

The Minutes of Lindridge Parish Council
Wednesday 11th July 2012 at 7.30pm in Menith Wood Village Hall

Present: Cllr N Benbow (Chairman), Cllr Mrs T Lowe, Cllr H Williams, Cllr Mrs A Winwood, Cllr S Woodall.

In Attendance: Cllr W Redman and Cllr K Pollock.

PC24: Receive apologies and approve reasons for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs G Sandon who was away on holiday.

PC 25: Declare personal or prejudicial interest

There were no declarations.

PC26: Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 9th May 2012

The minutes were adopted subject to the addition of Cllr Mrs Lowe to the list of those present. They were then signed by the Chairman.

PC 27: Receive progress reports for information from:

District Councillor Cllr Redman explained recent changes at Malvern Hills District Council where Cllr P Grove had stepped down as Leader to be replaced by Cllr D Hughes with Cllr P Swinburn as his Deputy. The new Leader was keen to visit Parish Councils. It was agreed that he would be welcome at a future Lindridge meeting. In response to a question on the new South Worcestershire Development Plan Cllr Redman opined that several stages had yet to be completed before the new Plan could be formally adopted.

County Councillor Cllr Pollock sought to correct recent negative press accounts relating to Tenbury. There would be no further bridge closure for painting and the town's economy was not "at death's door".

Rural road improvements were in progress at Menith Wood and Abberley. There was still some scope for supporting small local projects from the Divisional Fund. There was some frustration at lack of progress with Superfast Broadband following the previous day's meeting in Worcester. It was apparent that various contract issues and the implication of EU "State Aid" rules had not been properly thought through. Responsibility attached both to BDUK and to Council Officers. Cllr Pollock hoped that with a new Project Manager in place there would be sharper focus on the key issues so that progress could be made.

Parish Hall Representative Cllr Mrs Winwood reported that a costed plan for the proposed external works was still awaited though there was now consensus on what should be included. It was hoped that the Parish Council would regard occasional grass cutting etc as within the Lengthsman's brief once work was completed. Meanwhile improvements to insulation and windows had been completed. The financial position was sound for the moment.

Footpath Warden There was no report.

Councillors Cllr Williams highlighted recent problems with Severn Trent in and around Frith Common. There had been confusion about the extent of road closures in June and a general lack of consultation or the giving of adequate notice to residents. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Severn Trent conveying local concerns.

PC28. Public Open Space Grant Money In the absence of a costed proposal from the Parish Hall Committee it was recognised that only the £5,000 scheme from the Millennium Green Trust was so far approved. The need for a Parish Hall submission was emphasised so that a complete bid could be finalised at the September meeting.

PC29. Garden Competition Judging of the main competition had taken place on July 4th with fifteen entries. Maurice Brasher had taken photographs for use at a proposed new style Presentation Evening in September. His final results were still awaited. It was agreed that a new form of letter to winners would be needed and Cllr Lowe agreed to produce a draft for the Chairman's consideration. Cllr Mrs Lowe reported on a very successful children's competition for gardens "in a box" with a Jubilee theme. These had been recorded on a disc and it was agreed that a letter should be sent on the school's behalf to Buckingham Palace. A Sub-Committee of Cllrs Lowe and Winwood with the Chairman would meet to consider future arrangements for the competition.

PC30. Parish Awards Committee Cllr Williams had two fully developed nominations and a meeting of the Committee was to be arranged before the end of July.

PC31. Superfast Broadband The Chairman alluded to earlier comments by Cllr K Pollock concerning a meeting held on the previous day in Worcester. It had been good to have all interested parties together for the first time allowing differences of perception to be fully aired and explored. This had resulted in a sharper focus on key issues still to be resolved in relation to the terms and conditions within a draft contract as well as the implications of EU State Aid rules. A further meeting was scheduled for July 18th in the hope that the County Legal Services Department would by then have completed contract documentation. Contract with a chosen supplier was dependant on EU State Aid clearance (anticipated by late September) and the beginning of a formal tender process under EU rules.

PC32: Neighbourhood Plan/Parish Assets Register Various opinions were expressed as to the need for and value of a Neighbourhood Plan in the light of the Localism Act. It was agreed that an ex-colleague of Cllr Williams, Mr Ismail Mohammed who had relevant experience, be invited to speak to the Council at a future meeting.

PC33: Localism Act and Code of Conduct The Chairman together with Cllr Williams had reviewed documents from CALC relating to the revised Standards regime under the new legislation. All this gave rise to a new recommended Code of Conduct for Councillors. After some discussion it was agreed that the new Code should be adopted subject to resolution of minor textual queries.

PC34: Broombank Lay-by The Clerk reported receipt of a letter written on behalf of several Broombank residents whose properties were accessed from the lay-by created some years ago as a consequence of improvements to the A456. The letter, sent also to the Highways Department, recorded various instances of anti-social behaviour and fly-tipping in the recent past. The residents sought Parish Council help in a bid to have the lay-by closed. It was agreed that the County Council be asked to consider if there were ways in which use of the lay-by could be better managed failing which steps might be taken to effect its closure.

PC35: Parish Council Vacancies

The Clerk reported receipt of an application for co-option from Mr David Evans of Menith Wood. It was unanimously resolved that Mr Evans should be co-opted to the Council and invited to the next meeting. In relation to the two further vacancies Cllr Lowe reported an expression of interest from another resident of the Parish. The Clerk was requested to issue the appropriate form.

PC36: Check, Agree and Minute Accounts Cllr Mrs Lowe and Cllr Woodall signed, checked and agreed accounts.

Accounts paid since last meeting

a) Miss R S Lambert, Parish Clerk --- June 2012	£199.57
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Accounts Unpaid

b) Miss R S Lambert, Parish Clerk --- exps May/June	£ 85.87
c) Mr P Danby, Lengthsman ---- exps May/June	£336.00
d) Parish Hall Committee --- Parish Meeting, May 9 th	£ 48.00
e) Came and Co Insurance 2012/13	£311.94
f) Post Office Ltd --- Tax payments Apr/May/June	£149.40

PC 37: Planning Matters

Planning 12/00615

Application for a lawful development certificate for a proposed use or development.
The Grange, Woodston. NO COMMENT

Planning Application Number: 12/00415/HOU

Ancillary accommodation in existing extension with bedroom above. Alterations to the property to include new slate roof with velux windows and rendering of walls. Raising of roof to main dwelling. High Acre, Dumbleton Lane, Eardiston. Mr M Stroyd –

PLANNING REFUSAL

Planning Application Number: 12/00671/FUL

Change of use of agricultural building to B2 general industrial building for steel fabrication, development of ancillary office extension.

Agricultural Building, Nr Woodlands House, A443 Stockton Road, Eardiston.

Mr Tom Williams

Planning Application Number: 12/00672/ADV

Two two-sided v-shaped sign boards at roadside and company board within access.

Agricultural Building, Nr Woodlands House, A443 Stockton Road, Eardiston.

TWC Agricultural Buildings c/o Mr Tom Williams

Planning Application Number: 12/00867/HOU

New pitched roof over rear ground floor accommodation to replace flat roof.

The Stables, Lindridge, Worcestershire, WR15 8JQ

Mr and Mrs P Wallace

NO COMMENT OFFERED

PC38: Matters Arising from Minutes of Last Meeting

PC9 Occupancy of Campervan: The Clerk reported the despatch of a letter to the District Council and the very recent receipt of a further letter of concern from a local resident with photographic evidence of extended residential activity. It was agreed that a follow-up letter should be sent to Regulatory Services with this additional evidence and with a copy to the local resident for information.

Leaning Telegraph Pole: The Chairman thanked Cllr Mrs Lowe for her help with a draft letter for the householder to send to BT.

PC39: Correspondence for Information

- a) Application received for co-option to Lindridge Parish Council – Mr D Evans.
- b) Letter received from Audit Commission.
- c) Letter received from Mr S Workman re: Lay-By at Broombank
- d) Letter sent to Mr S Workman from Parish Clerk
- e) Letter sent to Electoral Services re: resignations.
- f) Letter sent to Clement Keys returning the completed Annual Return.
- g) Letter received from G Herbert Banks : Mr N Denniston.
- h) Letter sent to Regulatory Services.

In relation to the letter from G Herbert Banks it was agreed that the Clerk should reply noting the contents and thanking them and their clients for the attention the playing field issue had received but indicating that the Parish Council now regarded the matter as closed.

PC40: Items for Future Agenda

- a) Public Open Space Grant Money
- b) Garden Competition
- c) Superfast Broadband
- d) Neighbourhood Plan
- e) Parish Council Vacancies
- f) Parish Awards Committee

PC41: Items for Temespan and Next Meeting Date

Item to be submitted: a statement on the results of the Garden Competition to include reference to the children's element.

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday September 12th at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.