

The Minutes of Lindridge Parish Council
Wednesday 13th November 2013 at 7.00 p.m. at Lindridge Parish Hall

Present: Cllr N Benbow (Chairman), Cllr Mrs T Lowe (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Mrs K Pardoe, Cllr S Workman, Cllr H Williams, Cllr Mrs A Winwood, Cllr D Evans

Members of Public Present: Mrs G Sandon – Public Path Warden

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Sandon to the meeting. Since the last Parish Council meeting, Mrs Sandon had resigned from her role as Parish Councillor, however, she was still the representative as the Public Path Warden. Mrs Sandon gave her report as follows:-

- There had now been a re-organisation of the Countryside Access Maintenance and Improvement Officers change of areas. Essentially two teams have joined to become one headed up by Phil Coulson.
- Currently Lindridge are under the NW area under Rob Deri. (No longer under Patrick White).
- Any reports or issues can be dealt with through the volunteer database. This is sadly reported as not being used very much. Mrs Sandon reported that she used this but rarely had any feedback or progress reports from the issues listed.
- Ongoing issues were:
 - Landslip at Menithwood bridle path.
 - Path blocked at river Teme.
 - Completely overgrown and inaccessible path by the Eardiston Country Club.

Cllr Mrs Lowe offered to carry out enquiries with the Land Registry to confirm who owned the strip of ground between Yarranton's and the Eardiston Country Club.

PC66: Receive apologies and approve reasons for absence

Apologies were received from: Cllr S Woodall due to work commitments
County Councillor K Pollock

PC67: Declare a personal or prejudicial interest

Cllr Evans declared a personal interest in Public Open Space Grant Money on behalf of Millennium Green Trust and Cllr Williams declared same interest on behalf of representation of the Parish Hall Committee.

PC68: Minutes of 11th September 2013

The minutes were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

PC69: Receive progress reports for information from:-

District Councillor – None Available.

County Councillor – Cllr Pollock had sent his apologies and had forwarded his report to the Clerk, which was read out at the meeting. Please see attached document at the end of the minutes.

PC70: Parish Hall Representative – Cllr Williams reported that he had carried out a Health & Safety Inspection of the hall. The work on the new radiator covers had been

done by Alan Bush. The new heating system was working well. Cllr Williams explained that the program for the thermostat could be downloaded via an APP to a mobile phone and the heating could be remotely set from the telephone. He also explained that some grant money was still available from installation of the heating system; this money could be used to improve the lighting in the car park.

Cllr Workman raised question of storage for the Baby and Toddler Group.

PC71: Public Path Warden - This item brought forward to members of public section.

PC72: Councillors – Cllr Mrs Winwood commented on the deterioration of Lower Frith road. Cllr Williams had met with Mr G Brienza of Worcestershire County Council and this road had been discussed. A decision from WCC would be for it to be repaired in the Spring time.

Cllr Mrs Pardoe raised the issue of the weeds growing inside the bus shelter; and that the new windows had narrowed the visibility of looking outside and whether the waste bin could be relocated. The Clerk was asked to contact the Lengthsman regarding the weed issue and it was agreed to wait until the next meeting to discuss further the window and bin.

PC73: Public Open Space Grant Money – Cllr Evans gave an overview of matters concerning the S106 Grant since the last meeting. Overall there were still outstanding issues with Legal Services in connection with the final agreement. Further correspondence was still being sought from the Solicitor at MHDC. If this was not resolved satisfactorily, it was agreed that the Parish Council would write to the District Councillor and Member of Parliament representing the parish.

PC74: Baby and Toddler Group – The Chairman gave an overview of the Baby and Toddler Group. He reminded Councillors that it had been agreed, if a shortfall occurred in the Group's income for the month, that the Parish Council would underwrite that shortfall. For September it was £10.90 and October it was £10.10. .

PC75: Road and Drainage Issues within Parish - Current issues were:-

1. Potholes within Lower Frith Common.
2. Road and bank dropping below Cherry View, Frith Common – Meeting held and to be monitored.
3. Water issue causing hedge to drop at The Hollow, Frith Common – Proposed works for 2014 by WCC.
4. Drainage at bottom of Featherbed Lane – Paul Danby dealing with WCC.
5. Drain in Mill Lane.

PC76: Reserves Policy – In the light of the approaching need to set next year's precept and the continuing austere economic climate, the Council had been reviewing its financial reserves policy. The Council holds reserves to respond to unforeseen financial demands (such as funding a contested election or repairs to assets arising from catastrophic events) and for the planned replacement of essential capital items (such as computer equipment and the bus shelter) when they reach the end of their useful life. The Council was clear that its reserves needed to be sufficient to provide for these eventualities but, as public funds, must not be excessive. A sub-committee comprising the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Cllr Evans had been appointed and a draft reserves policy was produced for consideration. Further work was commissioned to;

- 1) ensure the accuracy of the Council's asset register, and
- 2) estimate replacement values of essential capital items.

A report would be received at the next meeting at which the draft reserves policy would be reconsidered alongside the precept setting discussions.

PC77: Draft Precept for 2014-2015 – The draft precept for 2014/2015 (which showed no increase on that for 2013/2014) was considered on a line by line basis. Discussions were held regarding printing costs. Clerk to look at the costings for a hard drive to back up documents. The tax base is 298.50 with a Parish Grant of £558.75 receivable from Malvern Hills District Council. Question asked was “what would be the impact on the Precept by being awarded this Grant”. This should be known by the January meeting, where the Precept would be set.

PC78: Heart Start Course – The Clerk confirmed that the evening course had been advertised locally for Tuesday 19th November. Local residents had responded well to the advert. An update would be reported at the January meeting.

PC79: Parish Councillor Vacancy – The Clerk reported that after advertising for the role, one application had been received from Deborah Hawkeswood. The Chairman proposed and Cllr Mrs Pardoe seconded the application.

PC80: Agree, check and minute accounts – Cllr Mrs Lowe and Cllr Williams signed, checked and agreed accounts.

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| a) | Miss R S Lambert, Parish Clerk, Salary – Sept & Oct 2013 | £413.74 |
| b) | V Melling, Baby & Toddler Equipment reimbursement | £264.91 |

Accounts Unpaid

- | | | |
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| c) | Miss R S Lambert, Parish Clerk, Exps for Sept & Oct 2013 | £ 79.65 |
| d) | Mr P Danby, Parish Lengthsman, Exps for Sept & Oct 2013 | £372.00 |
| e) | Mr P Danby, Parish Lengthsman, Maintenance of Parish Boards | £160.00 |
| f) | Lindridge Parish Hall– Parish Council Mtg on 11/09/13 | £ 36.00 |
| g) | V Melling – Baby & Toddler Equipment reimbursement | £601.24 |
| h) | V Melling – Baby & Toddler Shortfall Exps | £ 21.00 |
| i) | Eardiston Sawmill Ltd – Yorkshire Boards to Bus Shelter | £ 24.00 |

j) H&W Computers, Keyboard

£ 51.00

PC81: Review Planning Matters

PLANNING REFERENCE – 13/01090/FUL

Change of use from residential to commercial. Conversion of existing bungalow (lodge to Eden Grange) into office with parking. The Lodge at Eden Grange, Newnham Bridge. Mr Andrey Kulich PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

PLANNING REFERENCE – 13/01404/LBC

Construction of single storey garden room to rear. Demolition of boiler house and replacement boiler house. Construction of garden store to replace existing. 24 Menith Wood, Worcestershire, WR6 6UB. Mr Howard Peel.

PC82: Report on Matters Arising from Minutes of Last Meeting –

Clerk – To follow up on the redundant Nags Head building and the container at Lambswick.

The Chairman reported that the table tennis group do not meet on Thursday evenings anymore; also the English Table Tennis Association had stated that outdoor tables are never located in Primary Schools. Therefore, the Chairman confirmed he would write to Sports England and withdraw the bid.

PC83: Correspondence for Information –

- a) Letter from Mrs G Sandon – resignation from Parish Council
- b) Application received from D Hawkeswood for Parish Councillor vacancy
- c) Email from B Gammond, MHDC – Re: Container at Lambswick
- d) Winter Service Newsletter
- e) Email from D Marks Re: John Walker Memorial Cup

A discussion was held regarding the email from Mr D Marks as to whether a memorial cup could be dedicated to the late Mr John Walker of Woodston. It was decided to carry this item forward for further thought.

PC84: Items for Future Agenda –

Public Open Space Grant Money
Baby and Toddler Group
Road and Drainage Issues within Parish
Adopt a Policy for Reserves
Adopt 2014/2015 Precept
Health Campaigns

PC85: Items for Teme Span and Next Meeting Date –

Date of next meeting Wednesday 15th January 2014 at Lindridge Parish Rooms.
The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.