

LINDSEY PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

The Parish Council Meeting was held on Wednesday 11th January 2017 and commenced at 7.30pm in the village hall. The Chairman, Mr. Arthey welcomed the following Parish Cllrs to the meeting – R Corcoran, M Hainsworth, Mrs R Howe, F Moore and A Sturgeon to the meeting. Also present were County Cllr. J Finch (in part), District Cllr. B. Hurren, Mrs V Waples (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

A statement was read out indicating that, in accordance with the changes in legislation, the public and councillors were permitted to film, record, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of the meeting. *A full transcript of the statement is available from the Clerk upon request.*

1. APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE
 - i. Apologies of absence were received from Cllr. Waldron due to ill health.
 - ii. Council consented to accept these apologies.
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:
 - i. Cllr. Sturgeon declared a Pecuniary Interest for Agenda Item 8i - Bullet Point 2 whilst Cllr. Arthey declared a Local Non Pecuniary Interest for Agenda Item 6iv) as a Member of the Village Hall Committee. There were no further declarations of pecuniary or non pecuniary interests and there were no declarations of gifts of hospitality received exceeding £25.
 - ii. There were no requests for dispensations for the agenda under discussion.
3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 9th November 2016 were approved by all present and signed as true and accurate records, aif.
4. PUBLIC FORUM:
 - i. Police: - the following items were brought to the attention of the of the meeting by the Sudbury SNT - the Clerk confirmed that she had signed the Council up to Police Connect and that messages relevant to Lindsey and surrounding areas were being passed on to Councillors for onward submission. The meeting was made aware of the latest Sudbury Saferneighbourhood Team (SNT) Report for December 2016. It was also confirmed that a link to Sudbury SNT had been placed on the website. Council was also made aware of an armed robbery that had taken place the previous evening at an address in George Street, Hadleigh.
 - ii. District Councillor: - District Cllr. Hurren was invited to submit his report in which he commented on the following:
 - Budget for 2017-2018 was being worked upon - there was a commitment to limit any increase to a maximum 2%. Council was reminded that the District collected Council Tax for all the authorities and that there was an indication that there would be a 3-4% rise across the board.
 - New Chief Executive - it was confirmed that Arthur Charvonia had been confirmed as joint chief executive of the two authorities and that he had previously been Strategic Director at Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Councils. He had made the Councils aware that there were serious challenges facing both Councils.
 - Planning - he would assist with those planning applications coming before the Development Committee and would be grateful to have any comments from the Parish Council on applications they wished him to support.
 - Quay Theatre - brochures were handed out to all present.
 - iii. County Councillor - County Cllr. Finch was invited to submit his report in which he commented on the following:
 - Has the Council got all that was needed for bad weather - e.g. salt heaps/grit bins filled?
 - Park and ride at Ipswich - facility being retained. Noted that savings needed to be found and that there would be reduction in subsidies offered.

Signed.....

8th March 2017

- Feasibility study on Sudbury Relief Road would soon be published
 - Feasibility study on the Ipswich Northern Fringe Relief Road to be launched
 - Broadband moves forward. Kersey can now access 30mb. Target is still there to provide this for 85%+ of Suffolk. He will provide a full update at the next meeting.
 - Budget - it was still to be confirmed but the Council was discussing a 0% increase with a possible 2 or 3% increase for Adult Social Care.
 - When questioned as to how the Parish Councillors would react to an increase of 3% it was confirmed that it was acceptable provided there was a greater delivery of services.
 - When questioned he confirmed that as far as he was aware the works to the Bildeston Road/Kersey Road crossroads was on schedule and it would cover the removal of trees and grading back the bank.
 - When asked for an update on the Devolution Deal he confirmed that an answer should be had within the next 24 hours.
- iv. Public - the member of the public present spoke regarding the reasoning behind a planning application that he had recently registered with Babergh District Council. It was confirmed that, until the application was before the Parish Council, the Council could not make any comments in response to his submission.

5. CORRESPONDENCE: general correspondence was brought to the Council's attention and in particular:

- i. SALC - confirmation of the appointed auditor for the five year period from the financial year 2017/18 - Council was made aware that the appointed auditor was PJK Littlejohn LLP.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

- i. To consider and receive the schedule of Receipts - it was confirmed that no income had been received since the last meeting.
- ii. To consider and approve the verified items awaiting authorisation - a copy of the Schedule of Verified Invoices awaiting payment was circulated to all members and discussed. It was recommended that the schedule be approved, aif. A copy of the details for these payments can be seen at Appendix A on minute page 527.
- iii. To consider the Council's financial position including an actual to budget statement - the financial position of the Parish Council as at 11th January 2017 was presented to the Parish Council. Council's funds stood at £443.79. A copy of the financial position can be seen on minute page 527. In accordance with the Council's Standing Order 17, the Clerk/RFO produced a statement which showed a comparison with the actual versus budgeted expenditure and income for the financial year. It showed that expenditure was mainly within budget for the year and that taken overall the council was very close to budget with a small under-spend predicted.
- iv. To consider and approve the budget for 2017-2018 and to sign the Precept Form for submission to the Charging Authority (BDC) - Council received the reworked budget taking into account the tax base for Lindsey. It was agreed that in view of the increase in the tax base, Council should see this as an opportunity to consolidate its small reserves. It was further proposed and agreed that Council should set a Precept of £2720 which was an increase of £5.01 or 18.93% over 2017-2018. Council received the previously circulated paper outlining the proposed budget for 2017-18, aif. It was further proposed and agreed that the Parish Council should insert an article into the next newsletter detailing the increase with an explanation that this increase was part of a longer term plan to put the Council's reserves on a good footing. Council was also in agreement that the explanation should be explained in £ terms as well as %. The Precept Upon the Charging Authority Form was completed and signed by the Chairman, Clerk and two non signatories of the Parish Council. This form would now be served on the District Council by the due date of 31st January 2017.
- v. To review the following policies: Complaints; Dispensation; Grant Awarding; Grievance & Disciplinary; Reimbursement of Expenses & Training Policy - Council reviewed the previously circulated policies and found them still to be compliant and applicable to Lindsey and its functioning
- vi. There were no other matters coming forth for the Council to consider.

Signed.....

8th March 2017

7. PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

- i. Locality Budget - could the Parish Council ask County Cllr. Finch for monies to put hardened corners on the triangle at the end of Drakestone Lane as this was the last triangle to be done. It was agreed that the Clerk would approach Cllr. Finch in the first instance.
- ii. Roadside verges - Cllr. Sturgeon made the meeting aware that a local farmer had indicated that he would be prepared to cut the roadside verges in the village, 2 - 3 times a year at a cost of 25 pounds an hour. The Clerk was asked to contact SCC Highways Department to ascertain whether the Parish Council could take over this service and whether it could be given the budget for the one single cut currently provided by SCC.

8. PLANNING APPLICATION

- i. Council considered the following planning applications:
 - B/16/01675 - Construction of new vehicular access, parking area and driveway @ Old Rectory, The Tye.
Council had no objections to this application and agreed to support it in terms of access and visibility.
Having declared a Pecuniary Interest, Cllr. Sturgeon left the meeting.
 - B/16/01707 - Notification under Part 6 of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 - erection of agricultural building @ Lodge Farm, Kersey Road.
Council noted that this was a notification only and as such had no further comments to make.
- ii. There were no planning determinations coming forth.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 8th March 2017 commencing at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall, Church Road, Lindsey.

Signed.....

8th March 2017

Appendix A - Financial Report

Items to be Authorized for Payment

Expenditure	Description	Nett	VAT	Gross	Ref	Power
11.01.2017	V Waples - Clerk's Salary & Expenses			201.43	399	LGA 1972 s111&112
	HMRC - .			58.40	400	LGA 1972 s144

Financial Report

	Date	£
Opening Balance	9 th November 2016	703.62
Add Income Received	October - November	0.00
Less Expenditure Incurred	October - November	0.00
Less Expenditure from verified list	11 th January 2017	259.83
Closing Balance	11 th January 2017	£443.79

Bank Reconciliation

Community Account	Statement 93	703.62
Less unlogged cheques	11 th January 2017	259.83
Plus unaccredited income	11 th January 2017	0.00
Reconciled Total		£443.79

Signed.....

8th March 2017