

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



www.lowdham-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of
Lowdham Parish Council held at The Community Building, off Southwell Road, NG14 7PS on
THURSDAY 03 October 2024 at 6.45 pm

03/10/24/127

Councillors

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

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner; Communications Officer Dermot Daly, County Cllr. Roger Jackson; District Cllr. Tim Wendels and 3 members of the public

1. **Apologies for Absence:** None.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** The Chairman declared an interest in planning application 24/01444/HOUSE
3. **Chairman's announcements:** There are still four Casual Parish Councillor vacancies; a leaflet is being finalised to advertise the positions and to go on social media – the Communications Officer is to précis.
4. **Minutes of the Council meeting held on 05 September 2024** were approved and signed. 6.52pm Standing orders were suspended
5. **Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business:**
NSDC has proposed relocating Power Station to Castle House, Newark at a cost of £81,000. There is a public consultation. It was reported that footpath signs were missing from Neighbours Lane and Mount Pleasant. The sign at Neighbours Lane is not in fact missing but is hidden by an overgrown hedge - this has already been reported to NCC. Clerk to report missing signs at Mount Pleasant to NCC Rights of Way Team. County Cllr Jackson arrived at 7.17pm.
It was reported that at the rear of the Pharmacy there is a vehicle charging cable passing through a temporary hole in the fence, taking up two parking spaces. A letter from the Village Hall & Playing Fields Committee to the proprietor has not been answered. Cllr Paul Harrison has undertaken to have an informal talk with the proprietor. 7.01pm Standing Orders were reinstated
6. **County Council Matters:**
Cllr Jackson informed the meeting that the Budget process is underway; they are overspent on adults/social care and children/young people departments. There is no news on the improvement plans for the roundabout.
7. **District Council Matters:**
Cllr Wendels announced the launch of the second round of the Community Grants Scheme, which is for community groups (not Parish Council), with a deadline of 28th October; the terms for applications can be found on the Newark & Sherwood District Council website; grants are up to £20,000.
There was a question raised about some barns being built on Nottingham Road in green belt – the response was that they are covered under agricultural permitted development rights.
There was an issue raised from a Caythorpe resident about an OpenReach communications pole being erected outside a property on Caythorpe Road - it is covered under permitted development rights needing 28-day notice to Newark & Sherwood District Council Planning department. Nobody had consulted with owner of property adjacent. There are concerns over an adjacent tree with a TPO in ownership of this property - the Tree Officer is aware of the situation.
8. **Amenities and Village:**
 - i) Roundabout – No update.
 - ii) Flood alleviation – progress report: A complaint letter to MP Michelle Welsh from a member of the public has suggested that the Parish Council should take part in a meeting about delays in the project delivery. The Chair will confirm attendance. The drains on Main Street are also an issue with the lack of capacity.
 - iii) Lowdham Cricket Club: The overspill facility is not expected to be needed when the alleviation scheme is in place (according to a letter sent by the Environment Agency to the Cricket Club dated June 2024). The overspill valve is not intended to be maintained by the Environment Agency going forward. The letter from EA to the Cricket Club has recently been received by the PC. The County Councillor was provided with a copy of this communication at the meeting. The Clerk was asked to write to the Cricket Club (cc VHPFC) to note the content of the Environment Agency letter, express support and ask them what approach they are now going to take in response to the Environment Agency's letter with regards to the cricket pavilion. *District and County Cllrs left the meeting.*
 - iv) Lowdham Environment Group update: little to no response from most environmental based groups.
An organisation called Redavons has contacted the Parish Council and Cllr Mike Poyzer has spoken to them. They acquire parcels of land for tree growing and are offering a full audit for up to £100,000 – a talk can be given

to the village as to what individuals can do, such as improvements for wildlife and planting in private parcels of land. A Kite mark can be awarded to properties that act in a way that is conducive to wildlife. The notice for this talk can be combined with that of Christmas events. It was agreed to use the Scouts to circulate the information leaflet as part of the allotted Environmental grant. Redavons can initially present to the Parish Council.

v) Christmas 2024: Leisure Lights will be used to recondition the lights and to ensure they are lit at the appropriate times - Cllr Poyzer will engage with the contractor. Contributions will be sought toward the installation of the small street Christmas Trees and lights to the agreed level of £30 – the Clerk is to supply a donation letter to Cllr Kew to identify the volume of demand. The appropriate form, for the temporary siting of the trees, is to be sourced by the Clerk.

vi) Francklin Road Car Park – Long-term car parking issue. The 10-year lease expires 31 March 2025 and Parish Clerk is to seek an extension agreement from Newark and Sherwood District Council and also to ask whether funding would be available to support provision of an entrance height barrier (if a barrier is needed) and seek guidance on the options for managing the car park (including enforcement).

9. Planning Applications:

- **24/01122/FUL** – Land at Grove Farm - Demolish existing open sided agricultural store and weighbridge building and erect a replacement agricultural unit and weighbridge buildings, erection of a 1.8M High fencing and security gates: This application was not considered as it is being withdrawn to be re-presented on another date.
- **24/01464/ADV** - Grove Farm - New sign to grassed area of the farm entrance: No objection – Highways to advise.
- **24/01498/HOUSE** - 21 Lambley Road - Erection of single storey conservatory to the rear: No objection.
- **24/01583/HOUSE**- Lowdham Mill, Epperstone Road - Retention of single storey WC extension and conservatory – No Objection
- **24/01584/LBC** - Lowdham Mill, Epperstone Road - Retention of single storey WC extension and conservatory – No Objection
- **24/00916/HOUSE** – 20 The Green – Creation of dormers & gable roof. Single storey side extension - No objection.
Chair left the meeting; Vice Chair took control of the meeting.
- **24/01589/LDCE** – 48B Main Street – Unable to give a view as to use as garden.
- **24/01444/HOUSE** - 48B Main Street - Single storey rear extension for swimming pool. Conversion of day room to two changing rooms: No objection.
Chair rejoined the meeting and Vice Chair handed back control of the meeting.

10. Planning Decisions:

- **24-01236-LDCE** - Cliff Mill - Use of land for residential purposes - Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing)
- **24-01484-NMA** - 31 Ridge Hill - Amendment to remove first floor rear window and replace with feature cedar cladding material effect - further planning application required

11. Finance and Assets:

- a. September payments were approved.
 - b) Budget – half year review: The Parish Council is in a good position on financial balances with further income due.
 - c) 2023/24 External Audit Report: Approved, subject to adjustments requested when reporting next year.
- a. Bridge painting: Quotes are being obtained. Initial findings are that there is a range of costs, and the Clerk will check the specifications before proceeding.
 - b. Community Building Signage: signage delivery was delayed, but now ready for installation.
 - c. Solar panels – progress report: consideration of installation at the Village Hall was reviewed and Cllr Poyzer will discuss with Richard Bowler, Treasurer of the Village Hall & Playing Fields Committee.

12. General Matters:

- Bio-diversity survey proposal and adoption of policy document: The Lowdham PC appropriate document was submitted by the Chair and approved; advice will now be sought on creating an action plan.
- WaterPlus have issued an invoice for the Community Building that disclosed a severe water leak in the community building wc area. This has now been repaired.
- RVSG has sent an unsolicited membership invoice. The Clerk is making enquiries.

13. Councillors' Reports:

- Remembrance Sunday service at War Memorial - 10am on 10th November - Cllr Glazebrook will lay PC wreath.
- There is a water leak in the front car park of the village hall - waiting for Severn Trent to repair.
- Some damaged dog bins at the Village Hall are being replaced by the PC.
- Electric Blanket testing is to take place at specific locations in the area. Notices are to be displayed.

14. Reports from Outside Organisations: None.

15. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 07 November 2024

The Chairman moved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 16 on the grounds that it involves the likely discussion of exempt information defined in Section 1 of the public (Admission to meetings) Act 1960.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

16. Councillors Meeting – in camera

Signed: Chairman

Date