

Minutes of the Meeting of Norton Lindsey Parish Council held in the Church Room at 7.45pm on 9 December 2014

Present: Cllr N Burns (Chairman); Cllr A Fowkes; Cllr J Stobart; Cllr T Fowler; Cllr R Mann; Cllr Miss A Birch

Apologies: Cllr Mrs J Lawton-Smith; WCC Cllr L Caborn

The Chairman welcomed Mr K Sparkes and Mr M Neale to the meeting as observers.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 11 November 2014: taken as read, confirmed and signed

Matters Arising:

1. Code of Conduct
The Chairman thanked Cllr Mrs Lawton Smith for her response on behalf of NLPC to the draft Code of Conduct recently issued by WDC. The Clerk advised that WDC have responded that they have taken NLPC's comments on board.
2. Victorian Signpost
Investigations have indicated that the Victorian Signpost has Grade II listed status. This is to be confirmed with WDC, and possible funding is to be sought to enable essential refurbishment to be carried out.
3. Local Plan
The Vice Chairman advised that he had scrutinised the revised WDC Local Plan and can confirm that there is nothing included that will affect Norton Lindsey, and that the village is still within the Green Belt. WDC is proposing that land by the Severn Trent water treatment plant on Stratford Road, Warwick, be used as a travellers' site.

Correspondence:

1. WCC – Code of Conduct (discussed in Matters Arising): no action required.
2. Mr & Mrs Landreth: following discussion, the council noted the disappointing response. No action required.
3. WDC – Historic Building Grants: the Clerk to obtain a grant enquiry form.

Finance:

1. 2015/2016 Precept
The Clerk put forward a budget proposal for the 2015/16 year, and following discussion it was agreed to increase the precept by £100 to £5,100, an increase of 2% (34p per annum per band D property), to maintain the current level of services that NLPC provides. It should be noted that this is the first increase in 4 years. The final proposal will be submitted for ratification at the January 2015 meeting.

Planning:

1. Update: The Old Post Office, Wolverton Road – the Clerk advised that the planning application for The Old Post Office had been modified without notification to NLPC or the neighbours, but that most of the Council's concerns to the original application had been met. As a consequence, NLPC's objection had been withdrawn.
2. Kingswood, New Road – Following discussion, it was agreed that NLPC objects to the planning application due to the significant size of this over-development on an elevated site.
3. Appleby, Snitterfield Lane – The Clerk advised that a letter had been received from the applicant, giving more details of the planned works. It was noted, however, that the works detailed in the letter did not correspond to the planning application received from WDC. Following discussion it was agreed that comments made by NLPC would be based on the actual planning application received and not the letter. NLPC objects to the planning application due to the dominating effect of the wall in the conservation area, and would request that the wall be of minimum height and that the existing hedge be replaced.

Parish Report:

1. Road issues:
 - The bale sledge that was left on the verge on Curlieu Lane and was a potential hazard to traffic as it protruded onto the highway, has now been removed;
 - The street light outside The Old Post Office, Wolverton Road, has not yet been repaired;
 - The tarmac apron at the top of the drive at Ardencroft, Wolverton Road, has been badly damaged due to water flowing from the blocked drains on the road. The drains have now been repaired by WCC, but the apron has not been returned to its original condition. The Clerk to report to County Highways.
2. Section 106 Agreement – Morgan Close / Brick Kiln Close. The Chairman declared an interest. The Chairman advised that the 106 agreement on the affordable housing in Morgan Close makes onward selling of the properties very difficult, and he advised that enquiries had been made to SOA DC to see if the Morgan Close agreement could be brought in line with the agreement on the Brick Kiln Close properties to allow potential buyers from a wider area.
3. It was noted that there is a sign on the Royal Mail post boxes in the village advising that post will now be collected at any time after 9.00am, but that in fact the post is still being picked up at the original late afternoon time. The Post Man has been approached concerning this and he has stated that he does not know why the notice has been put up when the time has not changed. The Clerk to seek clarification from Royal Mail.