (Flood Warden) 1 resident
Mrs Chris Myers (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr Rob Lawton, WLDC

38 PUBLIC FORUM

It was hoped that Mr Rob Lawton would be available to attend a PC meeting before the end of the year to speak on Neighbourhood Planning.

39 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Yvette Green declared an interest in items on the agenda numbered 12a (as a resident of Barlings Lane), 7gii (being the applicant/ property owner)
Councillor Mike Herbert declared an interest in items on the agenda numbered 12a (as a resident of Barlings Lane) 7gii (as a personal friend and neighbour of the applicant),
Councillor Clive Buttress declared an interest in item 11a on the agenda (as a Flood Warden who would use the clothing).
Councillor Mrs Christine King declared an interest in item 12a on the agenda (as a personal friend of the applicant)
Councillor Mrs Sheila Burnett declared an interest in item 12a on the agenda (as a personal friend of the applicant).

40 POLICE MATTERS

There was no Police report. The Chair would speak to PCSO Jackie Parker regarding the matter.

41 NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15TH JULY 2014

That they be signed as a correct record proposed by Councillor Mrs Sheila Burnett, seconded by Councillor Chris Judge.

42 COUNTY COUNCILORS REPORT

CC Ian Fleetwood stated that he would shortly be attending a meeting with Anglian Water and would be happy to take any issues that the Flood Wardens may have to be discussed.

CC Fleetwood reported that another application for the eastern bypass had been submitted.

CC Fleetwood also added that there was funding available in his Big Society Fund and he would be willing to consider contributing to a village project.

43 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

DC Chris Darcel stated that he had some surplus funds in Initiative Fund which could be used towards a village project. This was welcomed by members.

44 CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

- a) **Flooding Issues** – Mr John Dearman, Flood Warden, reported that Anglian Water were on schedule with works on Scothern Lane and were due to finish this month.

The river level was currently 170mm (low) and causing no problems.

- b) **The openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014** - These Regulations came into force on 6th August 2014 giving the public and press new rights to film and report council meetings, using digital and social media and to transmit any recordings widely adding their own commentary if required afterwards, including on the internet. (Oral reporting or commentary during the meeting itself is prohibited under the Regulations, if the person making the recording is actually present at the meeting).

It was noted that Standing Orders needed to be amended to incorporate this regulation. This would be incorporated in to the new Langworth Group Parish Council's Standing Orders which were currently being reviewed.

- c) **Notice of LALC AGM** – Members were invited to this meeting to be held on 15th October 2014. The Chair would consider attending.
- d) **Parish Plan – update** – Cllr Mike Herbert reported that the questionnaire was nearing completion. He stated that due to lack of participation by the community there were now only 3 persons on the committee.
- e) **Community Wildlife Grant** – The Chair reported that there had not been interest in the provision of wildflowers for planting at the Memorial Hall.

It was noted however that the cost of bird boxes could be covered and that this may be pursued. The Clerk would make further enquiries.

- f) **LALC Training Courses for Councillors and Clerk** – Councillors Mrs Yvette Green, Chris Judge and Miss Jacki Scott would attend the Councillors Training Day on 16th October 2014 at LALC Offices, Dunholme Old School – 10.00 - 4.00pm.

Councillors Mrs Yvette Green and Mike Herbert would attend the Planning/Neighbourhood Plans course at Glenthams Village Hall, on 1st October 6.30 – 8.30pm.

Councillor Mrs Yvette Green and the Clerk would attend the Chair and Clerk's Event on 28th October at Welbourn Village Hall 6.30 – 9.00pm.

g) Highway Matters:-

i. Parking Problems, Barlings Lane – Copy of letter from the Assistant Direct Highways and Transportation, LCC as follows:- ‘ I refer to your letter dated 15th July 2014 and am sorry to hear that the ongoing difficulties associated with inappropriate vehicle parking on footways in Barlings Lane continue.

The suggested use of Traffic Regulation Orders specifically to control problems of parked vehicles on footways and verges, as illustrated by your previous references to a scheme implemented in Waltham in North East Lincolnshire has significant implications for a large rural county such as Lincolnshire. If adopted, the potential for unmanageable numbers of requests from the many locations regrettably experiencing similar or indeed more extensive problems to Langworth has the potential to overwhelm the authorities Civil Parking Enforcement officers and potentially create funding commitments the county council is unable to meet in the current financial climate.

The problem your Parish Council highlights however, is recognised and with the reduction in the ability of the Police to address what remains an obstruction offence, a wider policy decision is undoubtedly required on the county council's willingness/ability to promote the use of TRO's in an attempt to address the problems your Parish is experiencing.

It was and remains my intention to seek a political decision on the issue. Indeed I had hoped to have completed this process before now and must apologise for the delay experienced to date. However my officers have now gathered the information necessary and I expect to be in a position to provide a more definitive response in the near future.

Finding solutions to difficulties of this kind are compounded by the council's financial ability to be able to allocate any funding to physical changes to the street scene in these times of very restricted public finances thereby severely limiting our available options.

I will contact you again shortly (hopefully in the next month or so) when I trust I will be able to be able to provide a definitive response to the TRO issue.’

ii Safety Issues, Barlings Lane – Cllr Mike Herbert would report further when a reply was received from the Health and Safety Executive.

iii. Replacement of street light, Barlings Lane – PCSO Jackie Parker had not replied to an enquiry made as to how the light had originally been damaged. However it was noted that it had now been replaced and was again working.

iv. Footways in Langworth – reply from Area Highways Officer as follows:- ‘The footways are the subject of regular inspection and the Area Highways officer is fully aware of their poor condition and has previously brought his concerns to my attention.

Your council is aware of the significant maintenance backlog within Lincolnshire due to a prolonged period of underfunding of highway maintenance at a national level. Also as you will know an element of additional funding has recently been awarded by central government to which in turn has been further augmented by funding from the County Councils own reserves. However any additional funding has been specifically awarded with a requirement for it to be used for repairing defective carriageways. Funding for significant footway repairs is currently very restricted.

However, given the problems it is Highways Department's intention to seek to undertake very localised repairs to some of the worst defects with a view to slurry sealing some lengths in the new financial year.

Again I apologise for not being able to undertake more extensive works.'

v. Street sweeping - The Clerk had requested from WLDC Street Team a sweep of the footway near to the Station but had been advised that the manpower was not available. However, if a voluntary team could carry out some sweeping this could be followed up by a road sweeper to remove the debris. It was agreed that this could be incorporated into a litter pick during October. The 4th October commencing at 10.00am was agreed.

Vi Community Speed Watch – Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership had launched the Community Speed Watch Initiative (CSW), designed to empower communities to help themselves tackle speeding issues.

Following the cost of £40 plus £8 VAT to Lincolnshire County Council for a licence agreement for site assessment and approval, 6 passive notices were being offered at no charge to the community. An interactive speed device was also being offered at a cost in the region of £2,000.

It was agreed that the offer of the Passive notices be pursued, proposed by Councillor Mrs G Walton, seconded by Councillor Chris Judge.

Councillors Mike Herbert and Miss Jackie Scott offered to assess the sites required for the passive notices and liaise with the Clerk so that this could be submitted for perusal to the LRSP

With regard to the Interactive device it was felt that further information was required regarding battery life, maintenance costs and the Clerk would make enquiries with the Road Safety Partnership .

Councillor Mike Herbert would look at possible sites for a reactive device which would be discussed at the next meeting

Should Council decide to proceed with the purchase of the equipment, Councillor Ian Fleetwood offered £500 from the Big Society Fund, District Councillor Chris Darcel offered £500 from his District Councillor Initiative Fund.

Vii Highways Workshop – 11th September 2014 – Councillors Mrs Yvette Green, Mike Herbert and the Clerk would attend this workshop at Gainsborough.

Viii Replacement of bus shelter near to Station – A price had been obtained from Knights of Langworth for supply and erection of shelter and removal of old at a cost of £2,990. LCC had confirmed that as this amount was under the £3,000 grant figure no second quotation was necessary.

Proposed by Councillor Chris Judge, seconded by Councillor Miss Jackie Scott and Resolved that Councillors Mrs Yvette Green, Mrs Sheila Burnett and the Clerk liaise with LCC and Knights of Langworth regarding the design of the bus shelter.

45 OFFER FROM BRIDGE HOUSE OF ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING HELP TO THE COMMUNITY

An offer of assistance (either practical or financial) had been received from Bridge House. This offer was gratefully received by members and due consideration given to suggestions made.

The Clerk was asked to reply requesting that practical assistance be given to path sweeping, bulb planting and the attendance at the forthcoming litter pick.

It was also agreed to mention that the Parish Council were considering the purchase of a Reactive Speed Device for the village and that a financial contribution from Bridge House may wish to be considered by the management.

46 REVISED STANDING ORDERS – This item was deferred to a future meeting of the Parish Council.

47 CONSIDERATION OF PURCHASE OF DAFFODILS/WHERE SHOULD THEY BE PLANTED?

It was considered that daffodils could be planted fronting the church, continuing the line from the Memorial Hall or on the verge fronting Knights Woodyard. It was suggested that the Team from Bridge House may be interested in helping with planting.

Proposed by Councillor Chris Judge, seconded by Councillor Mrs Chris King that £35 be spent on daffodil bulbs.

48 FINANCE

- a) **District Councillors Initiative Fund** – Offer of £500 from DC Chris Darcel – An initial application had been made for a seat in order to secure funds but DC Chris Darcel stated that this could be re-allocated as a contribution to the Reactive Speed device if Council agreed at a later date to purchase.
- b) **Waterproof clothing for Flood Wardens** – Councillor Clive Buttress stated that the Flood Wardens continually checked the river levels in all weathers, requiring protective clothing of which theirs was at the end of its life. It was also considered that should a flood situation occur the Flood Wardens would likely be in extreme conditions for a length of time and should be equipped to the conditions with weatherproof clothing.

It was suggested that the Community Chest/District Councillor Initiative Fund might be suitable to apply for a grant for the items required. DC Chris Darcel would check the funds remaining in his fund allocation.

Resolved that application be submitted to one of the funds for a grant for water proof clothing for the Flood Wardens. Councillor Mrs Yvette Green proposed and Councillor Chris Judge seconded.

c) **Audit of 2013/14 Accounts** – These had now been signed off by the District Auditor and advertised as such.

d) **Accounts paid:-**

Veolia – grass cutting - £671.05

Mrs N Hollis – Parish Plan expenditure - ££25.52

Veolia – grass cutting - £335.52

Mrs C Myers – shared cost of computers repairs - £13.33

Mrs Yvette Green – plants for tubs etc - £45.00

e) **Accounts for payment:-**

Todds– AC – stationery - £11.99

Grant Thornton – Audit fee - £120.00

Mrs C Myers – expenses (July/August) - £23.87

Lincolnshire County Council – Licence agreement - £48.00

Proposed by Councillor Chris Judge, seconded by Councillor Mrs Sheila Burnett and Resolved that the payments as presented are approved and can be paid if not already done so.

f) **Income:** Willan House - £50 donation to Senior Citizens Christmas lunch.

g) **Bank:** Funds in bank account at 31.8.2014 = £14,894.45

It was noted that an Account Service fee of £3 had been incorrectly charged to the account on 31st July 2014. This had been reversed on 13th August 2014 and a letter from the bank advising this had been an error not applicable to the account.

49 PLANNING

A) Applications

i) TPO Applications 033912 and 033917 - Abbey Cottage, Barlings Lane – removal of 6 ash trees

Note: - At 8.55pm Councillor Mrs Yvette Green left the room as applicant of one of the applications and owner of the property the applications related to.

Councillor Mike Herbert also left the room at 8.55pm as friend and neighbour of the applicant.

Councillor Chris Judge took the Chair.

The applications were fully discussed by members and no objections were raised.

Councillors Green and Herbert returned to the meeting at 9.00pm.

ii **131790** – Certification of lawful development, Manor Farm Bungalow, Barlings Lane, Langworth – noted.

C) Permission – 131486 – Erection of garage – The Cottage, Church Lane, Stainton By Langworth.

D) Refusal – 131337 - Erection of 1 dwelling and attached garage – The Cottage, Church Lane, Stainton By Langworth

E) LCC Planning applications – A request had been made by LCC to send any planning applications by email. It was felt that this was acceptable.

F) Letter to Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Team – The Parish Councils letter dated 6th August 2014 stressing that if large developments were to take place in the area of Nettleham beck special attention should be paid to surface water run-off upstream of Langworth had been acknowledged by the Team and District Councillor Stuart Curtis, Chair of the WLDC Planning Committee.

50 COMMENTS FROM CHAIR PERSON

The Chair informed members that she had purchased plants for planting in the tubs and around the village the cost of which she would like taken from the Chairmans Allowance. This was proposed by Councillor Mrs Sheila Burnett, seconded by Councillor Chris Judge.

The Chair thanked the full Council for attending the meeting and dealing with a lengthy agenda.

A reminder was given of the Litter Pick to be held on 4th October 2014.

51 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 7TH OCTOBER 2014