

LOWDHAM PARISH COUNCIL



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**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of
Lowdham Parish Council held at The Community Building, off Southwell Road, NG14 7PS
on THURSDAY 11 January 2024 at 6.45 pm**

11/01/24/111

Councillors:

Derek Brickell (Vice Chairman); Alison Glazebrook; Paul Harrison (Chairman); Caroline Kew (A);
Stephen Platt; Mike Poyzer (A).

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner; District Councillor Tim Wendels.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Caroline Kew and Mike Poyzer; Minute taker Wendy Fenn
County Cllr. Roger Jackson was unable to attend.
2. **Declarations of Interest:**
Cllr Paul Harrison declared a non-pecuniary interest in Planning Application 24/00038/FUL - The Old Ship Inn
3. **Chairman's announcements:** The Chairman reminded members of the Parish Councillor casual vacancies.
Councillors decided to have a leaflet prepared to stimulate interest and to advertise the Annual Parishioners Meeting – the clerk will enquire whether these can be delivered house to house by the scouts.
The Chairman expressed thanks to an ex-resident who has donated some new items for use by the Flood Action Team.
4. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14 December 2023** were accepted and signed as a true record.
Cllr Derek Brickell reminded the clerk to seek the whereabouts of the street map that was in the Community Room, but no longer displayed.
5. **Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business.** No residents attended.
6. **County Council Matters:**
Cllr. Jackson had sent his apologies and submitted a report advising that the flood alleviation work will delay the planned Lambley Road resurfacing. The clerk was asked to inform him that there are significant road surface issues on Lambley Road between the village and the Grange entrance which are not affected by the flood alleviation work so can be resolved now.
The A612 road resurfacing has now been scheduled for early this year.
A report from the local highway's inspector regarding the poor road surface at Plough Lane is expected.
7. **District Council Matters:** Cllr. Wendels reminded members that NSDC will collect bulky items damaged by the recent floods, without charge.
He updated members that NSDC were seeking a view on proposed changes to the current Public Space Protection Orders.
A resident has asked about tree preservation orders and the NSDC officer has confirmed that for a TPO request to succeed it is necessary to establish that the trees are under threat.
8. **Amenities and Village:**
 - i) Flood alleviation report update: The Chairman commented on the severity of the recent flooding in Lowdham caused by Storm Henk and that the EA were holding a public meeting this evening at the school to provide an update.
FLAG has requested financial support to acquire more substantial pumps and will research what is available.
 - ii) Cricket Pavilion: – No developments.

- iii) Footbridge over the Cocker Beck: - Having determined that the Parish Council is responsible for the two footbridges over the Cocker Beck it was agreed that an inspection should be arranged with a view to undertaking maintenance work and to ensure Health & Safety matters are complied with. Some welding may be necessary.
- iv) Village Signage – Public Space Protection Order – Dogs - members agreed unanimously that the orders should confirm that no dogs be permitted in the enclosed children’s play parks, but the “no dogs” restrictions elsewhere to be eased to “dogs permitted on a lead”.
- v) Lowdham Environment Group Update – Social media support staff recruitment: It was confirmed that Mr Dermot Daly has been recruited to support the clerk and part of his responsibilities will include the work of this group.
- vi) VH&PFC Playground inspection: A copy of the Annual inspection report has been received which does not disclose any urgent repairs are necessary at this time.

9. Planning Applications:

Subsequently received Planning Application 24/00038/FUL - The Old Ship Inn – Erection of timber pergola and new fencing - the application was received that afternoon - it was decided to consider this application at the February meeting.

10. Recent District Council Decisions: None

11. Finance & Assets

- a) December Payments: These were approved.
- b) Community Building Extension Project – The Chairman opened the envelope containing the tenders received and read out the bid details to the members. After discussion, it was agreed unanimously to award the contract to Spencer Construction of Lambley. The Clerk will advise them and notify Building Control. *Cllr Tim Wendels left the meeting.*
- c) Mowing Contract 2024 -27 – members decided to accept the quotations from NSDC with whom the council has a good working relationship. A meeting will be arranged with them to agree details of the work to be done.
- d) Community Grant Scheme: Cocker Beck pathway: The NSDC £2500 Grant is still available, but the planned work may not now be necessary following the late summer work done by the Environment Agency. Cllr Paul Harrison agreed to look at the area to see whether any further work is necessary.
- e) Budget 2024/25: Members considered the spending plans for 2024/25 and agreed to maintain an unchanged precept.

12. Annual Parishioners Meeting – Wednesday 17 April 2024 – 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

13. General Matters: None.

14. Councillors’ Reports: No reports.

15. Reports from Outside Organisations: No reports.

16. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 01 February 2024

The meeting closed at 09.24pm

Signed: Chairman

Date