

LOWDHAM PARISH COUNCIL



Clerk's address: 25 The Green, Radcliffe-on-Trent,
Nottingham, NG12 2LA

Telephone: 0115 933 5921

e-mail: clerk@lowdham-pc.gov.uk

E-mail: billbanner1@virginmedia.com

www.lowdham-pc.gov.uk

**Minutes of the monthly meeting of Lowdham Parish Council
held by Internet Conferencing (Zoom)
on THURSDAY 3rd December 2020 at 6.45 pm**

03/12/20/48

Councillors:

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

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

1. **Apologies for Absence:** None
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Chairman's Announcements:** None
4. **Casual Vacancy:** There are 3 vacancies. Details to be refreshed on Facebook.
5. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 05 November 2020:** The minutes were accepted unanimously, subject to reference to Lowdham Colts being deleted from the MUGA item. The minutes will be signed by the chairman in due course.
6. **Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business:** Peter Cross updated the Council on the work done to alleviate flooding in Lowdham. A hard copy of his report will be available. Real progress has been made and he praised the work of VIA and Severn Trent. Thanks were extended for his comprehensive report. Following the resignations of Nigel Hunt and Chris Thompson from council, Peter Cross wished to thank them for their help on the flooding alleviation team. He requested a replacement and Cllr Mandy Meyer expressed an interest. Peter Cross agreed to keep council updated as an when necessary.
7. **Penny Philpott-Community Engagement Officer:** Penny Philpott presented details to promote the free "Your Health Your Way" wellbeing service funded by NCC and available to residents in Nottinghamshire. It offers 4 main areas of support: Weight management; Physical activity; Smoking cessation; Alcohol reduction. Slides, marketing and referral information to be forwarded to the Clerk. Thanks were extended to Penny for her presentation.
8. **County Council matters:** i) Cllr. Jackson confirmed there is a delay in granting village green status for the cricket pitch area as committee meetings not being held that would grant its approval. ii) The laurels still need to be removed adjacent to Gunthorpe Road. iii) Cllr. Jackson reported on the delay in response from Network Rail relating to development of a car park that would create improved platform access. It was thought joining forces with Caythorpe and other local parish councils may encourage Network Rail to negotiate a solution and the Clerk was asked to write to other local parish councils accordingly. Cllr. Wilson highlighted the problems with the kerbs on Station Road. After a VIA visit, Sean Brown agreed they were not serviceable for someone with walking difficulties. Drop kerbs are needed but these need to be put in the right place and as yet it is not known what flood defences are to be done. Cllr. Jackson agreed to contact Sean Brown and keep matters on the agenda. iv) The resurfacing of Lambley Road will be in next year's budget
9. **District Council matters:** Cllr. Wendels wished to remind all about the Local Restrictions Grant available to local companies in rateable value properties as well as there being discretionary support available. The grants are payable every 28 days. Those in Tier 3 now qualify again. The Clerk highlighted that he had had no response regarding the Community Room application sent after the last meeting. Cllr. Wendels advised he enquire of Andy Hardy but to let him know of any problems.
10. **Amenities and Village:**
 - i) Roundabout proposals – parish council comments were sent to VIA on 27 November – no response yet
 - ii) Flood alleviation: EA proposes that the surface level of land adjoining Cocker Beck be lowered by up to 500mm and the Clerk was asked to confirm an onsite meeting with Lucy Marsden, EA Assistant Estates Surveyor, joined by Cllrs. Finn, Meyer, Wilson and Glazebrook and Richard Bowler from VHFFC
 - iii) Covid-19 relief actions: Nothing further to report
 - iv) MUGA resurfacing: The Clerk confirmed work will be starting w/c 4th Jan 21 and should be completed by the end of January. The Clerk gave details of 2 types of security cameras and these were discussed along with thoughts as to where they should be positioned. Cllr. Poyzer agreed to follow up the wide-angle lens camera, with night vision, to be positioned on the existing pole
 - v) Defibrillators: A new battery and pads have been installed in the defibrillator at the World's End. A further defibrillator is to be

installed at the Surgery. In total there will then be 5 defibrillators in the village. Other locations include the Community Building, Alphabet House and the Village Hall. Training will be offered when it is possible to do so, and instructions put on Facebook.

- vi) Christmas Arrangements: Cllr. Coles confirmed the lights switch on to take place on Friday evening, 4th December; to be shown online, a video to go on Facebook. Thanks were expressed to the lights installers and for contributions received from shopkeepers.
- vii) Village Gateway Signs: The Clerk reported that some 12 months ago he had applied to the LIS Fund for a grant towards the costs of a community building sign, a cemetery notice board and two further gateway signs. £3750 (50% of costs) has now been awarded. Another site is being sought for the Southwell Road gateway sign as it is not easily seen. The new signs are for Lambley Road and Caythorpe Road village gateways. If given permission from VIA (Mike Keeling), Trevor has agreed to install the signs
- viii) Overgrown ground at Lowdham Station: Cllr Jackson recommends by concentrating on developing a car park it will solve the matter
- ix) Village Mowing Contract: Following the site meetings, Cllr Ali Glazebrook has updated the tasks at the sites that require mowing (as well as hedgerows and trees) and whether these should be covered by 1, 2 or 3 contracts. The Clerk was asked to put out 3 contracts to tender. Cllr. Coles highlighted the need for work completed to be reported back to the Council by the contractor on a weekly basis. Cllr. Poyzer offered to be point of contact. Cllr. Glazebrook to give details to the Clerk and Cllr. Poyzer
- x) Cemetery Headstone Inspections: It was reported that Cllr. Glazebrook has spent a lot of time trying to trace the owners of potentially dangerous headstones which have been identified with yellow stickers. Not all those found have responded. Cllr. Glazebrook and the Clerk to continue to identify and contact owners. Cllrs to conclude in Feb 2021 what action to take with those headstones unrepaired It was agreed to refresh the notice on the notice board and gate

11. a) Planning Applications:

- 20/02199/HOUSE – 10 Epperstone Road – First floor extension to rear (resubmission of 20/01654/HOUSE) – Do Not Object
- 20/02222/HOUSE – 20 Station Road – Garage extension (revised scheme) – Do Not Object
- 20/02227/HOUSE – The Orchard, Plough Lane – erect fence to replace hedge – Do Not Object
- 20/02253/FUL – 10 Epperstone Road – 5 residential units (re-submission of 20/02024/FUL) – Object

The application was opposed by a vote of seven against with one abstention.

Although the parish council appreciates the need for land to be used for infill properties, it considers the plans to be too intensive. Council is concerned to note that the application says that there are no mature trees on site but believe that established trees and a hedgerow were removed from the site before the application was presented. Council has been told that there was wildlife in the trees and the hedgerow that were removed, including a rookery, bats and small wildlife and requests that this is investigated

Application Subsequently received:

- 20/02239/HOUSE – 5 Lambley Road – Single storey side extension to be replaced by two storey side extension – Do Not Object

b) Recent District Council Decisions:

- 20/00889/FUL – 17 Gunthorpe Road – demolish and erect replacement building – Refuse permission
- 20/01698/HOUSE – 20 Station Road – erection of side store – Grant application
- 20/01912/TWCA – 2 Plough Lane – Crown reduction of beech tree – No objection

12. Finance & Assets:

- a) The November 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 this meeting proposals for any spend items to include in the budget. No comments have been received. Cllr Harrison proposed that the precept remains unchanged – to be confirmed next month

13. General matters:

- a) Cllr. Poyser referred to the planning application for the extension to the chemist's shop and to his conversation with the applicant. He said that the applicant planned to reapply with the proposed changes not including the existing car park. The Clerk reported that a neighbour had contacted him to object.
- b) Cllr. Platt informed the meeting he is looking after the trees donated by NSDC and they need planting by the end of March. It was also agreed to apply to NSDC for any more that are available
- c) It was confirmed the insulation survey for the Community Building had taken place and report awaited.
- d) Website: Cllr. Finn suggested the Website have a link to the Facebook page and that the opening page include news, current items, bullet points of matters discussed, actions achieved, with appropriate photos. Cllr. Poyzer agreed to post material sent to him.
- e) Cllr. Wilson informed the meeting that the Community Room has been offered to the Doctor's practice if needed to carry out vaccinations. Dr. Hatton will confirm if needed
- f) It was agreed for Cllr. Meyer to be a member of the Flood Alleviation Team.

14. Correspondence: None

15. Councillor's Reports: None

16. Reports from Outside Organisations: None

17. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 7th January 2021 by Internet Conferencing (Zoom)

Signed: Chairman

Date

The meeting closed at 21.30pm