

South Lopham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at Valley Farm, Low Common.
Thursday 6th November 2014 7.30pm

1 Chairman's address.

JC reported on his attendance at the NALC Area meeting in Thetford on 4 November. The main topics were the pre launch update on Breckland Council's consultation on the new Local Plan and Highways Parish Partnership Scheme.

2 To record attendance and consider the acceptance of apologies for absence.

Present:

Council Members: John Crisp (JC) (Chairman)
Jim Pursehouse (JP)
Tim Frizzell (TF)

Clerk: Caroline Phillips (CAP)

Members of the public: Mr N Martin from the White Horse Public House and Mr & Mrs S Dilloway item 8a Planning.

Apologies were received from S Martin, D Huggins, S Reynolds, R Webb.

3 To record declarations of interests from members in any item to be discussed.

TF item 6e, quote for Primrose Lane clearance.

4 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting (4 September 2014).

The meeting notes were unanimously approved.

5 To report on matters arising from the Minutes (other than those listed separately on the Agenda).

CP has found where to send donations for the 2013 & 2014 wreaths. JC will be in attendance to lay the 2014 wreath.

JC & RW will meet to erect a new footpath finger post near the church.

6 To receive and approve the Financial Report, the statement of current balances and to consider the following accounts for approval or ratification.

Opening balance of £2800.28, uncleared cheques £390.17, precept payment £1528.83, closing balance as at 30/09/2014 £3938.94 **GCP** to liaise with SM to ensure finances are separately scrutinised.

a) Lophams' News October & November 2014 (2x£22) £44, unanimously approved.

b) North Lopham Parish Council £40.00 cutting Primrose Lane unanimously approved.

Approval was also given to splitting future costs (less VAT) as and when these arise.

c) Royal British Legion poppy donation £40.00 (2013 & 2014), unanimously approved.

d) North Lopham Parish Council share of cost for traffic sign £60.27, unanimously approved.

e) Discuss and approve the P Frizzell quotation for clearance of Primrose Lane, approved but is subject to approval of a 50:50 share of cost with North Lopham Parish Council at their November meeting. NB since the meeting this item has since been "held" pending further investigation of unlawful traffic using the lane.

7 Draft budget for 2015/16 precept. The meeting was presented with a draft budget which had been discussed outside the meeting by the Responsible Financial officer and SM. This was approved by the meeting in principle and is subject to final approval at the next meeting. The agreed strategy is to aim for a nil increase in our precept request.

8 To receive reports from Councillors on the following;

- a) Planning – The 3 member's of the public joined the meeting. Mr N Martin from the White Horse Public House spoke to the meeting about his need for retrospective planning permission for his marquee, he explained the use of the marquee and asked for this application to be considered favourably. Two member's of the public came to show support for Mr Martin. If the planning application is successful Mr Martin intends to install heating

so the marquee may be used by families over the winter months. JC explained he was not at liberty to influence the councillors on their planning views but he commended the Landlord for the improved appearance of the gardens and car park area.

CAP confirmed the information she had circulated by email, that works at Noddle Farms work were being carried out using “permitted development” planning rules for redundant agricultural buildings.

SM provided a written report, which was read to the meeting. This gave an update on the planning approval for 2 agricultural barns at Pooley St and information that the conversion of redundant agricultural barns at Noddle Farm came under recently revised permitted development rules. The report also asked that land owners/households maintain their hedges/over hanging branches alongside highways and footpaths.

- b) Highways – JP reported on the meeting held with Highways (Gary Overland) where he and the Chairman from North Lopham Parish Council had toured both villages identifying outstanding works and impressing on Highways the need to address speeding traffic. A number of issues have been resolved with some of the remainder being undertaken shortly.
- Flooding drain on A1066 cleared.
 - Damage to posts by War Memorial, target 2 weeks for repairs.
 - Damaged bridge on Low Common along with a query on whether this bridge should have a weight restriction?
 - Broken drain outside Weavers. Flashing speed sign broken. Village welcome sign broken.
 - Over hanging trees at Lime Tree Farm.
 - Over hanging branches/trees along Brick Kiln Lane.
 - Discussion about the possibility of a footpath alongside Pansthorne JC will investigate costs and how to fund such a project.
 - Whether there is any support for a speed-watch scheme?

There was also discussion about the speed of traffic along the A1066 and how best to persuade Highways to allow the 30mph signs to be moved closer to Diss. A draft proposal from SR has been passed to the Chairman JC for further consideration.

- c) Community – no report. Mrs Dilloway asked whether there were any regulations about garden bonfires. JC confirmed bonfires were allowed but the lighting of them must not constitute a nuisance. JC will include a short note on this in the Cock Crow.
- d) Footpaths – RW to contact landowners to pursue cutting of undergrowth on footpaths and over hanging hedges. JC will also include a note in the Cock Crow reminding households/landowners to ensure hedges are trimmed and not over-hanging roads/footpaths.
- e) Works – TF had cleaned bus shelter and weeded war memorial.

9 Other Reports

- a. Parish Website - SR will chase NALC over the status of a replacement hosting contract .
- b. Lophams' Society RC. No report.

10 **To consider other items of correspondence** – no other items.

11 **To transact Any Other Business and receive suggestions for items to be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.**

12 **Date and time of next meeting**

8 January 2015

5 March 2015

7 May 2015

Signed..... John Crisp, Chairman

Date: