

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Norton Lindsey Parish Council held in the Church Room at 7.45pm on 12 December 2017

Present: Cllr M Neale; Cllr R Mann; Cllr Miss A Birch; Cllr K Sparkes; WCC Cllr L Caborn; WDC Cllr A Rhead
Parish Clerk: Mrs Jennifer Bendall
Public: None

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr J Stobart (Chairman) who had a prior engagement, Cllr Mrs A Mace-Leska who was unable to attend due to the adverse weather conditions, and WDC Cllr P Phillips who was out of the Country.

1. Acting Chairman

Cllr Neale was unanimously voted Acting Chairman in Cllr Stobart's absence.

2. 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.

3. Record of members present

Noted.

4. Apologies and acceptance of reasons for absence

Noted.

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

None.

6. Public Comments

None.

7. To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14 November 2017

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14 November 2017 were taken as read, approved and signed.

8. Chairman's / Clerk's report

None.

9. Matters arising

None.

10. Parish Council Action Plan update

- Website – the Clerk advised there was still work to be done on updating links, etc, and statistics (ie. the number of visitors to the website) were looked at. It was agreed that statistics will be reported at each meeting.
- CSW – the Clerk advised there was nothing new to report at this time.
- Village Hall Replacement – it was noted that a meeting had been held the previous week to update the village on progress. Whilst the fundraising is still £30k short, the project manager was very optimistic in his report. Grants have been applied for to match the pledges already received, but no responses have been received yet. It was noted that there is no alternative finance plan if extra funding isn't available. Tenders for the building work had come back in excess of the hoped-for figures. The Hall will be closing at the end of December, but nothing more will happen until responses have been received from the grant bodies. The time-scale for completion of the replacement hall could be any time between April and August 2018.

11. To discuss issues within the Parish relating to highways (eg. the state of the roads, parking, overgrown hedges, etc)

- WCC Cllr Caborn advised that all gritting routes had been kept open during the recent heavy snow.
- The Clerk to contact County Highways to advise that the grit bins need refilling.
- The Clerk advised that she had spoken to WDC Rural Street Lighting regarding the lamp at the end of Canada Lane and they have agreed to inspect it again as it is still not working correctly. It was noted that a couple of other lamps appear to be working intermittently, and these are to be monitored.

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

Noted. Regarding correspondence received about the dissolution of the WDC Joint Standards Committee it was agreed that the Clerk would look at the NLPC Complaints Procedure and update it accordingly, with the amendments to be discussed/agreed at the January meeting. With reference to a recent request from a parishioner for sandbags, which had highlighted ambiguous wording on the WDC website regarding the provision of sandbags, WDC Cllr Rhead agreed to query the contradictory statements on the website and also the assertion that parish councils keep filled and unfilled sandbags for use in their parishes. The Clerk is to make enquiries about obtaining more empty sandbags from WCC. Cllr Neale is to draft a response to a request from residents of Hawkes Hill Close for an additional street light on New Road. Following receipt of correspondence regarding ward boundaries, WDC Cllr Rhead gave details of the background to the changes, and it was noted that no action is required as the proposed changes have no impact on Norton Lindsey.

13. Finance Matters

13.1 Payments received since last meeting:

NatWest Bank Plc – interest. Noted.

13.2 Payments made since last meeting:

Clerk's Salary – November 2017. Noted.

13.3 Expenditure for approval:

None

13.4 Income and expenditure year to date

Noted.

13.5 To consider draft Precept for the year 2018/19

Discussion took place regarding the draft budget and precept calculation, and it was agreed that further information was required regarding donations/grants and the number of grit bins in the parish in need of replacing before the final budget can be agreed. It was agreed that the precept should rise to cover additional costs facing NLPC and to ensure enough contingency funds are available. To be ratified at the January meeting.

14. Planning Matters

14.1 To note and consider planning applications received:

W/17/2032 - The Clangers, 28 Snitterfield Lane, Norton Lindsey, Warwick, CV35 8JJ - Certificate of existing lawful development for existing residential unit. It was agreed that NLPC would give a neutral response to this application, but would comment that insufficient information is available to be able to pass comment.

14.2 Planning applications received and considered under delegated powers:

None.

14.3 Planning application decisions received:

W/17/0910 – Cannings Farm, Canada Lane, Norton Lindsey, Warwick, CV35 8JH – Granted.

14.4 Planning application updates received:

None.

14.5 To note and consider planning appeal notifications received.

None.

14.6 Planning appeal decisions received:

None.

14.7 General planning matters or any matters of concern regarding building works within Norton Lindsey (parish or village)

None.

15. Parish Report

WDC Cllr Rhead advised that the District Council is concerned at the number of planning applications being objected to by parish councils, and it is looking at why this is happening. Cllr Rhead urged NLPC to think carefully when considering planning applications, and he stressed how important it is for a parish council representative to attend the WDC Planning Committee if the parish council has objected to any applications to explain its reasons. Cllr Rhead also urged the parish council to liaise with residents regarding refuse collections during difficult weather conditions. He advised that the WDC website has information on changes to the service. The Clerk is to link this to the NLPC website.

WCC Cllr Caborn reported that WCC is in the middle of the budget process, but advised that the 3-year plan set last year is being adhered to. He spoke about concerns facing social care in the near future, and there was a brief discussion regarding the future of the fire service.

16. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 9 January 2017 – Ordinary Meeting

The Acting Chairman closed the meeting at 21.47 pm