

# LOWDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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05/09/19/17

## Minutes of the monthly meeting of Lowdham Parish Council held in Lowdham Community Room, Southwell Road, Lowdham, NG14 7DQ on THURSDAY 05 September 2019 at 6.45pm

### Councillors:

Andrew Coles; Jacqueline Finn; Alison Glazebrook; Paul Harrison; Nigel Hunt;  
Simon Mawby; Stephen Platt; Mike Poyzer (A); Rich Sullivan (A); Chris Thompson (A); Emma Wilson (A)

**Also present:** Clerk Bill Banner, Cllr Roger Jackson (L), Cllr Tim Wendels, Oliver Scott and three members of the public

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Mike Poyzer, Rich Sullivan, Chris Thompson and Emma Wilson - accepted
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Chairman's Announcements:** No announcements
4. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 08 August 2019** were accepted unanimously and duly signed

### 5. Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business:

*Standing orders were suspended at 6.50pm*

A resident informed the meeting of the forthcoming Square Dance in the Village Hall. Another resident referred to the continuing sewerage problem in the village and asked the Parish Council to help resolve the problem with Severn Trent Water. A question was asked about the level of the parish precept and whether sufficient has yet been collected over the last 5 years to support the Environment Agency flood relief plans. The chairman explained that the extra money raised was secure, but the EA plans have changed over the years and the latest costs are less than original. It is hoped that the EA work can start in 18 months' time.

*Standing orders were reinstated at 7.00pm*

**6. NDSC Senior Planning Officer** – Oliver Scott outlined the role played by District planners compared with those at the County Council. He said that 88% of planning applications are delegated to officers. The planning standard is to approve development proposals unless there is a reason not to do so ...a rule of law...Town & Country Planning Act 1990. He referred to Settlement Envelopes, Core Strategy and the Vision for the District, in the knowledge of the housing land supply over the next 5 years. He suggested members consider preparing a Neighbourhood Plan

*Close and depart the meeting at 8.05pm*

**7. County Council matters** – Cllr Roger Jackson confirmed that the Severn Trent Water repairs in Blenheim Avenue have just been done. He said that at a meeting with the EA, they are looking at a new scheme for flood protection that is less costly. It will involve holding back water before it arrives in Lowdham and releasing it in a controlled manner. This should be done in the next 18 months. He informed the meeting that VIA are doing a rethink on the proposed work to the Roundabout – one suggestion being to introduce traffic lights – and he assured members that full and proper consultation will be done with the community.

He said that VIA/NCC are looking at the possibility of building a car park for Lowdham Station on Caythorpe Road producing a design and engaging landowners. A consultation has started for having a waiting limit of one hour outside Station News.

On behalf of a resident of Merevale Close, Cllr Alison Glazebrook asked that the yellow lines that have been painted recently at the Merevale Close and Nottingham Road junctions onto Station Road be extended as parked cars are now impeding visibility.

**8. District Council matters** - Cllr Tim Wendels provided information about the low ratio of parking tickets issued in July and August. He confirmed that he has arranged for Mr Brian Rawlinson, NSDC Traffic Enforcement Officer, to attend the next parish council

meeting. He referred to Francklin Road car park and to the letter from the parish council proposing the terms of a new lease agreement with the District and said that he expected we should have a response shortly. He also acknowledged the request that Francklin Road car park can be used to accommodate a Tetra-Pak recycling unit (being an enquiry from Cllr Emma Wilson)

#### 9. Amenities and Village:

- i) Roundabout: This topic was discussed sufficiently at item 7. It was noted that a Freedom of information Request had been made
- ii) Flood Relief Plans: No further developments to report
- iii) Village Gateways: Earlier in the day, members had accompanied Mike Keeling from VIA/NCC Highways to identify the four appropriate locations. Cllr Nigel Hunt said that details will be provided to direct the installers later in the year
- iv) MUGA – resurfacing. Andy Hardy has agreed to help complete the Awards for All Funding Application. Meantime, a further installation quotation has been received
- v) CCTV and Wi-fi – some quotes have been obtained, but others awaited
- vi) Cemetery maintenance: The gravedigger has been asked to attend to the sunken areas of the churchyard by infilling with topsoil and seed
- vii) Dog Bins – The bin has now been delivered and installed thanks to Cllr Nigel Hunt. One other bin is in a poor state and a 25-litre replacement bin is required. The clerk was asked to make the order

#### 10. a) Planning Applications:

- 19/01497/FUL – Lime Tree Gardens – Erection of a first-floor side extension – Do not object
- 19/00814/FUL – Lowdham cars - appeal – Noted. As reported before, this property is out of Lowdham parish

#### b) Recent District Council decisions: None

#### 11. Finance & Assets: Payments arising in August were approved

**12. Environment Policy** – Cllr Stephen Platt presented the work he has done so far to produce an environment policy. He will include recycling and do further work on his proposals to bring back a policy statement for Council's approval.

- 13. Correspondence:**
- a) Aqua bags – The clerk has secured a competitive quote of £773 + VAT for 200 – he was asked to order
  - b) Community Room Postcode – members approve that a Postcode should be sought as utility companies say they are unable to identify the exact location of their meters. A post box and building name is required to secure a postcode
  - c) A letter sent to the Secretary State for Justice regarding Travellers and The Green at Lowdham Grange, was noted
  - d) Five copies of the Midlands Rural Housing Analysis arrived that day and were distributed to interested members
  - e) The annual offer from VIA for 5 free bags of rock salt for the grit bins was accepted. No extra grit bins were requested
  - f) The annual insurance is due for renewal on 01 October. Insurers have asked for confirmation of any changes needed. They have not yet sent renewal papers. The insurances are subject to a Long-Term Agreement and there is little change from 2018. Renewal was confirmed. It was agreed that the building of the Former Public toilets be added for a Sum Insured of £25,000. The clerk will ask for a change of renewal date to 30 September from 2020 to provide more time next year to get the renewal invitation papers
  - g) Blending valves have been recommended at the 5 hand-wash basins in the Community Rooms. The clerk was asked to check whether the water heater had controls that could be adjusted
  - h) The clerk was in correspondence with NSDC to see whether they have a replacement tree fund – Cllrs Glazebrook said that Mr Geoff Burton was willing to walk the village with councillors to identify appropriate locations for replacement trees.
  - i) An application to register as a Village Green the playing field land bordered by Southwell Road, Nottingham Road and A6097 has been submitted to NCC - we await a response

**14. Councillor's Reports: Conservation Area** - Cllr Alison Glazebrook sought members approval to apply to NSDC to include land at the top half of the Big Field in the Conservation Area. This was approved. A map will be provided for the clerk to apply. Cllr Glazebrook reported on behalf of the VHPFC that the security at the gate on the by-pass is poor – members agreed to have a bar welded to improve

#### 15. Reports from Outside Organisations: None

#### 16. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 03 October 2019

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed: Chairman ..... Date .....