

LOXLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LOXLEY SCHOOL ON 7 JULY 2015 AT 7:30 PM

PRESENT: G Jones (Chairman), D Sutherland, P Gregory-Hood, K Osborne, P Jennings,
M Garcia

IN ATTENDANCE: R D Armstrong (Clerk)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from I Seccombe and P Seccombe.

2. Disclosure Of Interests In Any Item On The Agenda

Councillors were reminded that they are required to disclose an interest in any item on the Agenda.

3. Minutes Of The Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2015 were read and approved as a correct record.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Blue Lane Parking Area

Monitoring of the parking area continues and all incidents of litter or fly tipping are being noted by K Osborne.

4.2 Emergency Planning Group

No progress has been made in updating the Emergency Plan to the new template.

4.3 Tree Survey

The Clerk reported that a progress report was awaited and this should be available to the next meeting.

5. Clerk's Report

5.1 Finance

The Clerk reported that on 1 May 2015, the Parish had reconciled cash funds of £34127.82 held with Lloyds Bank.

5.2 Payments to be Approved

The following payments were approved :

Thomas Fox Landscaping	Grass mowing	236.40
Thomas Fox Landscaping	Grass mowing	576.00
M Garcia	Travelling expenses	21.75
R D Armstrong	Clerk's salary	500.00
R D Armstrong	Stationery	32.00
Stratford District Council	Election costs	100.00
The Play Inspection Company	Playground Inspection	90.00
R Mole	Remedial tree works	80.00

5.3 Retrospective confirmation of payments

The Council confirmed retrospectively the following payments that had been made since the last meeting :

Warwickshire County Council	Traffic calming engineering	1000.00
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5.4 Risk Assessment & Management Framework

The Clerk presented an updated Risk Assessment & Management Framework which incorporated changes resulting from the introduction of the Transparency Code For Smaller Authorities.

P Gregory-Hood proposed and M Garcia seconded a proposal that the updated framework be adopted and this was agreed unanimously.

6. Community Forum

The Community Forum will meet on the following dates and members agreed to attend as indicated :

15 September 2015	K Osborne & D Sutherland
1 December 2015	P Jennings & P Gregory-Hood
1 March 2016	K Osborne & M Garcia

7. Planning

7.1 Planning Applications

The Clerk reported that a planning appeal into the decision by SDC not to grant permission to develop a courtyard house at Home Farm, Loxley has been upheld.

An application for the development of a garage at Wren's Nest, Loxley has been received. The application does not include any dimensions to allow detailed consideration of the application. G Jones will contact the planning officer concerned to obtain more detailed dimensions.

Should the height of the garage being confirmed as being lower than the height of the house then it was agreed by the meeting that the application should be supported by the Council.

7.2 Neighbourhood Development Plan

G Jones reported that a leader of the Neighbourhood Development Plan group had yet to be identified. There is support from the community to continue work on a plan and a meeting of the group will be arranged shortly and John Hargis, chairman of the Wellesbourne NDP group will be invited to attend.

8. Playing Field and Playground

P Jennings commented that the results of the playground questionnaire showed clear support for the proposed equipment and expenditure and proposed that the Council approve the expenditure of £4500 to procure the equipment and installation described in the quotation provided by HAGS-SMP. The motion was seconded by P Gregory-Hood and was agreed unanimously.

It was further agreed that a limit of £4500 would be placed on capital expenditure in respect of the playground and that any excess funds from the earmarked reserve would be transferred to the traffic calming project, should this be required.

The annual playground inspection has been performed and P Jennings will review the recommendations made by the inspector and will report to the next meeting.

The British and European safety standard BS EN1176 and the Health and Safety Executive strongly recommend that all play areas have at least one inspection every year from an independent suitably qualified body.

9. Traffic Issues

A site visit attended by WCC, G Jones and K Osborne has been held. WCC have been paid an initial deposit of £1000 to allow work to commence on the project.

Following the meeting with WCC, approval was given by the Council to provide detailed cost estimates for the improvements discussed at that meeting and set out in a note from the chair.

G Jones suggested that the Council establish a Traffic Issues group who will advise the Council on potential mitigating measures. The group comprises a mix of residents and councillors and will hold first meeting on 15 July 2015.

K Osborne attended a meeting at Elizabeth House to discuss traffic issues across the county. The meeting was attended by seven representatives of local parish councils and the keynote speaker was Graham Stanley who spoke about traffic calming.

If a community wishes to implement traffic calming measures, street lighting which is operational 24 hours per day is required. In a village, an unlit chicane would require at least 100 metres of lighting on each side of the site.

The first point of contact for traffic calming is the local county councillor. There is a fund of £350,000 available each year throughout the county, although the fund has been exhausted this year and there is strong competition for funding. There could provide £15,000 - £20,000 per accident black spot, should funds be available.

No rumble strips are now permitted in the county following a legal case brought by a disabled person who claimed discrimination. Repeater signs are permitted at black spots, and if the problem continues, a yellow background can be installed to make the signs stand out more to warn motorists.

One parish council requested that a 10mph reduction in the speed limit at a crossroads after a fatality which was supported by County Highways, but was not implemented due to an objection by their county councillor.

Tractors are now allowed to drive at 30 mph.

10. Correspondence

The Clerk mentioned that several items of email which had been received since the last meeting have been forwarded to members to consider.

WCC have announced the availability of the Small Scale Flood Alleviation Grant Scheme which makes grants of up to £5,000 per location available to help communities remove or reduce the risk of property flooding in their area.

SDC have invited all councillors in the District to attend a planning training event at Elizabeth House on 24 September 2015.

The Marie Curie charity is organising a fundraising walk at Blenheim Palace on 8 August 2015. A poster will be placed on the village notice board.

11. Any Other Business

M Garcia reported that she had been approached by residents of Hilltop in Loxley concerned about the parking problems being experienced outside their homes. The parking area is adopted highway and spaces are very much available on a *first come first served* basis.

D Sutherland reported that the quotations to provide a defibrillator will be presented in full to the next meeting of the Council.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 7 September 2015 at 19:30 at Loxley School.

The meeting closed at 21:30.