

South Lopham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at Valley Farm, Low Common.
Tuesday 14th January 2020 7.30pm

- 1 **Chairman's Opening remarks** Chairman opened the meeting and wished everyone a happy new year.
- 2 **To record attendance and consider the acceptance of apologies for absence.**
Present:
Council Members:
 - John Crisp (JC)
 - Simon Puttock (SP)
 - Sarah Martin (SM)
 - Rob Webb (RW)
 - Jim Pursehouse (JP)
 - Caroline Phillips (CAP) Clerk
 - Gary Phillips Responsible Financial Officer items 7&8
 - Apologies from S Reynolds, Anne Shipperlee & Marion Chapman Allen
- 3 **To record declarations of interests from members in any item to be discussed.**
None
- 4 **To approve the Minutes of the last meeting (November 2019).**
The meeting notes were unanimously approved.
- 5 **To report on matters arising from the Minutes (other than those listed separately on the Agenda)**
S Askew had approved the purchase of 2 sets of bin stickers which the Clerk had ordered.
- 6 **Suffolk Wildlife Trust lease** – the small piece of land was discussed & it was agreed SM would speak to the Fuel Allotment Trust and see whether it might be possible to include this piece of land in with their other leases for the Little and Great fens which are also retained by the parish. It was requested that the council be given sight of the other leases so they may better understand the current position. SM to obtain copies of leases and circulate to the council. Clerk mentioned that Peter Coster had telephoned asking about the lease and the Clerk had suggested he contact SM.
- 7 **To receive and approve the Financial Report, the statement of current balances and consider the following accounts for approval or ratification.**
 Opening balance of £4862.07 at 14/01/2020 payments £620.40, carry forward £4241.67 at 05/11/19; reported and noted.
 - a. Lophams' News Dec 2019 & Jan 2020 (2x£30.20) £60.40, unanimously approved.
 - b. Clerk's salary Oct-Dec 2019 £420.00. (CAP £336.00 HMRC £84.00) unanimously approved
 - c. Printer cartridges £39.98 unanimously approved
 - d. Bin Stickers to be reimbursed by S Askew/Breckland, Clerk has purchased on PC's behalf £199.98 unanimously approved
- 8 **Approve Precept for 2020-2021** GCP presented the forecast for the current year and recommended a similar budget for 2020-2021. GCP provided up-to-date figures for the current year along with budget and precept schedules for next year. After discussion it was agreed we would undertake the war memorial refurbishment in the coming financial year as we had not managed to get this done in the current year. Berton and Woods had provided a very competitive estimate £1560.00 inc Vat and as they had previously worked on the war memorial it was agreed to award them the work. Clerk to advise. It was requested that JC make his best endeavours to get the application for a war memorial grant submitted as an urgent task. If no grant was forthcoming it would mean using our reserves. The precept was approved as £3895.00 GCP to submit to Breckland and the budget as £5503.00. Spreadsheets are available

showing the detailed breakdown if required.

9 To receive reports from Councillors on the following;

- a. Planning SM -Tree work at The Court, Driftway Farm retrospective planning required for a cattery and carpentry business as a result of a planning infringement, SP asked if this was resulting from a complaint? Reply received iro of letter sent about field on Brick Kiln Lane, SM to draft a response as council unaware what a mix of leisure and agriculture actually means in practice.
- b. Highways AS – letters to be sent regarding overhanging trees. Drains on A1066 outside pub and towards Diss have been cleared, road-side repairs made but appear temporary. Septic tank problem with outflow on verge from Pub was being monitored pending a more permanent solution.
- c. Community JP – Litter pick for April planned 19/4 2 hours commencing 10am.
- d. Footpaths RW. Footpaths appear to be more actively in use, path 19 cleared at rear of Rosebrook, now known as the Thatch Cottage. Path 16 Beech Tree Farm and E Logsdail some clearance work has been requested. A letter will be sent to the land-owner of Walnut Tree Farm for path 20. Path 27 requires investigation as some string/rope/wire may be present RW to review. RW liaising with Frizzell to see if work could be undertaken on path 10 and at what cost. RW will respond to a request from J Brown about tree planting, as we do not own any land the council can only plant trees if landowners are in agreement.
- e. Works & Speed watch SP – police activity on Church Road and Redgrave Road as a result of our speed-watch team and direct request at SNAP.
- f. Parish Website SR Clerk has requested some tidying up of website and some new headings.
- g. SAM 2. Machine is currently in-active and JC will take to Dereham for repairs/investigation of problem.

10 To consider other items of correspondence. None

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/s 3 March 2020

Signed..... John Crisp, Chairman

Date: