

NORTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of North Lopham Parish Council AGM held at 7.30 on Wednesday,
11th May 2016 at The Mess, St Andrews School, North Lopham

1. David Hammond and Jan Tate stood down as Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Proposal for David Hammond to stand as chair was made by Councillor McManus and seconded by Councillor Dawn Eagle.

Proposals for Jan Tate to stand as Vice Chairman was made by Councillor Mike Tipple and seconded by Councillor Dawn Eagle

Attendance and apologies

Present were: David Hammond (Chair) Julie Crossley (Clerk), Mick McManus, Dawn Eagles, Jan Tate, Mike Tipple.

3 members of the public attended including Marion Chapman Allen

Apologies received from

William Nunn
Robert Carley

No declarations of interest were made

Minutes from May 15 AGM and 9th March 2016 were approved and signed

2. **DH** read his Chairman's report setting out what had been achieved over the previous year. He mentioned that for information of the public the Parish Council will always act wherever possible on problems that are raised, will identify areas that need improvement but above all will always endeavour to make the community a better and safer place to live.

In July/Aug 2015 Crown Milling was visited concerning the HGV's coming through the village. Nigel Armes (Transport Director) agreed to write to all their drivers asking them not to exceed a speed of not more than at 25 mph for which in the main they have complied. The subcontractors were also written to and subsequently a letter was sent to Crown Milling for their valued co-operation.

MT commented on a number of vehicles driving quite dangerously and whilst unacceptable there will always be bad drivers.

Emails were sent to NCC, the police and Elizabeth Truss following a BBC programme where nationally it had been reported that HGV's were causing problems in 100's of villages throughout the United Kingdom. Ms Truss had responded sympathetically that she would attend any public meeting if required. **DH** advised he and **JT** had attended a meeting at East Harling Parish Council where a new Parish Council forum was being formed to address major issues in the locality which he felt was a good forum for discussion. **MCA** was aware of the group. Kate Filby the Clerk at E.harling had copied her into the minutes and she agreed this was a good idea as there is strength in numbers

MCA advised that there had been a speed camera set up between Garboldisham and Roudham for 2 days and there is going to be a trial to re routing some of the HGVs provided the haulage companies do not object. One of the firms has been spoken to and they have confirmed they would support the ban.

DH reported that community speedwatch recruiting had begun. Laurie Bradley had undertaken further research into the Neighbourhood Plan coupled with the Local Plan. The telephone box had been purchased for £1 and is a grade II listed building.

Sept/Oct 2015

At the north end of the village new replacement 30 mph signs had been erected and a Slow signs painted on the road on the approach from Kenninghall. The County village sign was relocated and is now sited by the 30mph. Concern had been raised over legality of the small 30 mph repeater signs by Mr Rob Gerrett.

Letters were sent to all residents about making a pledge for £20 or more for the final piece of footpath on the west side of The Green to Harling Rd junction. The total cost of this was confirmed to be £13,000 including moving a telegraph pole.

Mike Tipple was elected onto the Council. Lee Baker resigned as editor of the Newsletter.

Nov/December 2015

Lee Baker resigned as editor of the Newsletter.

The telephone box was refurbished. A defibrillator installed. Thanks to George and Angie at the Kings Head.

Total pledges for the proposed footpath were thought to be in the region of at least £1.5k.

The NCC Parish Partnership grant was applied for, to cover 50% of the total cost of the footpath and the Parish council were advised by **MCA** to apply to BDC for small match funding grant in the sum of £4,000.

Laurie Bradley drew up a statement for the proposed Neighbourhood plan. William Nunn was elected onto the Council.

A number of 30 mph repeater signs were re sited/installed and are now Road Traffic Act compliant

Concerns were raised about the commitment of community speedwatch and its continued operation. .

A member of the public voiced concern about Broadband speed and contact would be made by BT.

Councillors **JT** and **MM** were thanked for the work done in the churchyard and round The Mere. Richard and Jenny Vere were also thanked for their superb organisation and school participation on Remembrance Day.

Jan/Feb 2016

2 new broadband boxes were installed by the Water tower and in The Street but their operation probably will not take place for a few months.

The defibrillator was put into operation and awareness training has now taken place.

Community Speedwatch was relaunched with 10 volunteers with one other signed up and waiting for police clearance. Further volunteers are always welcome.

Standing water in Tanns Lane is an on going problem. **DH** has liaised with Graham West to try and help resolve this. A resident has been pumping water from his property into the lane. The

Highway Agency stated this is illegal and **DH** visited the resident and suggested contact be made with Anglia Water or Environmental services.

Overhanging hedges continue to be a problem, Gary Overland from NCC has advised he will write to the 2 main offenders.

March/April 2016

The Information Board is now installed in the telephone box, The cost of this was covered by generous donations from Jan Tate, David Hammond Tony Osler and Angie and George from the Kings Head.

The Footpath pledges finally amounted to £1870. The Council voiced their sincere thanks to all who donated. A successful grant from NCC to the sum of £6500 was confirmed.

This years open village AGM was abandoned due to lack of support. To be reviewed next year.

The village clean up is set for the 14th May 2016. Angie and George will provide refreshments afterwards.

A letter had been sent to the school concerning dangerous parking by parents on bend outside the school. The Head teachers response of the 3rd May was read out and she is doing what she can to try and prevent this potentially dangerous situation.

DH gave personal thanks to her excellent work as Clerk over past 12 months and to all councillors for their continued good support.

DH asked **MCA** whether we might lose the Crossing Lady but this is a NCC issue.

DH then advised the meeting about the BDC match funding and that this had initially been turned down but was approved on re assessment. **MCA** was thanked for her support on this vital issue.

Once the funding has been received we will have to wait for the NCC to undertake the work but this is unlikely to be before the end of 2016 early 2017.

A brief discussion was held regarding the possibilities of providing a footpath to the village hall following numerous suggestions by the community so that villagers and in particular children can have access not only to the village hall but to the playing field which is the only Open Space that the village has. **DH** to enquire with the NCC Highways who owns the verge.

The Chairman was thanked for all of his hard work throughout the previous year.

3. Increase in cost of newsletter. Although approved at last meeting **JC** advised that once the invoices had been received the increase had been £10 per month not £2,50 per month but there had been no increase for some years and a new printer had been hired,

MT approved the increase and this was seconded by **JT**.

4. **JLC** advised that she had been informed that sadly the LOHP had exhausted their grant and were looking to raise further funds.

5. Local plan **JLC** queried with **MCA** about a further local plan consultation. **MCA** advised this is likely to be over the summer June/July. There would be an opportunity to attend an open day probably at Shropham Village Hall and it was important that the Parish Council and residents attended to see what was being proposed. A further detailed document would be received and **MCA** advised it was important that the parish council consider the proposals and comment on sites specific to the village and go to the consultation otherwise BDC will presume that there are no

