

LODDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of Loddon Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 13th December 2018
at 7.00pm in The Library Annexe, Loddon**

Present: **David Bingham** (DB)
 John Coupe (JC)
 Sophie Garrett (SG)
 Ray Lumley (RL)
 Michael Roe (MR)
 Margaret Wallace (MW)

In Attendance: **Colin Gould** (CG) District Councillor
 Howard Keeling (HK) Finance & Projects Officer
 Anne Panella (AP) Parish Clerk

WELCOME

- 229 The Chair has sent apologies so the Vice Chair will conduct the meeting. He welcomed all to the meeting and confirmed that no-one wanted to record the meeting.
- 230 The resignation of the Finance & Projects Officer was noted. HK was thanked for his contribution over the past three years, which has seen a much improved and transparent financial reporting process.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 231 Were received from Paul Clemence, Peggy Fulleylove, Gary Knights, June Strickland, Steve Swanson and Barry Stone.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 232 None were received.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2018

Resolved: to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2018.
Proposed by MR, seconded MW. All in agreement.

- 233 The Draft Minutes of the Playing Field Committee were received for information. It was confirmed that further clarification has been requested from the Jubilee Hall Management Committee before considering a grant request for funds towards provision of a container on the field. To date, this information has not been received.

MATTERS ARISING

- 234 Chairs Action: was taken to authorise a risk assessment and carry out urgent repairs to heaters in the Library Annexe. With the room being used by local groups these works were required in order to meet statutory obligations. A report on the risk assessment will be received shortly and likely require further minor works to be carried out.

235 A new dual fuel contract with British Gas has been agreed, to include the Staithes toilets, but running costs for the heaters, which are old and inefficient are in the region of £6/day. LPC may wish to consider efficiency measures such as replacement of heaters, insulation of the roof and/or secondary glazing but not before the 2-year break clause (in 2020) in the Lease.

TO RECEIVE, FOR INFORMATION, REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

236 County Councillor: BS reported that Highways have now approved the majority of design changes for the George Lane roundabout; a few minor issues remain outstanding although, as yet, no start date has been confirmed.

237 District Councillor:

a. SNC was selected as a pilot for councils to keep 75% of business rates, a net benefit of £600K. The Support Grant for all Local Authorities is being phased out: in 2019 there will be no grant payable.

b. the Glover report proposes that the Broads Authority (BA) become the planning authority for those parishes within the Broads area even though the BA has no parish representatives. The consultation is open until 18th December and LPC are urged to respond. Clerk to draft a reply objecting to this proposal. AP

c. The owner of the Kings Head is agreeable to having a removable post at the entrance between the pub and the Loddon Marina, and requested he is provided with a key

d. SNC has invested heavily in sports and leisure facilities within the district: Ketts Park opening soon; Long Stratton opening February

e. Electric car charging points on Church Plain will be installed in the near future; no immediate plans for installing a point at the Staithes

f. SNC will be closed over the Christmas and New Year period with emergency contact numbers available on-line

PLANNING

The following application requires a decision from the Council:

238 2018/2579. 32 Beck Way: single storey rear extension. No objections. Proposed by MW, seconded by SG. All in agreement.

239 The following applications have been approved

- a. 2018/1895. 1 High Bungay Road: replacement of rotten first floor window, plus LB consent
- b. 2018/2140. 12 Filbert Road: raise canopy of mature oak tree by removing lower and side branches
- c. 2018/2148. 13C Beccles Road: single storey extension and associated works

PUBLIC FORUM

240 No issues were raised.

FINANCE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

241	Eon	Electricity - Pyes Mill	£10.02
	Saffron Housing Trust	Rent- Garage	£52.00
	Society of Local Council Clerks	Annual Subscription	£156.00
	Anglia Water Business Ltd (1)	Water Rates-Staithe Toilets	£1684.37
	nPower Business	Electricity – Staithe Toilets	£119.37
	South Norfolk Council	Dog Bin Emptying	£1440.00
	Apogee	Photocopying Charges	£5.87
	British Gas (2)	Gas – Library Annexe	£474.74
	Staff	November Salaries	£1773.58
	Norfolk Pension fund	November Contribution	£337.08
	HMRC	November Contribution	£306.51
	TalkTalk	Telephone & Broadband	£46.45
	See the Difference!!!	Toilet Cleaning	£1177.18
	Loddon Garden & DIY	War memorial plants & tree removal	£101.75
	The Church in Loddon	Contribution to Floodlights	£365.00
	Inty Cascade Ltd	Office 365 Subscription	£11.28
		SUB-TOTAL	£4,680.44

- 242 (1): SNC owe LPC £522 of this invoice, which includes water provided to boat users.
(2): this is for the provision of gas, for heating, in the Library Annexe for six weeks only
(3): the current 3-year agreement has now ended. The cost for a 2-year agreement will be £1,980 plus VAT per annum.

243 Invoices received after despatch:

- a. Fire Exit signs for gates at rear of Library Annexe: £40.00
- b. Cozens: Christmas Lights installation £2,376.00 (3)
- c. Cozens: additional power leads £391.44
- d. SNC Business Rates for LPC office £178.00
- e. SNC Business Rates for Staithe toilets £570.00
- f. Roberts: stationery and photocopying £31.20

GRAND TOTAL **£8,267.08**

Resolved: to approve the above payments. Proposed by MR, seconded by DB. All in agreement.

- 244 a. Pyes Mill Service Level Agreement: a meeting was held between LPC, SNC, BA and Loddon Marina. LPC understood that the BA would provide a more proactive service under this SLA but, in general, this has not been the case. Agreed for 2019/20 that LPC and SNC will share the £1,500 annual cost (to be included in Precept/Budget proposals) but during this time further discussion will be held on the proposals put forward by Loddon Marina for them to manage both the Marina and Staithe; this may take several months as there are legal implications for some of the proposals. It was noted that the reputation of Loddon as a boating holiday destination has declined in recent months due to

poor management of moorings, and reports of anti-social behaviour from some visitors

- b. Payment holiday for Football Club use of Hockey field for 2019/20 season: the PFC have given the Football Club a further year of holiday payment for the Jubilee Hall Field in return for carrying out field maintenance. They are required to keep the pitch to a prescribed FA standard – failure to do so could see their membership revoked. The same pitch standards are required on the Hockey Field.

Resolved: to provide a payment holiday of one year to the Football Club. Proposed by RL, seconded by MW. All in agreement.

- c. Purchase of chairs for Library Annexe: the current chairs belong to the Preservation Trust but they no longer require them. Many are broken and/or in poor condition. Cost of mid-range chair £10.95 plus VAT.

Resolved: to purchase 10 chairs this financial year. Budget provision to be made for a further 30 chairs in 2019/20. Proposed by MR, seconded by SG. All in agreement.

- d. Next Budget/Precept meeting: 3rd January 2019 at 7.00 pm

TO RECEIVE, FOR INFORMATION, REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

- 245
- a. Library Annexe: thanks extended to AP and HK for the work in clearing out the Annexe and ensuring it is properly managed and presented for hirers
 - b. Loddon Building Preservation Trust: are looking for volunteers
 - c. BACT: have got one new volunteer driver. Most volunteers live in/around Beccles and Bungay, which adds to the cost if the customer is a Loddon resident.
 - d. Victorian Evening: was very successful with much positive feedback with more people this year attending from neighbouring villages
 - e. Member Ward Budget: CG noted that his Budget still has funds that must be used by end of the year: an application for the cost of the new chairs could be considered from this budget.
 - f. Remembrance Sunday: the memorial, and surround, still require some further minor works to ensure it is kept in best condition

POLICE

- 246 No local report has been received. It was noted that the police force, nationally, have been awarded an additional £300 million - Norfolk will receive £11.5 million – to meet operational costs. Nationally, the Police have received authority to increase their annual budget demand above the legal maximum without the need to hold a referendum.

TO RECEIVE LIST OF SIGNIFICANT CORRESPONDENCE

- 247 Low Bungay Road: a residents' letter was first received in July 2018. The Beat Manager arranged for a survey to be carried out on the incidents of speeding vehicles but this did not produce an action plan. There is no pavement, and no space to built one unless gardens are taken to provide this facility. Residents are wary of walking in the road, particularly in the darker evenings. The road is subject to 20mph limit, which means that it cannot be enforced.

248 Clerk to contact Highways to seek a long-term solution: can the road be upgraded to 30mph limit, thereby enabling monitoring and enforcement of excessive speed; a chicane or speed bump/s mid-way along the road would force drivers to observe a safer speed. Details of speeding vehicles to continue to be passed to the Interim Beat manager for possible action. Inform County Councillor of the hazard this road presents to pedestrians and other road users. AP

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS: all on Thursday at 7.00pm unless stated otherwise

- 249
- a. Precept meeting will be held on 3rd January
 - b. 10th January. Agendas items to Clerk by 2nd January
 - c. 14th February. Agenda items to Clerk by 5th February

The meeting ended at 8.30 pm