

**NORTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of North Lopham Parish Council meeting held at 7.30 on Wednesday**  
**11<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at The Mess, St Andrews School, North Lopham**

**Attendance and apologies**

Present were: David Hammond (Chairman) Jan Tate (Vice Chair) Julie Crossley (Clerk), Dawn Eagles, William Nunn, Mike Tipple, Mick McManus  
Robert Carley and Marian Chapman Allen (BDC) sent apologies  
4 members of the public attended

Declarations of interest were made by Mick McManus re his planning application

9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 Minutes were approved and signed by Councillor Mick McManus it was noted his name had been missed of the previous meetings minutes.

**1. Matters Arising**

**a. Sec 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981**

NCC have made the Order in respect of (NL Restricted byway No 4) and advised that they would take over the maintenance of the lane but currently they do not have the funds to do this. **DH** stated that the PC would continue to maintain the path but only to footpath status. This only applies to Jubilee Lane, driving a car would be an offence but you can take a horse or bicycle along there.

**b. Better Broadband November 2016 report**

**JLC** noted she had received this report and if anyone wished further information they should contact her.

It was noted it can be slow in certain parts of the village.

**c. Primrose Lane**

Vote was put re Primrose Lane re the shared cost of cutting with SLPC. Agreed unanimously. £200 per annum plus VAT.

**d. Precept**

Discussion was raised about the letchmere and replacement of the surrounding fence and signs **DH** and other members of the PC felt they could do some of the work themselves to lessen the cost.

This was the only potential project.

Discussion about whether or not there should be an increase in the Precept.

It was unanimously agreed that the precept should not be increased this year

**e. NLPC Crossing Patrol**

**DH** updated meeting re the protest by parents and school against losing the crossing patrol. and reasons why the crossing patrol should remain **DH** conducted a survey which was contrary to one carried out by Breckland Council i.e. minimal heavy traffic. Where in fact it was very heavy between 08.15 and 09.00. EDP attended the protest which they subsequently reported on. The PC has made NCC of our strenuous opposition to this move. As yet no decision has been made. A member of the public stated that she only allowed her child to walk to school purely because there is a school crossing patrol

## **f. Donations**

Requests were received from AGE UK and Norfolk Accident Rescue Service (Paramedics) A discussion took place and it was unanimously agreed to donate £50 to NARS.

**WM** did note that Local and National Council do get these requests. Is it proper to use local resident's taxes to pay for charitable events? It was decided that no donation would be made to AGE UK but the small donation proceed to NARS as it was felt that the NHS and ancillary services are under great pressure at the moment.

## **g. Kenninghall PC and Crown Milling**

**DH** stated that he had attended Kenninghall PC meeting in December where the board from the new owners of Crown, Cranswick had been present. There was a lot of local anger regarding HGV traffic to and from Crown and also the site at Ash Tree Farm. Concern was expressed re damage done by the lorries down Heath Road, speed of traffic was also raised. Cranswick are writing to all drivers to reduce speed to 20mph. **DH** mentioned the negative impact on North and South Lopham. Cranswick propose to expand and **DH** suggested they look at the infrastructure with possibly a private road cutting out North and South Lopham. This they are of a mind to consider. To date Crown have complied with speed through the village. **DH** also suggested a one way traffic system with the the empty Lorries going through Garboldisham sending the full Lorries back through North Lopham thus reducing the number of noisy empty lorries.

**WM** felt BDR might be a bigger problem or the straw plant burning at Snetterton and there may be an increase in that type of traffic.

**MT** felt that the traffic flow had decreased and that it had to be accepted that this was a working rural village. **DH** stated that the issue was striking a balance between the village community and further expansion by Cranswick which is proposed.

**Mmc** was concerned about traffic been directed to Garboldisham and creating a bottle neck at the Fox junction.

## **h. Parish Plan**

In November Laurie Bradley suggested we move toward a Parish Plan rather than a Neighbourhood Plan. He has done quite a lot of work on this over the past year. Further parishioners have come forward to assist with this and **DH** is happy to chair a committee. Laurie had provided a statement which had been circulated to the PC. Leo Verhaag in attendance suggested a village design statement, this could be community led rather than PC led. To include building over past 10 years, plus assets etc. **DH** has also approached other members of the public who may be useful on this forum. Parish Plan can include anything relevant to the village and how the village might develop in the future. The Council were asked if they form a subcommittee and move forward to a Parish Plan at this stage. **WM** had no difficulty with the parish putting the plan together but would like to know what the worth of this would be so far as Breckland is concerned and whether they would adopt such a plan. He will make enquiries. **DH** asked the PC if they were happy to move forward and asked for a vote for a subcommittee to be formed 3 were in agreement.

## **i. Grit Bin/Potholes/Tanns Lane**

To date a number of pot holes have been filled or reported. **MT** will check the grit bin in Kings Head Lane. Regarding Tanns Lane **DE** has been ringing NCC since last April and spoken to numerous people. They have confirmed they will do the pot hole repairs in the coming week.

**DH** suggested **De** and **JLC** draft a formal letter to NCC given the amount of surface water in Tanns Lane and that urgent resurfacing was needed for 250-300 yards. **Mmc** felt that the road needs to

be raised and this is the only thing that will solve the problem. **Mmc** set out which properties could affect where water might come out in Tanns Lane.

**WN** suggested the letter go to NCC Leader rather than just highways and this was agreed.

## **2. Finance Report**

Approval was sought and given for  
Clerk Salary £192  
HMRC £48.00  
Lopham News £35.80  
Laminator paper £4.00  
Room Hire £10.00

## **3. Planning Applications**

Those for 27 The Street, 3 properties at the end of Kings Head Lane, Amendments to the Chapel Conversion, 2 properties at 7a The Green and an extension at Highlands, Harling Road have all been commented upon on the BDC site

**WM** noted that BD Council have had numerous applications come in but they now have their 5 year land supplies. They can turn down applications outside the boundary.

It was suggested that any concerns on planning applications should be raised with the applicant prior to comments being made to the Clerk.

## **Any other business**

Member of public asked whether the village gates had been reconsidered and **DH** confirmed this had been declined and it was now too late for an application under the Parish Partnership Scheme. **DH** suggested it could be raised again next August.

Once the meeting had closed to the public **DH** announced he would not seek re-election in May and would stand down after the meeting in March

Meeting closed at 20.40

Signed.....

Dated.....