

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Norton Lindsey Parish Council held in the Church Room at 7.45pm on 8 December 2015

Present: Cllr J Stobart (Chairman); Cllr M Neale; Cllr R Mann; Cllr Miss A Birch; Cllr K Sparkes; Cllr Mrs A Mace-Leska; WDC Cllr P Phillips; WCC Cllr L Caborn

Parish Clerk: Mrs Jennifer Bendall

Public: One member of public for part of the meeting

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr A Rhead who was attending a Planning Meeting

1. Chairman's notice regarding the recording and filming of the meeting

The notice regarding the recording and filming of meetings was displayed for those present to read.

2. Declaration of Interest (existence and nature) on Items on the Agenda

All Councillors declared an interest with item 11.3 as residents of the Parish.

3. Public Comments

The owner of Arden Wold on Wolverton Road addressed the meeting regarding the resubmission of a planning application for a replacement dwelling.

4. To Approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10 November 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2015 were taken as read, confirmed and signed. The Clerk advised that the minutes in the Minute Book had been mis-numbered and, following agreement, the Chairman signed a blank page.

5. Chairman's Report

None.

6. Matters Arising

The Clerk advised that an invitation had been issued to the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, who offered to attend the January or February 2016 NLPC meeting. Discussion took place concerning the availability of grants for village halls, and Cllr Neale also gave a brief report on the Village Hall Committee AGM and plans that had been put forward regarding refurbishment of the Hall. It was agreed that the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee would be invited to the January 2016 meeting, and the Clerk would forward grant details to him in advance of that meeting.

7. Parish Council Action Plan for 2015-16 Update

The Clerk detailed updates that had been made to the website, and possible plans for its future development. She also advised that the Parish Footpaths Map had been uploaded to the website.

Discussion took place regarding the footpaths in the Parish and how unclearly some of them are marked. It was agreed that the Clerk would enquire with WCC about obtaining signs to visibly mark the footpaths.

The Clerk gave an update on the Community Speedwatch Programme and advised that volunteers needed to complete and sign a police check forms before training can be undertaken.

The Clerk also advised that a village walk was to take place on 15 December 2015 with a representative from WCC regarding landscaping in the village to slow traffic down.

8. To Receive an Update on the Potential Need for a Neighbourhood Plan in Norton Lindsey

The Clerk advised that WDC were unable to attend either the December or January meeting to brief the Parish Council on neighbourhood plans due to prior commitments, and it was agreed to invite them to the February meeting. Discussion took place regarding the Budbrooke Neighbourhood Plan currently in its consultation phase, and the impact of a Neighbourhood Plan on the parish and village.

9. To Discuss Issues Within the Parish Relating to Highways (eg. the state of the roads, parking, overgrown hedges, etc)

Discussion took place regarding the recent road closure, which lasted longer than notified due to the contractor being delayed, and the damage caused to Brittons Lane due to inadequate and misplaced diversion signs. It was also noted that the layby near the junction with Watery Lane had been removed. It was agreed that a complaint would be made to WCC regarding the state of Brittons Lane and requesting that the severe damage to the verges and road edges be made good, and that the layby be reinstated.

The Clerk advised that she was due to write to County Highways to arrange for the overhanging trees down New Road to be trimmed.

The Clerk requested that everyone be vigilant regarding the Victorian lamps within the village because two had toppled over in the recent high winds. The Clerk advised that WDC had been out to repair the two lamps as a matter of urgency, but discussion took place regarding their durability.

10. Correspondence and Communications Report (circulated to Councillors prior to meeting)

The correspondence had been issued to all Councillors prior to the meeting. The Clerk drew attention to the Public Consultation on the Budbrooke Neighbourhood Plan, the WDC Taxi Consultation, and correspondence from WALC requesting help with a rural concerns survey and the issue of new editions of Legal Topic Notes.

11. Finance Matters

11.1 Payments made since last meeting – noted.

Clerk's November Salary

11.2 The bi-monthly internal audit of accounts - noted. The Clerk advised that there was a slight discrepancy in the location of funds (£6.52) and that the matter would be investigated by the Clerk and Vice Chairman who would report back at the January 2016 meeting.

11.3 All Councillors declared their interest. The Clerk put forward a budget proposal for the 2016/17 year, and following consideration of the projected income and expenditure for that period, it was agreed that the Precept would be raised to £6,500 to cover known increased expenditure and provide a buffer for unexpected expenses. The final proposal will be submitted for ratification at the January 2016 meeting.

12. Planning Matters

12.1 To note planning applications received:

Arden Wold, Wolverton Road W/15/1900 - following discussion it was agreed that NLPC supports the application and feels that the proposed development is a positive improvement on the existing buildings and previously approved plans, and it is in-keeping with the street scene.

2 Curlieu Cottages, Curlieu Lane W/15/1837 - NLPC had no objection to the planning application.

12.2 To receive update on existing planning applications:

The Willows, Wolverton Road W/15/1583 - it was agreed to write to the WDC Planning Committee in support of the application. The Chairman to draft a letter and circulate for approval.

The Clangers, Snitterfield Lane W/15/1517 - it was noted that the application had been withdrawn.

13. Parish Report

Cllr Mrs Mace-Leska commented on the number of unused home-grown apples within the Parish this year and suggested that a communal cider press might be a good idea for any future surplus. It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Mace-Leska would investigate.

14. Date of Next Meeting

12 January 2016

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.48 pm