

LOWDHAM PARISH COUNCIL



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**Minutes of the monthly meeting of Lowdham Parish Council
held in Lowdham Community Room, Southwell Road, Lowdham, NG14 7DQ
on THURSDAY 06 February 2020 at 6.50pm**

06/02/20/27

Councillors:

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

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner, Minute taker Wendy Fenn, County Cllr Roger Jackson and one member of the public

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Rich Sullivan – approved; Tim Wendels
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 3. Chairman's Announcements:** No announcements
- 4. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 09 January 2020** were accepted unanimously and duly signed
- 5. Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business:** Nothing raised
- 6. County Council matters**

Cllr Roger Jackson referred to the two excavation works ongoing in the village – larger discharge pipework being laid at the cricket pitch by the Environment Agency and Severn Trent Water work to improve the sewer system in Southwell Road/Old Tannery Drive. He said that the work is likely to take longer than planned. The outbreak of rats at Cocker Beck was discussed and the suggestion made that they had been dis-homed by the recent floods. Bird feeders and bins are thought to be an attraction. The beck is under riparian ownership (including Notts CC) and the residents have been advised to employ a pest control contractor.

Railway parking: Network Rail have been asked whether appropriate land may be available.

No further news about the long-term plans for the changes to the roundabout.

Further pothole problems were mentioned, including Lambley Road, and Epperstone Road. Cllr Jackson made a note of the places.

Parking: A camera car will operate at the school entrance to monitor inconsiderate and illegal parking.

Cllr Stephen Platt sought help from the County Council about making plans to help adults experiencing loneliness.

Before Cllr Jackson left the meeting, Clerk Bill Banner asked for his support for the LIS funding application referred to in 9iii) by signing the form. The grant is for 50% of costs and if successful Cllr Jackson agreed to contribute to the balance needed.

7. District Council matters

Cllr Tim Wendels was unable to attend to provide a report

8. N&SDC Conservation Officers Amy Schofield and Juliette Wilson.

The members were informed that a new programme of work would begin - end 2021/early 2022. The programme has not been set yet, but the District Council acknowledges Lowdham's interest in having a Conservation Area (CA) Appraisal. Details of the nature of the process and the significance of a CA were outlined. The Conservation Officers advised members of actions that could be undertaken in the meantime. For example, collate specific reasons which make Lowdham unique and significant; look at any revisions that could be made to the boundary of the existing CA. More information about Conservation can be found on the N&SDC website : <https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/planning/heritageconservation/>

7.30pm Cllr Roger Jackson left the meeting

9. Amenities and Village:

- Roundabout: This item had been referred to earlier under County Council matters.
- Flood Relief Plans: Before the meeting began, local resident Peter Cross spoke to members about forming a team of Flood Wardens, with a central meeting point of The Ship as well as the setting up of a bespoke flood warning system for Lowdham. He has made initial contact with EA and with the well-established Southwell Flood Forum and he is in contact with residents who will be Lowdham Flood Wardens. He proposed attending an EA Flood Forum in York and members approved

reasonable expenses. Council also agreed to pay for local flood maps.

- iii) Village Gateways: The awaited 4 signs are to be installed shortly. A new LIS application for 2 extra Gateway signs was approved – the application to include a Cemetery Noticeboard and a Sign for the Community Building – see 11 b) and c).
- iv) MUGA – Resurfacing. All funding applications have been completed. Cllr Andy Coles requested that the contractors be asked to revisit so a firm specification can be agreed.
- v) Wi-Fi and CCTV – Work is still to be done by Open Reach.
- vi) Cemetery Inspection: The Clerk has arranged for the inspection of the headstones and memorials with Independent Memorial Inspection (IMI) starting week 17 February 2020. Advisory Notices have been placed in the cemetery and on the cemetery gates plus the notice boards and website.
- vii) Defibrillator provision. The Clerk reported that he was unable to achieve funding contributions – one reason was because the proposed site is quite near to a defibrillator that is at the village hall. After discussion it was decided to locate one at the Community Building and seek a village organisation to lead the funding project. Cllr Andy Coles undertook to approach Lowdham Colts and Scouts.
- viii) VIA/NCC verge cutting: Following a meeting with a VIA officer, agreement has been reached to enable the Parish Council to obtain a contribution towards the costs incurred by the Council in cutting verges and other grassed areas of public land. The amount due goes back for a few years.
- ix) N&SDC Greener Theme Initiative Fund – Provision of trees - Cllr Stephen Platt has arranged for a meeting of members and other interested parties at 9.00am on 12 February at the Community Building, from where to undertake a village walk to identify where trees could be planted– all welcome.
- x) Parking near The Priors: correspondence with a resident about inconsiderate and illegal parking, particularly at school times, has been shared both with the District and County Council for action.
- xi) Perimeter trees at the Community Building Sports Ground – it was agreed that the trees needed pruning and the Clerk will seek quotations. The severe cut back of a few trees belonging to the Council by a resident was discussed and the Clerk was asked to write to say that such action must not occur again without the express permission of the Council.
- xii) Outlaw Triathlon. A member of the public has provided members with extensive details concerning traffic interruptions arising from this event. Members acknowledged that each year there are a number of events that restrict the flow of traffic but in general members did not find this to be unacceptable. It was proposed to have this matter on the Agenda of the Annual Parishioners Meeting to get the views of the wider audience of parishioners – approved.

10.a) Planning Applications:

20/00105/FUL – Land off Caythorpe Road – Creation of 40 x 20m ménage – As this land is outside Lowdham Parish, members did not express a view

b) Recent District Council decisions:

19/02104/FUL – Barnes – Old Orchard House – erect new double garage – Grant Full Permission

19/02267/TPO – Shearwood – Victoria Cottage, Station Road – Grant works to trees

11. Finance & Assets: a) Payments arising in January were approved. b) Cemetery Noticeboard – members agreed the purchase of the E D S Solutions single sided noticeboard 1200mm x 1000mm high complete with headboard and a single top-hung opening door £1806 + VAT c) The aluminium information sign for the Community Building was agreed at £279 + VAT d) Budget 2019/2020: the situation as at 31 Dec 2019 was reviewed and noted

12. General matters:

- i) The Francklin Road Car Park re-presented agreement was approved and duly signed.
- ii) The Constitution statement was considered. Amendments were discussed and agreed.

13. Correspondence: a) The Annual Lowdham Spring Clean is being organised for Sunday 29 March 2020 b) Furniture fly-tipping in the Cemetery has been reported to N&SDC who are to have it removed c) Unpleasant bonfire smoke in Southwell Road has been reported to N&SDC who are to contact the resident

14. Councillor's Reports: i) **NALC Guide to tackling Loneliness:** Cllr. Stephen Platt confirmed that a meeting was held on 20th January and further meetings are planned ii) Cllr Platt requested Council to change to a clean energy tariff as soon as possible iii) Cllr Nigel Hunt reported the use of the toilets in the village hall by a man believing them to be public toilets. iv) Cllr Emma Wilson informed members that she is in correspondence with EA about the IDB maintenance of the Cocker Beck

15. Reports from Outside Organisations: VHPFC: HAGS have agreed to visit the playground near the village hall in order to remedy faults revealed by the recent annual inspection. The installation is within the 5 years warranty period

16. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 05 March 2020 (NB: Annual Parishioners Meeting: Weds 8 April 2020)

The meeting closed at 8.57 pm

Signed: Chairman Date