

Loxley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held at Loxley School on 13th March 2017 at 19:30

Present: Glynn Jones, Chair (GJ), Justin Whitehorn (JW),
Maria Garcia (MG), Ken Osbourne(KO), Peter Gregory-Hood (PGH),

In Attendance: Susan Gray (Clerk), Izzy Seccombe, District
Councillor (IS) (at 8.15), Peter Morris

GJ welcomed the new Clerk to the meeting.

1. Record of Members Present

As shown above.

2. To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence

Apologies were received and approved from I Seccombe who will be delayed attending.

3. Declaration of interests in any item in the agenda

None.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th Jan-17

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2016 were read and approved as a correct record.

5. To receive any questions or representations from the public

Peter Morris: to catch-up on progress on the NDP and traffic calming.

6. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting not covered in the agenda

Councillors acknowledged the work of KJ in temporarily filling the post of Clerk especially in light of the complicated handover process, the significant work required to set the budget and filling in at no cost to the Council.

Emergency Plan: GJ had made changes to the document, and posted on the website and advised there may be further support in the future. GJ noted that the details regarding the defibrillator and the trainers involved in the session organised by Debbie Sutherland need to be included in the document. MG agreed to arrange a meeting with Heleena.

7. Clerk's report

a. Finance

- Change of address to be made for EON.
- GIS mapping - Parish Online - WALC to be consulted and Liz Taylor at Stratford District Council with a view to clarifying use of the facility and potential for use in the on-going NDP.
- Clerk to check receipt of £1,140 from Groundwork.

Budget:

GJ advised that the 3 year grass cutting contract was due for renewal. The council requires 3 quotes (including one from the current incumbent Thomas Fox). Clerk to contact WALC to identify other local contractors. It is anticipated the price will increase and has been budgeted for.

It was agreed that the purchase of a dog bin for the green will be put on hold due to other budget constraints arising from the unforeseen elections. WCC had advised that costs could be substantial and would need to be funded by LPC. This would require a notional 10% cut in spending, although would be greater for non-discretionary spend.

It was agreed that the budget would be reviewed after the election when the details of the costs would be known. Had this be known about, the precept could have been increased. JW expressed concern about the potential impact on the NDP budget.

b. Payments to be approved:

- Ashworth £68.50 for NDP leaflet printing and banner
- Annual subscription to Parish Online £33.60

8. Election of a Councillor to replace Councillor Sutherland

Two candidates had put themselves forward : Darryl Armstrong (the former Clerk) and Dan Bake. The election would be held on the 30th March 2017. To avoid disruption of the School voting would be held at the Fox.

9. Planning

a. Planning Applications

17/00014/TEL 28 Notification of new telecoms box at side of Meer Wood House

Passed without comment.

16/03659/FUL Land off Goldicote Rd - update

GJ, PGH and JW had attended the meeting. The Planning Officer recommended refusal. LPC argued that the development should be allowed and as a result the decision went to Committee.

At the Committee, LPC argued that permission should be granted given that : the development fell within the village boundary (the Council had incorrectly interpreted the Village Design Statement), refusal was inconsistent with previous decisions,

development would allow longstanding flooding issues to be addressed and it would contribute to the NDP target; refusal on the principal identified would in contrast make it impossible to proceed on any significant sites within the village, undermining the significant progress made by the NDP Group. As the Council report acknowledged, there were no other planning, environmental, heritage or ecological barriers to development.

The Committee unanimously voted in favour of the development and rejected the Officer recommendation. However, numerous conditions were attached, including refusal of the garages. JW advised that a revised plan would be produced. GJ confirmed the drainage would need to be resolved to mitigate flooding in the field opposite (an attenuation tank was recommended).

b. Neighbourhood Development Plan

JW advised that the NDP Consultant was on board and was reviewing the current position. He will advise of the current village boundaries.

Call for sites: There was a discussion about further sites for development and JW suggested there was a potential site by Loxley House. GJ noted he had spoken with one of the owners and suggested contact be made with Sheldon Bosley and JW said he would follow this up. The second site was owned by Box Cottage, which has been previously refused permission, but it is understood a revised scheme would come forward.

GJ advised that £1000 had been set aside for the NDP as a contingency fund and that a further £400 to 500 would be available due to savings in the Clerks salary. However, this would need to be reviewed in light of the election costs.

10. Playing Field & Playground

MG advised that weeding was required and that she had investigated wood chips. GJ asked if there was an estimate of the cost and MG advised that it would be c£1,000 as it would need to be proper play bark. She advised that the annual assessment doesn't suggest it is a legal requirement to provide it but it is needed around the swing and slide areas. MG confirmed it wasn't cheap but that there were no funds at present. GJ advised that councillors may need to look at deeper cuts in other areas, but the position would be clearer when the costs of the election were known.

11. Traffic Issues

HGVs: KO advised that he had spoken to Wellesbourne Distribution Park before Christmas about HGVs from Aston Martin driving through the village. The County Council has put up signage for the lorry drivers and there is a sign in front of the park. KO reported that since his actions no complaints of lorries coming through the village had been made since Christmas.

Traffic calming: KO had requested costs for camera scheme that would cost £7,499 plus £5,000 to install and would require a power supply. MG asked if was

successful? KO advised that it had been set up in Stroud and that in one week it had caught 35 vehicles speeding. However, no prosecutions were possible under the scheme, but letters from the Police had been sent out. In discussion it was noted that: the scheme hadn't been used in Warwickshire; existing traffic calming had not reduced car speed; and sustainability might be impacted by on-going cuts in Police budgets. GJ confirmed they would require a power source and that solar power was not reliable. JW suggested the council would need to know if Warwickshire Police could support and enforce it. GJ agreed that residents would need to be behind it and that more evidence would be required, including support from WCC, residents and the Police. KO noted that he had actioned what he had been asked to do.

Highways signs left on the Green: KJ had contacted WCC several times to have them removed; KO had also telephoned to ask for their removal.

12. Environment

Update from the Environment group: GJ advised that the Action Plan agreed at the last meeting will receive funding from WCC (Richard Barnard) for materials and signs. A meeting with him will be planned. The Group will then look to prioritise actions and meet with landowners.

Lengthsman Scheme: MG had attended a meeting which had been very informative. Four villages have tapped into the pilot scheme which is for 18 months which has a fixed budget but will be split evenly four ways. Details are advertised on the parish website. MG suggested contacting her via email regarding any queries / actions. She also advised that Bridleways could possibly be covered. GJ noted that fallen 30mph sign approaching the airfield.

13. Correspondence

None

14. Any other business

IS can provide a speaker for the Annual Parish meeting. An informal meeting was suggested for the 2nd May at 7.30 to discuss the AGM (to be held at the pub).

PG-H advised that he had been elected as a Governor at Warwick Hospital and was congratulated by Councillors.

KO raised the issue of overgrown hedges and brambles on paths and the failure of GJ to address this. IS advised that hedges were the responsibility of the landowners.

13. Date of next meeting.

Wednesday 17th May 2017 – Annual Parish Council Meeting (AGM)

Monday 22nd May – Annual Parish Meeting 7.30

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.