

**MINUTES OF NORTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 10th MARCH 2021 at 7 p.m.
REMOTE MEETING VIA ZOOM/TEAMS**

1. To approve the Minutes of the meeting on 13th January 2021 approved
2. Attendance William Nunn, Johanna Tuck, Lesley Bird, Liz Bernard, Marion Chapman Allen, Steve Askew, Tim Colyer and 5 members of the public
Apologies from – Dawn Eagle, Mike Tipple, Mick McManus
3. declarations of interest – None

Matters Arising from September Minutes

4. Update re North Lopham Charities – and what they do and can provide assistance with

Following the Parish Councils request, a letter has been received from Malcolm Birchall. Solicitor and Clerk to the Trustees of the charity. The Charity can assist residents in the Parish who are in need, hardship or distress by providing grants or provision of services or facilities. Occasionally they can authorise assistance to persons outside the parish. The NLC have provided twice yearly luncheons at the Kings Head to enable appropriate residents to meet socially and Christmas hampers have been distributed. Assistance has been given with heating and to young people embarking on life experience activities particularly if helping others. NLC does not receive grants the income is derived from investment income and a small amount of rental income from small parcels of land held by NLC. Donations are always welcomed. It was suggested that perhaps **TC** could put an article in the Lopham News regarding this. **JT** said that Mr Birchall would be happy to put something in Cock Crow. **TC** advised that SLPC advertise their charity regularly. Suggestion was that **TC** will speak to Mr Birchall directly.

5. Planning application for Rushes Cottage - update

WN advised the meeting that the application had been called in front of the Chairmans panel to go before the Planning Committee and is now proceeding to full Planning Committee on Monday 15th March to try and convince the Planning Committee to approve the dwelling.

EB gave her thanks to **WN** and **MCA**. **EB** noted that there are three, 3 minutes slots and their agent and **WN** are speaking at 2 and **MCA** advised that if the allocation is there **EB** can take a slot herself and address the Committee. **MCA** also thanked **EB** for dropping details to her.

Matters arising

6. The Kings Head Public House

Clerk was contacted by BDC regarding the registration of the Kings Head as a community asset, as this was about to expire. Put to PC whether they wish to apply to have it re-registered. All Parish Councillors were in agreement that it should be re-registered.

GE said that as the pub can he could see no benefit in re-registering, If passed it provides the opportunity for the community to register their interest within 6 weeks and gives them 6 months to raise funds for the purchase of the pub but that **GE** was in support of the community buying the pub. **WN** noted that the 3 absent Parish Councillors all supported re-registering and the motion was passed as majority in favour of trying to put on the Register.

It was then noted that a Planning application has come in from **GE** for 2 properties on the green space next to the Kings Head. The majority feeling was against the application in particular in its current design for 2 properties and the objections were around design layout and the proximity around a listed building. The Parish Council comments to BDC will be made.

GE asked what objections were, and **WN** felt that the properties crowded the pub, there would be the loss of green space around the pub on what was the old village green. **GE** disagreed and said it did not form the village green, was not in Lophams book and that most of the green is under the footpath.

WN said that from his personal perspective he did not like the jaunty angle proposal, felt that the village is linear and they should be facing the road. Similar objections raised from other Parish Councillors.

WN then noted that a flyer had been circulated to consider purchasing of the pub as a Community run pub. He invited **LN** to update the meeting.

LN spoken with the Clerk if going to be owned by Community need to see what interest there might be. As a result there is a mailing list of 28 email addresses. Spoken with George and Angie and they will support this in whatever way they can. Lot of feedback of with information. Try and get interested parties to proceed to form a Committee, At the moment at 3 or 4 yes we will be on Committee hoping it will increase to 6 or 8. Anyone interested should contact Lee or the Clerk. Update will be emailed as things progress and at next Parish Council meeting.

WN told the meeting is on the Committee at The Fox their interest company is 7 in number. Several years fighting owners to purchase it. Owners applied for planning. Those applications were fought and then subsequently owners agreed community purchase. He noted it is not a straightforward process. It's time consuming can be stressful but he still believes its a great idea, gives security to the community and last thing we want is for the pub to become a dwelling.

GE noted that he and Angie had bought the Kings Head when it was closed so the village had a pub. The sale of adjacent land bears no resemblance to profitability as it is only used a few times a year on sunny days and feels that the piece of land at the side makes no difference to the viability of the pub.

7. Parking in Kings Head Lane

Several complaints have been made regarding a resident parking vehicles on the pavement. Causing pedestrians to have to walk in the road. One resident has emailed Clerk to request double yellow lines. **MCA** said if wheelchairs and pushchairs are having to walk in the road, Highways will treat as obstruction. Ask County Councillor to write to vehicle owners and ask them not to do it. **SA** who was at the meeting confirmed that the Clerk should send him details and photographs and he will make some enquiries and see what can be done.

8. Trod tarmac update

Due to tarmac the trod. Clerk has been in touch with NCC re funds and **SA** has confirmed he will contribute from his highway budget. Trod has been on the agenda and in the background for some time. He will contribute £3000 from his budget. Happy to do this and pleased to see it done. Clerk will contact the NCC and advise we can proceed. All of the PC thanked **SA** for this contribution which is very generous.

9. Thanks to Nancy and Fletcher for their litter picking in the village

Collected 40 bags of litter around the village. Fantastic job and well done. They have cleared ditches all around the village as well. Huge thanks to all the Hutton-Wigby family from the Parish Council and residents of North Lopham. The Clerk has sent flowers and chocolates.

Financial

10. Acknowledgement of precept received from BDC on 18.01.2021

11. Approval was given for

i)	Clerk salary	£192.00 (April 2021)
ii)	HMRC	£ 48.00 (April 2021)
iii)	NALC annual subscription	£186.27

Receipts	Headstone for A. Fulcher	£50.00
	Burial Fee for Edward Bailey	£100.00

VAT has been claimed for Pond clearance £113.00 (made 20.10.20)
£133 received on 23.11.2020

Balance of Barclays account	£5897.48
NS&I account	£2,838.68

Planning applications

3PL/2020/1475/HOU single storey side extension **Approved**

3PL/2021/0042/VAR - variation of condition 2 design change to rear extension **Approved**

Any other business

GE advised he has always paid insurance for the defibrillator, and asked if PC will now pick up the bill for this. Its about £140.00. Defibrillator to be put on next Agenda

During last week or so several incidences of graffiti around village which have been offensive. **BDC** have pressure washed them off. Police have been informed and spoken to the person the graffiti was directed at.

LE noted there were additional marks at top of Kings Head lane again this morning mentioning peoples names.

It is hoped this is an isolated incident and will not be repeated.

Meeting closed at 19.40

Next meeting **12th May 2021 – AGM**