LOCKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council VIRTUAL Meeting held on Monday 14th December 2020

20/058 Apologies: – No apologies, all Parish Councillors present.

Lockington Parish Councillors present were: Kevin Marshall, (Chair), John Rowson, Mary Munro-Hill, Caroline Holgate, Adrian Crookes, Graham Chapman, Andrew How, and Andrew Proctor.

Visitors:

There were two Parishioners on line.

The Clerk to the Parish Council (PC), Mr Gareth Rees was also present.

20/059 The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th November had been duly reviewed and approved by the Parish Councillors present and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the meeting.

Name……………………………………. Signature……………………………………Date…………………………….

20/060 Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests - Members to declare any interests in items on the agenda and the nature of such interests.

Parish Councillor Graham Chapman explained that he had responded to an e mail from the Clerk in relation to a Declaration of Interest (DOI) with regard to the development of Lockington Village Community Green (LVCG). The Parish Councillor went on to explain that he had contacted ERYC Legal and Democratic Services to obtain some advice and spoke to Ms Sarah Baxter. Her advice was that - for the avoidance of doubt - all Parish Councillors who live close to a site under detailed discussion ought to declare a Non-Pecuniary Interest. They could then take part in the meeting as usual.

Subsequently, Parish Councillor Graham Chapman declared a Non-Pecuniary DOI in the development of Lockington Village Community Green. The Clerk voiced a concern with regard to protocol regarding the DOI, and suggested he would take this off line and discuss with Parish Councillor Graham Chapman.

Clerk actioned to follow up with Parish Councillor Graham Chapman re the advice he was given by ERYC.

Action Date; 22nd December 2020 (AN 20/060). Action complete.

20/061 To review and resolve any East Riding of Yorkshire (ERYC) Council Business:

Discussion took place around the Hornsea 4 Project, and the lack of response from Hornsea 4. The Clerk was asked to chase up response from the Ward Councillors.

Clerk actioned to follow up with Ward Councillors re their input/response to the Parish Council previous correspondence with Hornsea 4.

Action Date; 22nd December 2020 (AN 20/061). Action complete.

20/062 Parish Council ongoing Business Matters:

1. Green Initiative/Cost Saving (re day to day correspondence) – the Clerk explained the detail behind this proposal.

* All correspondence received by Lockington Parish Council would be distributed as normal to all Parish Councillors.
* Rather than printing out the individual correspondence item, and discussing at the next meeting, each item would be entered on a spreadsheet and circulated to the PC prior to the next meeting. The spreadsheet would then be debated at the next meeting. This approach would save a large volume of paper, reducing paper & printing costs considerably. The correspondence would be saved on three stand-alone electronic devices, ensuring archive ability if required.
* The exception to this rule being Planning in general. All Planning correspondence would have a separate line item on the Agenda.

Parish Councillor Adrian Crookes proposed that the Green Initiative be adopted by the PC

This was seconded by Parish Councillor Mary Munro-Hill.

A vote was taken and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Clerk actioned to continue with the Green Initiative on a permanent basis, rather than just during the Covid Pandemic

Action Date; On going. (AN 20/062(a)). Action complete.

1. Clerk reported that there had been no further communication from ERYC, re drainage modification at Church Lane and Thorpe Leys.

20/062 (b) continued;

The Environmental Agency (EA) had responded to the PC, however, they do not intend to carry out any further work on Bryan Mills Beck this year.

This response was not satisfactory to the PC, the Clerk was asked to write to the EA asking them to accept written responsibility for any flooding that occurred and the subsequent damage that ensued, from their reluctance to carry out a ‘Duty of Care’ on Bryan Mills beck.

The Volunteer Flood Wardens to review the condition of the Beck and see if it would be possible to remove weed/debris from a small section to help the water flow.

Clerk actioned to correspond with the EA as described above.

Action Date; 22nd December 2020 (AN 20/062(b)). Action complete.

(c) Volunteer Flood Warden Scheme (VFW).

Parish Councillors Andrew How and John Rowson explained that this scheme was now up and running. A ‘What’s App’ group had been established, and an article for the Gazette was being developed.

There are 12 VFW in the scheme currently, and more are been recruited.

Parish Councillors Andrew How and John Rowson

(d) Hornsea 4 Project Feedback

The Clerk reported that there had been no further communication from the Hornsea 4 Project Team.

Action as detailed above in AN 20/061.

(e) Lockington Village Community Green (LVCG)

The Chairman, Parish Councillor Kevin Marshall gave a detailed update on the latest position with regard to LVCG. This included the following topics;

* The ERYC informal planning advice which is reflected in the draft Planning Application (both previously circulated).
* The latest community responses from the December 2020/January 2021 Gazette article and how best to respond in the context of the earlier community consultation/mandate for the land exchange and Community Green.
* The issues and implications in respect of submitting a planning application now versus delaying submission – as detailed in correspondence. Specifically, an application being the only definitive way to establish that the change from agricultural land to Community & Recreational Use and the proposed access is acceptable – and to resolve any safety concerns.

20/062 (e) continued

A wide-ranging discussion followed on all aspects of the scheme, including the difficulties arising from COVID19 restrictions on consultation and public meetings; access/safety; planning issues, etc.

Given that the planning application does not have to show scheme details at this stage, it was acknowledged that, unless circumstances changed, it was not necessary to finalise a scheme for the Community Green until probably Spring/Summer 2021. This will enable the Parish Council to assess the outcome of the planning application and any conditions attached to a planning consent; to consider further consultation with residents including a public meeting (when allowed) and, importantly, the availability of resources and/or grants for the provision and maintenance of agreed facilities. The approximate cost of the Planninf Application would be £260.

Parish Councillor Graham Chapman reiterated his concerns regarding pedestrian safety with the new access from Thorpe and his views that no further action should be taken until there has been a public meeting.

This culminated in a formal Proposal:

In the light of;

1. the advice from ERYC Highways officers that the proposed access even in its revised position does not meet Council standards;
2. recent correspondence from residents requesting reinstatement of the planned public meeting before the proposals are taken forward;
3. the expected improvement in the Covid-19 situation now that vaccines are becoming available;

Submission of a planning application be deferred until residents have had the opportunity to discuss key principles of the proposal - including access arrangements - at a public meeting.

This was seconded by Councillor Andrew Proctor.

A vote was taken and the Proposal was rejected by a majority vote.

Parish Councillor John Rowson put forward an alternative Proposal:

That the Parish Council proceed now with a planning application for a Change from Agricultural Land to Community & Recreational Use and a new Access off Thorpe, as drafted.

Parish Councillor Mary Munro-Hill seconded the proposal and the resolution was carried by a majority vote.

20/062 (e) continued

Chairman & Clerk actioned to submit a planning application for the LVCG.

Action Date; December 2020(AN 20/062(e)). Action complete.

The Chairman, Parish Councillor Kevin Marshall volunteered to draft an article for the Gazette to update residents on the latest situation and intended public meeting (when allowed).

1. Parish Councillor Amanda Clarke had previously volunteered to look into possible funding/grants for LVCG, subsequently Parish Councillor Amanda Clarke resigned from the PC to take up new activities. It was decided to ask all Parish Councillors to research grants/funding and decide on a focal point for this work next year, 2021.

(g)Parish Councillor Amanda Clarke’s Resignation

Parish Councillor Amanda Clarke resigned from the PC to take up new activities. The Parish Council were very sorry to lose Amanda’s valuable input into the PC, however wished her every success in her new venture’s.

Clerk actioned to write letter of thanks to Parish Councillor Amanda Clarke for her time served on the Parish Council.

Action Date; December 2020 (AN 20/062(g)). Action complete.

(h) Tree Planting Positioning

Unfortunately, this topic could not be debated as there were technical issues with the internet. This will be an agenda item for January.

Clerk actioned to ensure Tree Planting positioning is on the agenda for January 2021

Action Date; December 2020 (AN 20/062(h)). Action complete.

20/063 Parish Council Correspondence:

The correspondence spreadsheet was debated and ‘noted’. One item requiring particular attention was a note from a village resident.

The PC were asked to assist a local resident on Thorpe persuade Dalton Estate to clean out a drainage ditch, behind their property, which was located on Dalton Land. This the PC did, as it was seen a contributory factor in road flooding last year. Dalton Estates subsequently cleaned out the ditch, clearing it of all debris, and ensuring good drainage was achieved.

The PC then received a note from another resident, saying that the ditch was too deep, resulting in standing water, which could lead to disease. This issue was discussed, but the depth of the ditch was seen as Dalton Estate issue, not the PC. The PC would continue to monitor the situation.

Clerk actioned to write to the resident explaining the PC position

Action Date; December 2020 (AN 20/063). Action complete.

20/064 Planning:

Planning approvals noted, no further action.

20/065 Budget:

1. The Precept demand for 2021/22 was discussed. The Clerk explained that the Tax Base (ERYC calculation) had been increased from 242.3 to 247.8 (number of Band ‘D’ equivalent properties). The current Precept stood at £4498, equivalent to a Band ‘D’ cost of £18.56p per annum.

Parish Councillor Andrew How proposed that the precept be increased to £4633 from £4498, an overall increase of 3% This will have the effect of increasing a Band ‘D’ property from £18.56p/annum to £18.70p/annum (a yearly increase of £0.14p).

The proposal was seconded by Parish Councillor Adrian Crookes.

A vote was taken and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Clerk actioned to make a Precept demand on ERYC for £4633.

Action Date; December 2020 (AN 20/065 (a)). Action complete.

20/065 Budget continued:

1. Payment to Alma Printers for £45 was noted and approved.

20/066 AOB:

1. The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by a Parishioner regarding the new fence constructed behind 71A Front Street. This was debated and agreed that it was possibly out of character and a little striking.

No further action at this stage.

1. The Chairman, Parish Councillor reported that Mr Trevor Mathews and Mr Geoff Dunham had spread bark chippings on the entry to the Minster Way path. The bark chippings had come from a tree that Mr Mathews had pollard in his garden. The Parish Council wished to thank both gentlemen.

Clerk actioned to write letter of thanks to Mr Trevor Mathews and Mr Geoff Dunham.

Action Date; December 2020 (AN 20/066(b)). Action complete.

1. Parish Councillor Caroline Holgate asked if anyone was aware of the ownership of the Post Box located at her home.

Clerk actioned to investigate.

Action Date; December 2020 (AN 20/066(c)). Action complete.

1. LVIG funds to be an agenda item for January 2021.

Clerk to ensure LVIG Funds on the agenda for January 2021.

Action Date; December 2020 (AN 20/066(d)). Action complete.

20/067 Dates for the next Virtual Ordinary Parish Council

18th January 2021@ 1900 hrs.

Issued by;

Gareth Rees

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