

LOWDHAM PARISH COUNCIL



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**Minutes of the monthly meeting of Lowdham Parish Council 05/11/20/45
held by Internet Conferencing (Zoom)
on THURSDAY 5th November 2020 at 7.05pm (late start)**

Councillors:

Andrew Coles; Jacqueline Finn (Chairman); Alison Glazebrook; Paul Harrison; Stephen Platt; Mike Poyzer; Emma Wilson

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner, Minute taker Wendy Fenn, County Cllr. Roger Jackson; District Cllr Tim Wendels and three members of the public

1. **Apologies for Absence:** None
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Chairman's Announcements:** Since the last Council meeting, Chris Thompson, Simon Mawby and Nigel Hunt have resigned from the council. The Chairman thanked them for the work done for the council
4. **Casual Vacancy:** An application from Mandy Meyer was approved. Forms had been submitted to the clerk and she duly became a member of council
5. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 01 October 2020:** The minutes were accepted unanimously and will be signed in due course.
6. **Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business:** Both members of the public addressed council about the merits or otherwise of the Planning Application 20/01963/FUL – Victoria Cottage
The problem of vehicle parking in Station Road, where there is a continuous white line in the middle of the road, was raised and the clerk was asked to report to Police Insp Heather Sutton
7. **County Council matters:**
Streetlight problems: Cllr. Jackson recommended downloading the MyNotts app onto phones in order to report problems
Main Street road works outside the school: Cllr. Jackson reported that this had gone well, pipes are in and this has alleviated the water run-off situation. Members expressed their thanks.
Flooding: at a meeting with the EA, it was decided that the wall enhancement work originally planned could not be done on the left bank of Cocker Beck as this would have a detrimental effect on properties on Station Road. Cllr. Jackson believed VIA would be able to make some improvements
Lowdham Grange Reservoir: Cllr. Jackson said that this is progressing well, and it is hoped to be completed within a couple of years. This may reduce need for the left bank defence in the village
Roundabout: It was confirmed that information has been delivered to residents. An online presentation to the Parish Council is still to be arranged. Cllr. Finn undertook to write to VIA to request the location of the drains and that work done does not block any of these
Victoria Avenue's drains: Cllr. Jackson reported that these have been cleared with just the dykes near the farm to be done
Severn Trent: They are to have legal access to a garden in Merevale to put in a chamber
Laurels: Cllr. Jackson informed that these are still to be removed
Trent Lane: It was confirmed that Trent Lane at East Bridgford/Shelford junction is now permanently closed to traffic
8. **District Council matters:**
Effect of current Lockdown: Cllr. Wendels referred to implications to local business and the Local Restrictions Grant available to companies in rateable value properties as well as there being discretionary support available. The Council will be in touch with small and micro business to make them aware of applying with more information being on the NSDC website shortly

Planning Committee Meeting: Planning Application 20/00889/FUL – 17 Gunthorpe Road – was referred to the Planning Committee that was attended by Cllrs Wendels and Wilson. Cllr Finn thanked Cllr Wilson for attending and speaking out to present the council decision to decline the application. The Planning Committee refused the application

Aqua Sacs: Half have been delivered. Other half is in hand for delivery shortly

Excess rubbish at 6 Barker Hill: The inspector has been in touch with the resident referring them to the bulk waste service.

MUGA: Cllr. Jackson informed the meeting that Cllr. Wendels had spoken well relating to a grant from the District Council for the MUGA resurfacing. Although it did not fit within the criteria for the grant of Cleaner, Safer, Greener, it was agreed that support should be given in some form and an appropriate letter will be sent to the clerk

9. Amenities and Village:

- i) Roundabout: Cllr Finn reported that the proposals being considered do not interfere with the playing fields or trees along Southwell Road
- ii) Flood alleviation: EA update: Cllrs. Finn and Wilson had attended the EA meeting. The reservoir at Lowdham Grange is going ahead with alternative plans for the drive - either have the reservoir on both sides of Lambley Road, or on one side with the road going around. Funding is available to get things moving and completed by 2022
- iii) Covid-19 relief actions: It was noted that today is the start of the four weeks' renewed lockdown
- iv) MUGA resurfacing: After discussion, It was proposed and agreed unanimously to record in the minutes that the planned resurfacing project is the Council's most significant spend in recent years and been the subject of many discussions in council over the last few years, including previous councils. Resurfacing work needs to be done as the surface is showing signs of wear
Other sports use, including tennis, has been limited. Council wants to maintain the multi-sports provision and choose an appropriate surface but wishes to respond to the increasing needs of the football fraternity (Lowdham Colts runs 24 teams including 7 girls' teams – age groups from 4 to 18. The users of the new surface would include all age groups). Inevitably a compromise surface needs to be chosen. Cllr Coles has been involved for a number of years and reviewed the historic investigations into a suitable replacement surface, and has taken advice from the NSDC Health Improvement and Community Relations Manager who advised the council that there were a number of similar products available from which to make its choice. Other advisers approached also confirmed that there are a number of suitable products on the market that essentially all do the same job
The council undertook a procurement exercise pursuant to its Financial Regulations and using the Government Contracts Finder website. Four sealed tenders were received as set out in the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2020. Of those bids, the one from local contractor AS Sports Systems (being local is an advantage to the local community) for the sum of £31,400, for the supply and fitting of the Lano S-Tech Integration Xperience sand dressed synthetic turf, represented the best solution to meet requirements at the best overall price. It was accepted that other related costs such as new goals, tennis posts, nets, markings for basketball and ongoing maintenance costs would be extra
It was resolved that the bid from AS Sports Systems should be accepted and the Clerk was requested to proceed accordingly
The clerk reported that he has completed a funding application to the Football Federation
- v) Defibrillators: The clerk reported that both defibrillators have been purchased for a total price of £2410. They will be fixed later this month at the Community Building and at Alphabet House- there is a budget of £300 for the electrician
Cllr. Stephen Platt proposed a further defibrillator be installed at the doctor's surgery and council agreed for Cllr Wilson to contact the surgery
Cllr Coles proposed that council takes responsibility for the defibrillator at The World's End. The pads and battery for that unit are to be replaced. Members agreed to include this defibrillator as a council maintenance responsibility
- vi) Christmas arrangements: Cllr Coles confirmed that the main tree will be in its usual place by 30 November together with trees and lights in the village. Cllr. Coles agreed to contact shopkeepers and the light installers. Cllr Glazebrook confirmed that a tree will be put outside the village hall
- vii) Remembrance: Cllr. Jacqueline Finn has the wreath, but the occasion will be much less this year. St Mary's Church has confirmed that Remembrance Sunday itself will be a reduced event, but was planning to go live on Facebook

10. a) i) Planning Applications:

20/01899/HOUSE – Joyland, 19A Lambley Road – detached single storey garage – Do Not Object

20/01946/HOUSE – Cliff Mill House, Southwell Road – demolish and reconstruction of barn for use as annexe to main house (retrospective) – Do Not Object

20/01963/FUL - Victoria Cottage – conversion of former residential care home to seven apartments (resubmission of 20/00373/FUL) By majority decision: Object (2 for, 5 against 1 abstention).

Whilst welcoming plans to renovate the building, Council objects because of the lack of adequate parking provision

a) ii) Subsequently Received Applications:

20/01698/HOUSE - 20 Station Road – erection of side store - Do Not Object

20/01738/FUL – 47/51 Main Street – various alterations, extensions, erection of rear staircase and formation of new parking area with gated access to rear - Object – rear access not possible. (No objection to the building works proposed)

It was agreed that Cllr Mike Poyzer would discuss with the applicant and inform him that there is no right of way at the rear

20/01996/ADV – Gonalston Farm Shop - 2 illuminated advertisements - Do Not Object

20/02040/HOUSE - 18 Station Road – two storey extension and conversion of garage to home office - Do Not Object

b) Recent District Council Decisions:

20/01354/HOUSE – 5 Mount Pleasant – Decking – Refuse application

20/01636/TWCA – Crown lift trees in Epperstone Road and Station Road – No permission required

20/01668/TWCA – Reduce height of trees at 1 Red Lane and 15A Ton Lane – Grant permission

20/01678/TWCA – Fell tree – Threshing Barn, West Church Lane – No objection

20/01705/TPO – Tree work – 1 Hill Syke – Grant permission

11. Finance & Assets:

a) October Payments were authorised

b) Re-opening of Community building: It was agreed to put on hold for another month

c) Budget 2021/22 considerations – members were asked to bring to the next meeting any spend items to include in the budget

12. General matters:

a) Anti-social behaviour in the village – this has noticeably increased. Members agreed to have a further CCTV camera fitted at the MUGA – Cllr Mike Poyzer will obtain a quotation from our present suppliers

b) The Community room insulation survey has been rearranged for later in November

c) It was agreed for a group of members to review the areas mowed as the current three-year contract expires March 2021

13. Correspondence: Cllr. Platt referred to a letter received from Penny Philpott, Community Engagement Officer asking to come to a future meeting. Members agreed to the visit and the Clerk will make arrangements

14. Councillor's Reports: None

15. Reports from Outside Organisations: Cllr Alison Glazebrook reported on behalf of the Village Hall & Playing Fields Committee that the insulation for the Committee Room, toilet, kitchen, and corridor was replaced during the recent refurbishment. It is not known what insulation is in the roof of the main hall, but this will be investigated in due course. The heating in the main hall is located in the ceiling and this may pose an issue. The Annual Playground Inspection is due. The clerk undertook to remind NSDC to do this inspection. The monthly playground inspection charge has increased from £23 to £65. Consequently, the VHPFC has decided to change to quarterly inspections at a cost of £65. Cllr Glazebrook reminded the clerk that the playing field hedge is due for cutting by Clifford's. The clerk agreed to arrange.

16. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 3rd December 2020 by Internet Conferencing (Zoom)

Signed: Chairman

Date

The meeting closed at 21.29