

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 07 March 2024 at 6.45 pm

07/03/24/115

Councillors:

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

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner; Minute taker Wendy Fenn and Assistant Dermot Daly.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** None, but County Cllr. Roger Jackson and District Cllr. Tim Wendels apologised as unable to attend.
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** Both Cllrs. Harrison and Glazebrook declared an interest in the Planning Applications 24-00141-HOUSE and 24-00142-LBC - Station House. In addition, Cllr. Glazebrook declared an interest in the Planning Application 24-00248-FUL - St Mary's Church. They left the meeting whilst these items were discussed.
- 3. Chairman's announcements:** The Chairman reminded members of the Parish Councillor Casual Vacancies.
- 4. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 1st February 2024** were accepted and signed as a true record.
- 5. Richard C. Lloyd – Community Protection Officer – Public Protection – NSDC:** Mr. Lloyd introduced himself and explained that Lowdham is included in the area he is allocated to cover and his role is to visit and go around the village talking to people to find out if there are any public protection issues he can help with - for example, anti-social behaviour, provision of aqua sacs, dog fouling. He is available during normal working hours. Cards with his contact details will soon be available at the Community Building, but he can also be contacted through NSDC.
Standing orders were suspended at 6.57pm
- 6. Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business.** Two residents attended. The first resident wished to enquire if a path could be laid to lead up to the top bench in the cemetery where there is a view of Lowdham. The resident was thanked for the enquiry which was noted and will be put as an agenda item at the next meeting. The second resident, a Trustee of FLAG, reported on the recent flooding events and the gratitude felt towards all the volunteers who had turned out in all conditions to clear silt etc. Unfortunately, a number of homes had been flooded and it is hoped that the reservoir flood alleviation scheme once completed will improve the situation. He confirmed that three applications for grants had been submitted for consideration at this meeting.
Standing orders were reinstated at 7.05pm
- 7. County Council Matters:** Apologies had been received from Cllr. Jackson. Members were reminded that he has confirmed that the road surface repair work to the A612 and Lambley Road will be done in the near future.
- 8. District Council Matters:** Apologies had been received from Cllr. Wendels. Cllr. Brickell highlighted that delivery of kerbside glass collection bins to residents had commenced this week.
- 9. Amenities and Village:**
 - i) Roundabouts** – Details of the Compulsory Purchase Order 2022 have been issued by Notts County Council, who is proposing to make improvements to the five junctions along A614/A6097, beginning from the north. The start date for Lowdham Roundabout is not known. Members continued to express concern about maintaining traffic flow during the works.
 - ii) Flood Alleviation:** Progress is being made with the creation of the Reservoir on Lambley Road. Some residents have expressed disappointment about the need for some tree removal on the Lowdham Grange drive.
 - iii) Cricket Pavilion** – No developments: the Cricket Club plan to attend the next meeting with details of their proposals.
 - iv) Footbridges over the Cocker Beck** – From the structural survey investigation, it was determined that there has been some erosion around the abutments on the Village Hall bridge, but the main issue is with the deterioration of the metal wing railings on both this and the Brookside bridge. All 8 wings will need to be replaced. The use of galvanised material has been recommended for the repair work. The bridges will have to close while the work is being done. Once the water level has receded, another inspection is to take place to examine underneath both bridges.
 - v) Village Signage** – The Clerk confirmed signage has been prepared and will be collected by the installer. Cllr. Glazebrook will meet with the installer to advise where the signs are to be sited.
 - vi) Dermot Daly** - Dermot Daly has joined the staff to assist the Clerk and initially is focusing on improving communications for the Parish Council. He outlined ideas for social media (Facebook and website). There are three main threads i) to promote Casual Council Vacancies ii) to ensure the website is up to date with required documents and iii) to focus on appealing to young people by

modernising the methods of communication. He asked that Councillors let him have items to be included. He proposes to have newsworthy items on the media and will make a start to improve the appearance of the site.

vii) Lowdham Environment Group: A meeting is to be held with Mr. Daly to decide what to add to Facebook and website.

viii) Best Kept Village: It was agreed for the Clerk to complete the entry form.

ix) The Clerk reported that a gateway village sign appeared to have been pulled out and left in the road. VIA have picked it up and the installers will collect it from their Gamston depot and reinstate.

x) Village Hall Playground – Frequency of play equipment inspections was discussed. The clerk was asked to get a quote for 11 monthly visits and the Annual inspection.

xi) Grant Applications – FLAG have submitted three applications for support. After discussion, members agreed unanimously to approve the requests. Cllr. Platt proposed a vote of thanks to the FLAG volunteers and it was agreed unanimously that the volunteers be thanked formally for their work.

10. Planning Applications:

24-00066-HOUSE - 10 Lime Tree Gardens - Proposed single storey extension at the rear of the property - DO NOT OBJECT

24-00115-HOUSE - Cliff Mill House, Southwell Road - New carport with attached shed and garden equipment shed - DO NOT OBJECT

24-00124-HOUSE - 2 Brookside - proposed single storey extension. DO NOT OBJECT

24-00141-HOUSE - Station House - raise parapet roof and add two air source heat pumps to flat roof to rear of property. - DO NOT OBJECT

24-00142-LBC - Station House - raise parapet roof and add two air source heat pumps to flat roof to rear of property. (Listed Building Consent) - DO NOT OBJECT

24-00248-FUL - St Mary's Church - Replacement wooden shed - DO NOT OBJECT

24-00386-HOUSE - 8 Ton Lane - Removal of existing garage door and installation of bay window - DO NOT OBJECT

23-02209/FUL - 8 Longmoor Avenue - Proposed replacement dwelling - DO NOT OBJECT

11. Recent District Council Decisions:

23/01650/HOUSE - 31 Ridge Hill - Proposed front and rear extension - Refuse permission.

24/00038/FUL - The Old Ship Inn - Erection of timber pergola - Grant permission.

24/00274/TPO - 10 Hill Syke - Undertake works to trees - Grant works.

12. Finance & Assets

a) February Payments: These were approved.

b) Community Building Extension Project: Work is to start from 8th April for 8 weeks. The Clerk has informed the groups who use the Community Building as it will impact on some.

c) Create Serving Hatch in Kitchen - Users have suggested a hatch be created between the kitchen and the main room. It was agreed to enquire of the extension builder how it could work and request a quote.

d) Cemetery fees were considered and new rates agreed from 01 April 2024.

e) Community Room charges were considered and new rates agreed from 01 April 2024.

13. Annual Parishioners Meeting – Wednesday 17 April 2024 – 7.30pm at the Village Hall. A supply of leaflets/posters will be with the Scouts next week for delivery to all residents.

14. General Matters:

i) The second edition of Lengthsman Local newsletter from VIA has been received.

ii) For discussion at the next meeting: The Clerk advised the Councillors of quotations received for work needed at the MUGA to replace 2 goal posts and basketball backboards. Quotations to sweep clean the courts are being sought.

iii) Cllr. Platt enquired about the trees that are to replace the diseased Ash trees from the area of the cenotaph. The Clerk confirmed that it had been proposed for the replacements to be mature walnut trees.

iv) Cllr. Platt reminded members of NCC request that the net zero survey to be done by 02 April 2024. It was agreed he would complete on behalf of Council.

v) Cllr. Platt requested approval for the LEG members to attend a Biodiversity training course on the 10 April 2024 at a cost of £45 per person. Approval was given. This item to be added to May's agenda.

15. Councillors' Reports: Cllr. Platt raised the matter of his suggestion at the last meeting to trial an area that is left unsprayed with the weedkiller glyphosate. It was confirmed that the agreed grounds maintenance contract had been changed to discourage the use of the weedkiller and to avoid its use where possible.

It was agreed that this topic could be raised at the Annual Parishioners Meeting under Open Forum.

16. Reports from Outside Organisations:

Cllr. Glazebrook highlighted that a grant application is to be submitted by VHPFC for guttering for the barn.

17. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 4th April 2024

The meeting closed at 08.52pm

Signed: Chairman

Date