

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF LANGWORTH GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH MARCH 2014 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, LANGWORTH**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Y Green (Chair), C Judge (Vice Chair), Mrs C King, Mrs S Burnett, Mrs G Walton, Miss J Scott, C Judge, M Herbert, C Buttress, P Bowser, District Councillor C Darcel, County Councillor I Fleetwood, John Dearman (Flood Warden), Mrs C Myers (Clerk), 1 resident

The Chair opened the meeting by thanking Councillor Chris Judge (Vice Chair) for chairing the February meeting in her absence.

109 PUBLIC FORUM

It was noted that there appeared to be a significant amount of litter on Stainton Lane emanating from a building site. The Clerk was asked to write to the landowner regarding this.

110 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Sheila Burnett declared an interest in items 8a and b on the agenda – Financial assistance to churches in group/ Formation of a working party for tidying up church area.

Councillors Mrs Yvette Green and Mike Herbert declared an interest in Item 7 bi on the agenda – Barlings Lane – Parking problems.

111 POLICE MATTERS

A reported incident of the theft of a motor vehicle on Station Road was reported.

It was also noted that Police and Crime Commissioner Alan Hardwick had attended the Memorial Hall Coffee Morning on 5th March and suggested that the County Road Safety Partnership may be able to supply speed activated signs for the village.

112 NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5TH FEBRUARY 2014

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

113 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

CC Ian Fleetwood reported that the Public Inquiry regarding the closure of Hawthorne Road Cherry Willingham had now been completed and the outcome awaited.

He also reported that in order to secure government funding works on the Lincoln Bypass must commence by March 2015.

114 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

DC Chris Darcel expressed his concern about the possible effects of the closure of Hawthorne Road in that approximately 300 school children from Lincoln used that road daily when attending Cherry Willingham schools.

115 CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

- A. **Flooding Matters** - Nothing to report.
- B. **Barlings Lane – Parking problems** – It was noted that there appeared to be a marginal improvement in the parking situation on Barlings Lane. PCSO Jackie Parker had reported regular patrols of the area. It was agreed to invite a Police representative to attend the next PC meeting to give a report on the problem.
- C. **Draft letters for approval prepared by Councillor Mike Herbert re Traffic Regulation Order, Barlings Lane** – Following discussion on the suggestion of a TRO for Barlings Lane, members were read the following drafted letter prepared by Councillor M Herbert for sending to County Councillor Richard Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Mr Paul Coathup, Assistant Director Highways, Lincolnshire County Council.

'Langworth Group Parish Council is writing to you requesting that you give due consideration towards a policy change which will allow villages such as Langworth to introduce, where it is deemed necessary, a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to manage parking problems.

The Parish Council is trying to respond to complaints about cars and commercial vehicles driving over the kerbs and parking on the ornamental grass verges and footpaths. As far as it can be assessed the owners of the vehicles have got driveways they can use but it has become custom and practice to treat the public footway as an extension of their own property. In some locations the kerbs and grass is now very badly damaged and recent footway maintenance by LCC is being undermined. Children, disabled people and other pedestrians are occasionally forced onto the road to get past these vehicles. There appears to be a bizarre situation where vehicles are where the pedestrians should be, the pedestrians are where the vehicles should be and no one seems to be suitably empowered to deal with the problem.

The issue has been raised with the Police. Neil Rhodes, the Chief Constable, has attempted to provide some support. The Police have said that they will get involved in situations where serious obstruction is taking place. However you will appreciate as does the Parish Council, that this is difficult for them as it is relatively low priority issue and unless they are passing at the time, need to be notified when the problems occur. It is also questionable that a highly trained group of people such as the Police should have to deal with the relatively minor problems of inconsiderate parking by a few selfish individuals.

The Parish Council has also raised the issue with your own Highways Department on a number of occasions. Unfortunately they also tell us that they are unable to help as they do not have the power to deal with the vehicles, even though they may be blocking the

footpath. They state they can only deal with the damage being caused and consequently photographs of damage and the offending vehicles have been supplied to them. However the Parish Council are not aware of any actions being taken other than through the routine maintenance program.

The Parish Council have discussed the problems openly, have appealed to residents in the local magazine and carried out a leaflet drop. However these also seem to have had little effect and the problems persist.

Your Mr Alan Brown in correspondence to the Parish Council has referred to Waltham Parish Council within NE Lincs. Apparently policies have already changed in NE Lincs and restrictions were implemented in Waltham by the Highway Authority as part of a wider programme of similar restrictions in a number of other communities. He explains that the Highway Authority undertook to promote the TRO's as a departure from their previous practice following discussions with the Department for Transport. He also explained that within Lincolnshire County Council the Parish Council would first 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.

So there is a problem that no one currently seems to be able to assist with. It is also a problem that is not unique within other Lincolnshire villages.

Langworth Group Parish Council ask you to make a policy change which would give the Council the ability to introduce a means to deal with parking problems in villages, if it was felt necessary.'

Proposed by Councillor Peter Bowser, seconded by Councillor Chris Judge that the above letter be sent to the County Council.

A vote was taken as follows:- For = 5, Against = 3, 1 abstention

D Block paving of verges, Barlings Lane – Draft letter - This was deferred until the next meeting of the Parish Council.

E Parish Plan – Grant application – A report was given of the Parish Plan Committee to date comprising Mrs Nicola Hollis (Chair), Mrs Gill Walton, Mrs Yvette Green, Hazel Walker, Mike Herbert, Sheila Burnett.

A grant application to the Community Chest had been prepared for events taking place, advertising flyers and posters. Councillor Mrs Yvette Green signed the application form.

F Langworth Resources – A request had been received from Langworth Resources to link their web site to the parish Council website. Members had no objections to this.

116 REQUEST BY REV. PENNY GREEN

A request had been received from Rev Penny Green, Incumbent of Langworth Group of churches, for the Parish Council to set aside a small amount of finance to assist St Hugh's Church, Langworth. It was noted that £200 had been precepted for the next financial year for the church.

Rev Green also asked for support in calling together a group of people who would support and help with the tidying up of the church and cemetery.

Members offered their support and it was suggested that if a date could be fixed the Clerk would publicise this in the magazine etc and request parishioners assistance in a Church Tidy up.

117 FINANCE

a) **Request for grant assistance – Lincoln and Lindsey Blind Society** – Several posted copies of a flyer had been received by the Clerk requesting financial assistance to this Society. Members agreed that they could not donate parish funds to individual charities.

b) **Accounts for payment:-** Todds-AC – Paper - £22.91
Elpeeko – Printing (Parish Plan) – 25.00
H Walker – Display Stand – Parish Plan
Lonsdale Direct – Langworth Local - £59.35
P Malone – Play equipment inspections - £12.96
Mrs C Myers – expenses - £30.70
Mrs Y Green – Flowers - £10.00

118 PLANNING

- A. **Planning Enforcement matters** – A reply had been received from the Planning Enforcement Officer clarifying matters raised.
- B. **Notice of Appeal** – Lawful Development Certificate, Lakeside Caravan Park – 129076 – To be held at Guildhall, Gainsborough 10.00am 9th April 2014.
- C. **Planning Permission** – Grange Farm, Barlings Lane, Langworth – 130510 – ground mounted array of PV solar panels.

119 CHAIRMANS COMMENTS/FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates and times agreed as follows:-

Annual Parish Meeting – 7.00pm, 1st April 2014 – A representative from First Contact will give an address.

Parish Council meeting – 8.00pm, 1st April 2014.

Annual Parish Council meeting – 8.00pm - 13th May 2014

120 TO RESOLVE TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS STAFFING MATTERS

The public left the meeting at this point.

