

South Lopham Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held at Valley Farm, Low Common.
Thursday 13th March 2014 7.30pm**

Present:

Council Members: David Huggins (DH)
Tim Frizzell (TF)
John Crisp (JC)
Sarah Martin (SM)
Jim Pursehouse (JP)

Parish Clerk: Caroline Phillips (CAP)

Granville Horan (Lophams' Society (LS))

Members of the public: Alan Briggs, Peter Coster, Tom Brown for item 11a, solar farm planning update.

1. Resignation of the Temporary Chairman and election of the new permanent Chairman.

TF resigned and John Crisp was unanimously elected as our new Chairman.

2. To record attendance and consider the acceptance of apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from S Reynolds and R Webb.

3. To record declarations of interests from members in any item to be discussed.

All members present declared an interest in the planning application 3PL/2014/0143/F.

4. To approve the Minutes of the last meeting (9 January 2014).

The meeting notes were unanimously approved.

5. To report on matters arising from the Minutes (other than those listed separately on the Agenda).

JC and CAP had interviewed a potential new Clerk. However after discussion with JC, CAP had rescinded her notice and will continue as Clerk for the foreseeable future. The book Parish Council's Explained has been ordered. St Andrew's Church has sent a receipt.

6. To receive and approve the Financial Report, the statement of current balances and to consider the following accounts for approval or ratification.

Opening balance of £2553.09, cleared cheques £344.00, balance as at 28/02/2014 £2209.09.

- a) Lophams' News February 2014 and March 2014 (2x£22) £44, unanimously approved
- b) Clerk's salary £300 unanimously approved.

7. Budget for 2014-15 precept and discussion on the provision for grass cutting at St Andrew Church.

After a clarification of legislation Breckland had confirmed a further £237.65 would be received in addition to the precept. After discussion it was agreed an amount of £850.00 would be allocated to Village Maintenance/Projects, this amount includes the existing allowance for the church grass cutting. The budget of £3420.00 was unanimously approved. A resident, E Else, had offered to cut the church grass. JP was asked to discuss this offer in more detail and identify typical costs. If there are any other residents interested in helping with the grass cutting please make the Clerk aware. There are 3 items not spent in the

current year's budget, £20 for wreath, SM to investigate where the payment should be made, £25 was unanimously approved as expenses for the Clerk to cover heating at the meeting venue and £12 for website domain, CAP to discuss with SR.

- 8. To discuss and approve the new Standing Orders (10/2013) tailored for South Lopham.**
After discussion the new Standing Orders were unanimously approved.

- 9. To discuss and approve the 2013 risk assessment.**
This was unanimously approved.

- 10. To discuss plans for the Village Meeting.**

Date confirmed as 11 April. GH will arrange for posters to be made/displayed. CAP will liaise with Julie Crossley re invites for clubs/societies. Running order to be as last year; Lophams' Society, SLPC, NLPC, clubs/societies.

- 11. To receive reports from Councillors on the following;**

- a. Planning Matters - **SM** updated the meeting. One application is being considered - Solar farm planning application 3PL/2014/0143/F comments are due 31/3/2014. The case officer was P Took, now Jemima Dean, who is currently on leave. JC and SM will request a meeting with her to discuss SLPC's stance on the application and to enlist assistance on how best to provide the formal feedback – ABriggs was invited to attend this meeting if it can be arranged at a suitable time. JC/SM will then advise CAP the form of the response. Breckland has confirmed this is a major application so will go to committee, (next committee dates are 14/4 and 15/5.) Despite numerous requests by SLPC the developer had not confirmed a date for a Village Consultation meeting. A Briggs, P Coster and T Brown were given the opportunity to provide comments and along with SM highlighted the main features of the application and drew attention to the number and height/size of the buildings, road access, the fact no EIA was needed, various correspondence from MP's was reviewed. The Developers AVIC and R Pike had attended the NLPC meeting the previous evening and feedback from that meeting was provided. A request for an extension to the 31/03/2014 deadline is being requested in an attempt to allow a Village Consultation meeting to take place.
- b. Highways **JP**. Damage to the road at Church Street has been repaired. Flooding near Chequers Lane has been cleared twice. Finger post at Low Common was reported to the Rangers but not repaired, JP to report to Highways. Similarly the 30mph sign. A large hole/broken gulley on A1066 needs urgent attention. Pansthorn had written to SLPC and JP had raised the problem of the eroding verge with Highways. Highways had contacted the owners asking for the boulders to be removed – this remains an ongoing difficulty. A pot hole on Blo Norton road needs repairing.
- c. Community Matters **DH**. If anyone can provide lorry registration numbers when vehicles mount the verge this allows for better reporting
- d. Footpaths **RW**. No report.
- e. Works **TF**. Bus shelter was tidied.

- 12. Other Reports**

- a. Parish Website **SR**. No report.
- b. Lophams' Society GH. Future events planned are Spring Quiz 28 March, Autumn Quiz 12 September, possibility of a further quiz in November was being discussed. A Summer Jazz Concert 19 July and a Summer Afternoon Tea for senior residents

- 13. To consider other items of correspondence**

The Clerk had received correspondence over the boundary review ward name and had canvassed opinion. The name Gilt Cross had been put forward.

14. To transact Any Other Business and receive suggestions for items to be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

SM will consider asking for the rubbish in a field on Low Common Road to be cleared up.

15. Date and time of next meeting

Village meeting 11 April 2014

8 May 2014

10 July 2014

Future dates TBC - CAP to find out copy dates for Cock Crow to see if future meetings could better fit in with their deadlines

Signed..... John Crisp, Chairman

Date: