

LOWDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the monthly meeting of Lowdham Parish Council
held by Internet Conferencing (Zoom)
on THURSDAY 4th February 2021 at 6.45 pm**

04/02/21/52

Councillors:

Andrew Coles (L); 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 (L) and four members of the public

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** District Cllr Tim Wendels
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 3. Chairman's Announcements:** None
- 4. Casual Vacancies:** Cllr. Finn confirmed that she has written to residents at Lowdham Grange but is yet to receive a reply.
- 5. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 07 Jan. 2021:** 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:**

Standing orders were suspended at 6.55pm

Two members of the public declared themselves as owners of the laurels planted on the verge at Gunthorpe Road and explained the reasons why they were planted and sought permission to have them retained. Members said it was a highways matter and VIA will make the decision.

Peter Cross updated the Council regarding Flood Alerts during the very wet January and into February and praised the actions of VIA in getting gullies cleared and pipes blocked cleared. He thanked the Clerk and Cllr. Finn for their assistance in arranging equipment for sorting blocked and broken pipes and Cllr. Jackson for his help regarding the flooding at Epperstone Garage. He reported that work on the left bank of the beck is still awaited and would welcome any pressure that council can apply to get this done. He confirmed that water is flowing in the ditch near the cricket pitch. It is high but as yet has not overflowed.

Cllr Andy Coles joins the meeting at 7.05pm

A further member of the public, having written to the Clerk, raised his concern about laurel bushes on Gonalston Lane. He was advised to contact VIA, NCC Highways Department.

Standing orders were reinstated at 7.15pm.

- 7. County Council matters:** These were reported later in the meeting as Cllr Jackson was in another meeting.
- 8. District Council matters:** No matters reported. Cllr. Wendels had sent his apologies.
- 9. Amenities and Village:**
 - i) Roundabout proposals:** A member of the public has contacted the chairman to express unhappiness at the plans. He has been referred to VIA
 - ii) Flood alleviation: EA Update:** A meeting was held last month. It was made known that one reservoir is the most likely option, on the west side of the drive up to Lowdham Grange. An email will be sent to inform local people of the plans. The bridge strengthening will go ahead as a separate job. Cllr Finn stated that the Outline Business Case for the main scheme was due to be completed by March.
 - iii) Ongoing impact of Covid 19:** Thanks were extended to the Clerk for his success in achieving a Covid grant for the Community Building. People are attending for their vaccinations and case figures are coming down. Mr Peter Cross informed the meeting about a scheme called "Cabs for Jobs" running in Southwell. A round trip taking people who have no other way to get to be vaccinated, at a cost of £30. It was agreed to put details on the website.
 - iv) MUGA resurfacing progress report:** The Clerk reported that work has resumed, having been interrupted by the weather.
 - v) Cemetery – Change to rules and regulations:** The Clerk informed the meeting of the changes proposed from the 01 April 2021. These were approved with the addition of the words "or anything of a similar nature".
Cllr. Glazebrook informed the meeting of a vehicle being driven over a grave and anti-social behaviour taking place. After discussing how to prevent it from happening it was agreed that the clerk reports the incident to the police and enquiries be made to have the gates locked from dusk to 8.00am for a short period.

- vi) Mowing contracts from 1st April 2021 to 31 March 2024 – quotations to consider: The Clerk informed members that he had been able to interest 7 contractors, but some were only wishing to quote for the cemetery or sports field only. After discussion, members decided to appoint the contracting arm of Newark and Sherwood District Council to do all three sites, but as the cemetery quote was higher than some of the others, the Clerk agreed to try to negotiate with them a more competitive price.

10. a) Planning Applications:

20/01738/FUL – 47/51 Main Street – amended application – alterations to chemist shop – Do Not Object, subject to the off-white rendering to be limited to the rear.

20/02253//FUL – 10 Epperstone Road – amended application - 4 residential units (re-submission of 20/02024/FUL) – Object – over-intensification of the site.

21/000043/HOUSE – Ox Pastures, Southwell Road – convert garage to home office – Do Not Object

b) Planning Consultation - Gedling Borough Council:

2020/1174 – Timmermans Roses –demolition of commercial buildings & erect 15 x artisan outlets – Comments were made about having effective access plans to manage increased traffic and to having improved drainage to prevent flooding run-off.

11. Finance & Assets:

a) The January payments were authorised.

b) Re-opening of community building: It was agreed to continue with its closure for another month until the Covid 19 rules are relaxed

c) The clerk reported that the section 137 (Ultra Vires) Expenditure limit for 2021-2022 is ££8.41 per electorate. This produces a figure of £17140.

Cllr. Roger Jackson joined the meeting at 8.00pm

7 a) Cllr Roger Jackson joined the meeting and reported on County Council matters:

These which included:

The lowering of the kerb on Station Road. It is hoped to get something done in the future, but a budget is needed.

Talks with a contact at Network Rail are taking place regarding converting some adjacent land to the station into a Car Park.

Blockages and breaks to the pipes at the Epperstone garage area are to be repaired by VIA.

He is trying to get work on the potholes at Lambley Road on to a VIA repair scheme.

He informed the meeting that screens to help cyclists, set on the roundabout, are causing concern to some residents and VIA are investigating the perceived problem.

12. General matters:

a) Free trees: Cllr Stephen Platt confirmed that he is arranging to collect the trees supplied by NSDC. Planting positions are known.

b) Cllr. Platt reminded that the topic of Solar cells for the Community Building be put on a future council agenda.

13. Correspondence:

a) Having received an email from John Harris about 'Walking in Notts', Cllr Platt asked for details to go on the Parish Council's website. The Clerk confirmed he has sent a copy to the editor of the Parish Magazine.

14. Councillor's Reports: None

15. Reports from Outside Organisations: On behalf of the Village Hall committee, Cllr. Glazebrook reported that:

a) There has been anti-social behaviour at the cricket pavilion. Some of the wooden pillars have been damaged by knives which may result in new pillars being required. A lot of screws were removed from the metal fence - now replaced.

b) A large pile of cut branches have appeared in the arboretum. They seem to have been cut from a tree on the bank of the beck that is not on VHPFC land. The VHPFC are trying to ascertain who has put them there as they need to be removed.

16. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 4th March 2021 by Internet Conferencing (Zoom)

Signed: Chairman

Date

The meeting closed at 20.35pm