

North Lopham Parish Council

Draft minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 9th January 2013 in The Mess, St Andrews School, North Lopham.

1. **Attendance and Apologies:** Present were Heather Potter (Chair), Jan Tate (Vice-Chair), Mick McManus, Valerie Garnham, Dawn Eagle, Robert Carley and Mike Cox (Clerk). Also in attendance were Robert McCaw (SLPC) and one member of the public. Apologies received from Lesley Bird.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of last meeting held 14th November 2012:** Read, approved and signed.
4. **Matters arising:**
 - Affordable Housing & Play area – A letter from Lophams Links requesting the availability of suitable land was met with a response from Savills, the agents for the Duke of Norfolk. They identified a piece of land in Primrose Lane, North Lopham near to the pumping station but suggested that this could be used for affordable housing and a play area. A subsequent meeting was held with the agent, Lophams Links and representatives of the Parish Council. Since that meeting, a letter has been written to the trustees of the land and the tenant Mr. Rednall regarding this. The likelihood is that nothing much will happen in the next twelve months. The Lophams Links have decided to refund those groups who donated money in the absence of an established play area site at this time. The refund to NLPC amounted to £250.00.
 - 20 mph speed limit – a meeting has been arranged for 10am Tuesday 15th January 2013 with Mrs Norgate, Head Teacher of St Andrews School, Highways, Norfolk Constabulary and members of the PC. This will be coordinated by Lesley Bird.
5. **Financial Report and any accounts outstanding for payment:** (Deposit A/C £2665.80
Current A/C £540.06)
 - Clerk's expenses £9.99 (snow shovel for grit bin)
 - Hire of The Mess - £10.00
 - Parish Newsletter - £51.00 (Dec 2012/Jan 2013)
 - Wheelie bin stickers £22.00Accounts approved for payment, all in favour.
6. **Planning Applications:**
 - 3PL/2012/1077/F - adjacent 14. The Green, new dwelling - approved.
 - 3PL/2012/1161/F - 14 The Green, alterations & extension – approved.
 - 3PL/2012/1148/F - 40a The Street – approved.
 - 3PL/2012/1013/D – Alcliff, Kings Head Lane – approved.
 - 3PL/2012/1149/F – Poplar Farm – pending.
 - 3PL/2012/1106/F – 73 The Street – pending.
7. **Footpaths, Roads and Footways:**
 - Highways – Jan Tate gave an update on at least 15 potholes in the village and problem drains which have been reported to Highways.
 - Hedges – there are still problems with overhanging hedges.
 - Road closure – Highways notified PC that High Common Road will be closed to all traffic between 18th and 23rd January 2013.
A resident has reported the occasional use of Harling Road by HGV's.
8. **Correspondence:**
 - Precept – Robert McCaw was invited to explain the calculations for the Precept, but advised the Clerk to verify these with the responsible officer at Breckland Council*. Clerk contacted BDC the following day who explained that the precept could be given in the form of a £166.00 grant (from Central Govt) and £2830.00 to bring it up to almost £3000. This would mean no extra burden on the existing council tax payers. The formula for council tax benefits has changed this year resulting in fewer households paying the council tax.

9. **South Lopham Parish Council meeting:**
Robert McCaw announced that to date no replacement Councillor had been found but a meeting to be held the following evening may resolve this matter.

10. **Re-election of Charities officers:**
Jennie Vere and Mike Cox stood for re-election to NL Charities. Rosemary Cook has stood down and Dawn Eagle was elected as her replacement. These posts are for 4 years. All in favour.

11. **Items for next Agenda:**
 - Affordable Housing.
 - 20 mph speed limit.

12. **Date & time of next meeting – Wednesday 13th March 2013 at 7.30pm and will be held at The Mess, St Andrews School, North Lopham.**