

North Lopham Parish Council

Draft minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 13th January 2010 in the Methodist Schoolroom, North Lopham

1. **Attendance and Apologies:** Present were Brian Frith (Chair), Jan Tate (Vice-Chair), Val Garnham, Mick McManus, John Barwick, Heather Potter and Mike Cox (Clerk). Six members of the public attended. There were no apologies.
2. **Declaration of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of last meeting held Wednesday 11th November 2009:** Minutes of last meeting approved and signed. Proposed Mick McManus, all in agreement.
4. **Matters arising:**
 - a. Pride in Norfolk Award – Bulbs had been bought half-price at Blooms and planted at Letchmere, Burial Ground and Village Hall with help from Mike Cox and Tim Colyer. School to use voucher later and a letter of thanks had been received. Plaque displayed at Post Office.
5. **Financial Report and Accounts outstanding for payment:** Current account balance £1508.06; Deposit £3604.99 (incl. Bernice Malson bequest)
 - a. Hire of Methodist Schoolroom - £20
 - b. Lophams News contribution - £132.21
 - c. Clerk's fees - £225 and £12 expenses (3rd instalment)
 - d. VAT refund to be claimed - £148.95Proposed for payment Jan Tate, all in agreement
6. **Planning Applications:**

3PL/2009/0915/F - 9 The Street – 1st Floor extension and rear porch - Approved

3PL/2009/0922/O – plot adjacent to Alcliff, Kings Head Lane – severance of garden to form plot for one dwelling – approved despite majority objection from PC.

3PL/2009/0978/F – adjacent to Yew Tree Cottage, High Common – conversion of barn to dwelling – refused. No objection from PC but many neighbour objections.

3PL/2009/1001/F – The Linen House, The Street – erection of agricultural building – approved. The Clerk agreed to contact Breckland reference this application – decision apparently made prior to due date and PC comments not taken into consideration. Also concern that decisions which went against PC views were not been explained as promised.
7. **Footpaths, Roads and Footways:**
 - a. Footway and drain clearance – Jan Tate has notified SERCO regarding Dog bins overflowing and Highways ref sinking roads.
 - b. Claiming rights to the lanes to the west of 'The Street' – further meeting with landowners and David Mills (NCC) to hopefully clarify the situation and agree next steps.
 - c. Any other comments/problems – Turfsoil will no longer be cutting grass in Primrose Lane. Clerk will investigate possible new contractors. Reports that at least one of the recently erected finger posts had been removed (at bottom of Tanns Lane). Mr Rednall said he would re-instate it if it could be found. It was agreed that the annual Village Spring Clean would be on Saturday 6th March 2010. Details to be publicised in Lophams News.
 - d. Highways to be contacted re: problems with ditches in Tanns Lane just past pumping station.
8. **Developments on 'safe play area' in village:** The official meeting was adjourned for public comment on this topic. Gabi Hawthorne asked if the piece of land adjacent to the pumping station in Primrose Lane was available for a play area. Mr Rednall, the tenant, was present and suggested that a formal letter be sent to him, which he would forward to the landowner. Plot of land behind Methodist Chapel also suggested, but this was not thought viable. Brian Frith had written again to James Alston regarding access to Village Hall from grain drier on field side of hedge. He is currently considering the issues.
9. **Community matters:** There was nothing to report on Village hall other than Lottery has received a good take-up. The Village Hall Committee would also welcome new ideas for use of the building.
10. **Parish Council nominations for Lophams Charity Trustees:** Mike Cox, Jennie Vere and Rosemary Cook re-elected. Proposed John Barwick, all agreed.
11. **Correspondence:** None.
12. **South Lopham PC:** Two reps. from bus company and one from NCC Transport office had been present at the last meeting; most complaints about lateness etc; passengers to be told bus will not wait for long periods. Delays making bookings are easing as everyone gets to know the system.
13. **Items for Next Agenda:** None received.
14. **Date & Time of next meeting: Wednesday 10th March 2010 at 7.30 pm in The Methodist Schoolroom**