

Loxley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held at Loxley School on 10th July 2017 at 19:30

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

In Attendance: Samantha Thomas, Izzi Seccombe

1. Record of Members Present

As shown above.

2. To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence

No apologies.

3. Welcome to Samantha

GJ welcomed the new Clerk ST to the meeting. Following an interview, review of ST's CV and the take up of references it was unanimously agreed that ST be appointed. On this basis GJ agreed to draw up a contract and arrange a handover in August, with the new Clerk starting her tenure at our next meeting.

4. Declaration of interests in any item in the agenda

PGH declared an interest in BUAB – the proposed changes affecting land in the ownership of PGH.

5. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 22-05-17

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May 2017 were read and approved as a correct record, subject to addressing two minor typo's and could then be posted on the website.

6. To receive any questions or representations from the public

None present.

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

None raised.

8. Clerk's report

a. Finance

- £21,981.08 in main account on latest statement
- £6,317.83 in second account
- £264 unrepresented cheques

- Current holdings = £28,034.91

b. Receipts:

- Western Power wayleave £23.84 (April)
- Precept £3,465 (April)
- Bank Interest £0.80 (Apr-Jun)
- NDP Grant £6,575 (May)
- HMRC VAT refund £1,787.69 (May)

c. Payments approved since last mtg:

- Thomas Fox – 2 x £264 for grass cutting (May and June invoices)
- Avon Planning Services £414
- SDC Election expenses £1,239.08

9. Planning

a. Planning Applications

17/00763/FUL – Loxley Farm

LPC had previously responded to the application.

17/01571/FUL – Woodfield Farm

No objections.

17/01956/TEL28 – Vodafone Mast, Dancers Lane

No objections.

b. Neighbourhood Development Plan

BUAB

JW introduced this item, setting out the background noting the BUAB represented the existing village boundary plus gardens, and therefore does not include potential development opportunities.

Councillors discussed proposed amendments to the SDC boundary following suggestions from the NDP working group. The intention being to make a few adjustments to prevent backfill; anywhere within the BUAB could be developed, apart from identified green spaces. The BUAB would provide a basis for then considering extensions in terms of proposed development sites. Four adjustments were proposed: including the deletion of a) gardens behind Loxley house, b) land on Stratford road, c) land adjacent to the Rectory on Loxley Bushes Lane and finally d) the addition of Loxley Hall as part of the BUAB.

JW noted that omission makes no difference to sites with development potential. GJ initiated a discussion around the basis on which sites could be included within the plan and implications for housing numbers. IS noted that in Tysoe that the

willingness of landowners is not a key pre-requisite for inclusion as a potential development site as the plan covers a 15 year period.

The suggested amendments were proposed by KO and seconded by MG. Councillors were unanimously in favour.

Action : JW agreed to prepare a submission outlining the proposed changes to the BUAB to be submitted to SDC.

NDP Funding

GJ noted that the working group had been successful in their application for further grant and would be using this to fund the consultant to develop the site appraisals.

GJ asked whether: we were clear how much funding remained in the pot, given the availability of additional resource for site appraisals, and whether the group had mapped the resources required to complete project plan tasks in relation to the proposed use of consultancy time and whether this left any shortfall? JW felt there was some uncertainty.

Action: GJ to arrange meeting with the NDP project manager to discuss : whether there is a shortfall, clarify funding left in relation to total costs to complete and how far the tasks / costs are covered by the proposed consultant tasks.

10. Playing Field & Playground

MG provided an update which covered several items:

- New bench : Designed to be vandal proof a recycled plastic bench could be purchased for £157 (excl. VAT). MG would also look into the price of a picnic table from same company. DB proposed and MG seconded purchase of the cheaper recycled plastic bench.
- New dog bin – MG had selected the larger 50L bin, the second cheapest option (£149 excl. VAT plus delivery fee of £12), noting the bin would require installing. MG proposed we ask villagers to propose a preferred location. PGH proposed and JW seconded proposal to buy the 50L bin.
Action: MG to action purchasing of bench and bin, plus follow up the price of a new picnic table. DB to ask villagers preferred location for dog bin.
- Sport England - MG had received a response and unfortunately we were not successful in our bid. However, MG has been approached by a provider of adult gym equipment who believe they can get this equipment funded.
Action: MG to follow up.
- The Multi-Play – severe rot identified in multi-play area. DB and MG checked – it is split but not rotten. Decking made of half round poles one is decaying. DB felt that replacing one of the poles would not be difficult.
Action: MG to get quote. The urgency of this action was noted.
- Play area perimeter fencing – strimming grass has reduced thickness of posts and seven posts have gone through (close to Jo Beverleys house).
Action: Clerk to contact Thomas Fox and ask them if they will replace or do at reduced cost.

11. Traffic Issues

KO noted that the additional weight limit signs would be installed soon, including installation of 'not suitable for HGVs' signage following on from WCCs earlier assessment of HGV signage.

A meeting had also been held at the School arranged by the Head Teacher involving a wide range of stakeholders in relation to parking and traffic calming around school. DB and KO attended. There is a possibility that WCC will place the school under the 'safer schools' scheme, which would provide access to funding for a number of traffic measures including: signage, extending zig zags to stop parking around the school. It would not be possible to reduce traffic speed to 20mph given the lack of street lighting, but it might be possible to install a flashing sign which would flash 20mph during school hours.

Action: Dependent on getting 'safer schools' designation. Loxley School to progress.

12. Environment

GJ and DB noted the progress the Environment group continued to make with a further date identified for the next community walk. The Group had also walked several footpaths and identified improvements required.

MG had investigated whether under the Lengthsman Scheme we could get the new kissing gate installed, but this is too close to the road for the lengthsman to deal with on H&S grounds. WCC highways would look into and get back to MG. MG asked PGH if materials could be delivered to the site – which PGH agreed to.

MG had also asked the lengthsman to tidy up weeds in the park which had not yet been done. **Action :** MG to investigate.

MG also noted that the entrance to the park by Barracks Green had become overgrown. **Action:** Clerk to ask Thomas Fox cost of weed-killing here and in the play area (coming through woodchip – although this would have to be signposted on H&S grounds).

PGH asked whether improvements will be undertaken on other footpaths. DB responded positively, noting that at the last meeting of the EWG, a charter had been signed with highways to agree to be an unpaid workforce for them as the first step.

13. Emergency plan

MG and GJ met with WCC and have updated the document which is now on the website.

14. LPC website

GJ asked to be notified of events so that these could be posted on the website.

15 Correspondence

Circulated.

16. Any other business

Review of progress - Council priorities :

- Clerk – interviewed, vetted and appointed
- NDP – meeting with PC TBA, but steady progress being made.
- Footpaths – good progress by the EWG
- Community walk – date arranged for September
- Facilities on play park – MG progressing
- Coffee morning - to be put on the agenda for discussion at September meeting, agreed that the audience would be the whole community.
- Traffic calming – significant potential should the school get funding under the Safer Schools initiative.

Overgrown hedging

KO has been concerned for some time about the hedge growing over Council land by the LPC noticeboard. He had tried but not been able to contact Fox Cottage to discuss hedge. **Action:** Clerk to write to owners and request hedge to be trimmed back by the end of August otherwise LPC would cut back.

Strawberry Fayre

PGH noted that £2,500 raised, a record amount and the Fayre had benefited from children's activities, the presence of a string quartet and sunny weather. PGH thanked volunteers for their help.

A429 construction

Advance roundabout for the A429 resulting in closure from 17th July to Spring 2018. **Action:** DB to identify contact at Persimmon and Clerk to write to request whether any compensating payments would be made for inconvenience.

13. Date of next meeting.

Monday 4th September...

The meeting closed at 9.04pm.