

LOWDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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03/10/19/19

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Lowdham Parish Council held in Lowdham Community Room, Southwell Road, Lowdham, NG14 7DQ on THURSDAY 03 October 2019 at 6.45pm

Councillors:

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

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner, Cllr Roger Jackson (L), Cllr Tim Wendels

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Andrew Coles and Rich Sullivan - accepted
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 3. Chairman's Announcements:** No announcements
- 4. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 05 September 2019** were accepted unanimously and duly signed
- 5. Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business:** None
- 6. NSDC Traffic Enforcement Officer** – Mr Brian Rawlinson was unable to attend
- 7. County Council matters –**
 - * Cllr Roger Jackson said that VIA/NCC are drawing up plans for a new car park (20/30 cars) for Lowdham Station on Caythorpe Road with double yellow lines and it is in touch with Severn Trent Water who are the landowners
 - * He reported on a meeting held with Cllr John Cottee who is the County Councillor responsible for the roundabout project. VIA is considering 3 or 4 designs including use of traffic lights and after further work, the Parish Council will be briefed on the suggestions before a general consultation with parishioners. (At this point members approved the suggestion from Cllr Chris Thompson to prepare a statement for the website and noticeboards about the present situation and the alternative considerations)
 - * Cllr Jackson expressed concern at the lack of progress and delays and changes in the proposed flood defences scheme. Members complimented the effectiveness of the Trent River's Trust leaky barrier's scheme and discussed the recent letter from Emily Mayle from the EA. Members requested the clerk to invite her to the Council meeting on 28 November to enable an open discussion.
 - * The drains at 19 Main Street were discussed and Cllr Thompson said he has written direct to VIA as the drain cover was up.
 - * He informed members that NCC has allocated an increase in the budget to help support care leavers as they go from age 18 to 25.
 - * He also said that there are grants available from the Greener Initiative Community Fund
 - * Cllr Glazebrook asked for an update on the matter raised at the July meeting regarding standing water on Ton Lane by the traffic lights, as it was still an issue. Cllr Jackson thought that the drain had been cleared 6 weeks ago but would investigate again.
- 8. District Council matters**
 - * Cllr Tim Wendels referred to the increase in the street parking problem and regretted that Mr Brian Rawlinson, NSDC Traffic Enforcement Officer, was not able to attend the meeting.
 - * He confirmed that NSDC has accepted the terms of the lease for Franklin Road car park outlined in the letter from the Parish – 20-year lease at a nominal fee of £120 per annum, subject to a cost of living review every 5 years. Members confirmed agreement and the clerk will tell NSDC.
 - * NSDC has agreed a budget to replenish aqua-sacks used following future floods.
 - * He said that for economic reasons NSDC has decided to bring N & S Home back under direct control.

9. Amenities and Village:

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- i) Roundabout: This topic was discussed sufficiently at item 7. A Freedom of information Request reply has just been received from the County Council.
- ii) Flood Relief Plans: A reply has been received from Emily Mayle of EA. Members requested that the clerk ask her to come to talk to Council on 28 Nov 2019 meeting
- iii) Village Gateways: The clerk was asked to arrange for Mike Keeling from VIA/NCC Highways to meet up with Cllr Nigel Hunt to mark the four identified locations. An authority application form needs to be completed and the clerk will make arrangements with VIA
- iv) MUGA – resurfacing. The clerk reported that he has completed the Awards for All Funding Application (£10K) and has started to complete the application to FCC Community Foundation (formerly WREN - £20K) The result of the application will not be known until Spring 2020. To clerk was authorised to complete the application for funding support to FCC Community Foundation (WREN) and in due course sign the funding agreement for the project:
- v) CCTV and Wi-fi – three CCTV quotations have been received and Cllr Simon Mawby agreed to speak to each and report back at the next meeting. The wi-fi quotation from Talk-Talk was accepted at a fixed price of £23.50 per month over a 18-month period. Cllr Mike Poyser was asked to complete the arrangements.
- vi) Amended Housing Survey needs: members commented on the excellent survey and asked the clerk to thank Emma Simkin of Midland Rural Housing for its production. The invitation to walk the village with her to determine suitable areas for development was declined as members felt there was nothing to be gained.
- vii) Remembrance Sunday and VE Celebrations: Cllr Alison Glazebrook informed members of the arrangements. Alison, Simon and Nigel agreed to meet up to put up the lamppost poppies w/e 2/3 November 2019. Following a request from a resident, Cllr Glazebrook has spoken to VIA/NCC about the feasibility of hanging bunting along Main Street. Due to the complexities involved it is impractical to pursue this idea. Residents and businesses to be encouraged to decorate their own frontages.
- viii) Advertising on the Village Green: Members confirmed that this is not permitted. Cllr Hunt agreed to speak to the business concerned to remind them of this
- ix) Blending valves – members were not convinced of the need to have these fitted. Cllr Simon Mawby undertook to investigate
- x) Insurance of the former Public Toilets Building. It was agreed to insure for demolition costs only for a Sum Insured of £5000.
- xi) Play Area Safety inspections. Members were advised that the arrangement is for the monthly inspections to be paid by the VHPFC to whom they are sent. The annual inspection report and invoice will be sent to the Parish Council

10. Planning Applications:

19/00093/FULM – Land to rear of Harrison's Garage, Southwell Road – Change of use to provide 8 football pitches along with the erection of a clubhouse and car park facilities – Object: existing greenbelt; increased risk of flooding; highway access

11. Recent District Council decisions: 19/01217/FUL – The Shed – Grant Full Permission
19/01310/FUL – 44 Ridge Hill – Grant Full Permission

12. Finance & Assets: a) Payments arising in September were approved b) The half-year budget was reviewed c) The 2018/19 External Audit Qualified Report was noted with the reasons therefor.

13. Environment Policy – Cllr Stephen Platt presented the further work he has done to produce an environment policy. It was agreed that a Council Working party be formed to develop a Lowdham Environment Policy: Stephen, Chris and Mike

14. Correspondence: a) By majority decision (1 for, 6 against and 2 abstentions) the offer to purchase the telephone box in Franklin Road for £1 was declined b) the Post Office has confirmed the Post Code for the Community Building to be NG14 7PS c) The Little Schnauzer Coffee Company request to visit Lowdham on the evening of the Christmas lights switch-on was approved and they will be asked to make a donation, subject to takings – Cllr Nigel Hunt agreed to contact the Santa used last year d) a request to have a mountain bike track was discussed. Members considered the request but did not feel that the demand would warrant the cost. Also, there was no suitable place to be considered.

15. Councillor's Reports: VHPFC: Cllr Alison Glazebrook informed members that the litter bin at the village hall has now been replaced by NSDC. The concrete block has now been installed at the A6097 gateway to help prevent traveller access.

17. Reports from Outside Organisations: None

18. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 07 November 2019

(NB: the following meeting is 28 Nov. instead of 05 Dec.)

The meeting closed at 9.34pm

Signed: Chairman Date