

# LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall  
Monday 11th July 2016 - 7.30pm to 8.45pm

**Present:** Cllr J Tyers (Chair)  
Cllr D L Couldwell  
Cllr H East  
Cllr T Fowell  
Cllr E Hobley  
Cllr B Sturgess  
Cllr H Tassell  
Tina Kaczmar (Parish Clerk - outgoing)  
Julia Unna (Parish Clerk - incoming)

**Members of the village -  
others in attendance:** Tina Elliott

## PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- 1 **Questions and comments from the floor:** A comment was raised regarding street lighting in the village – see notes under agenda item 10
- 2 **Apologies for absence:** None
- 3 **Declaration of Interests:** None
- 4 **Change of Parish Clerk:** The Chair thanked the outgoing Parish Clerk, Tina Kaczmar for her contributions to the Parish Council and welcomed Julia Unna as the incoming Parish Clerk
- 5 **Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 9 May 2016** were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair

## REGULAR REPORTS

- 6 **Lyddington Playing Field and Park**
  - 6.1 **To note the monthly safety check on the village play equipment and agree any actions required:**

The Parish Council noted the inspection confirmation email from Cllr H Tassell dated 25 June 2016, confirming that all the equipment appeared to be in working order although she had been unable to check the security of the table as this was occupied on the day she visited. Cllr J Tyers confirmed that he had also visited the park to routinely check equipment and to untangle the swings. Cllr J Tyers noted that Mick Wilkins had been asked to secure the benches into the ground. Cllr J Tyers also noted that he had expressed an interest in applying for the grass-cutting contract for 2017
  - 6.2 **Commentary regarding grass verges, dogs fouling the park and weeds**

The Parish Council noted that the verges in the village were in poor condition. It was noted that the number of scheduled cuts might have been reduced in 2016 as the visits appeared to be less frequent. Cllr D Couldwell noted that the grass at times appeared too long in certain places, which presented potential hazards to those using the pavements with oncoming traffic. Parish Clerk to follow up. It was also noted that a loose dog had been seen on the playing field. It was suggested that perhaps a dog tying up post could be introduced. Cllr D Couldwell felt that only regular village dog walkers visited this area of the playing field as a routine walking route

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Following on from the meeting held in March 2016, Cllr H East kindly offered to weed kill the area around the car park at the playing field using an industrial back pack. Parish Clerk to contact County Council to discuss suitable chemicals for safe usage in this area

### 7 Planning Applications

7.1 **Schedule of planning applications:** The schedule of planning applications was noted as all up to date. Applications were noted as lower than in previous years

### 8 Finance

8.1 **Current financial position and ratification of cheques issued:** A schedule detailing cheques issued since the last meeting was tabled, noted and agreed

8.2 **Clerk's Expenses:** The Clerk's salary and expenses for March and April 2016 (a total of £194.26 being 22 hours at £8.83 per hour plus £3.92 expenses) were approved

## BUSINESS

### 9 Matters Arising

The Parish Council considered the remaining items on the matters arising schedule, not already covered by the agenda and regular reports, including:

#### 9.1 Playing Field:

- (i) **Secure picnic bench:** Cllr J Tyers confirmed he had met with Mick Wilkins to action task. Ongoing
- (ii) **Get quote for weed killing around car park at playing field:** Cllr H East has offered to undertake this work. Approval and recommended weed killing chemicals to be advised by County Council. Parish Clerk to contact the County Council and advise
- (iii) **Update play park inspection lists:** Parish Clerk confirmed that the inspection lists had been updated and simplified for the Chair to approve/suggest changes. Cllr J Tyers to confirm any changes and report back at the meeting in September  
Ongoing

#### 9.2 Finance:

- (i) **Investigate land available for a cemetery in the village.** Cllr J Tyers reported that he had met with the County Council to investigate this matter further and viewed a neighbouring field to the cemetery however, it was noted that this area was a site of an ancient monument and that the stone barn on the land was recorded as a listed building. Rutland County Council Planning Department had confirmed that a preliminary planning application would be required. Cllr J Tyers was unsure if this was a sensible course of action due to the issues with this piece of land and the permissions required. The land was noted as costing in the region of £80k. It was noted that there was no immediate need to purchase land but this would need to be resolved within the next 5 – 10 years. Cllr J Tyers reported that 0.5 acre was required 0.25 for burials and 0.25 for parking and access. Issues surrounding the choice of land noted due to steep hills in and out of the village. Cllr B Sturgess to explore other options and report back at the September meeting. Ongoing
- (ii) **Sign and send off Annual Return and arrange accounts inspection:** The Parish Clerk confirmed that the Annual Return had been sent off and that all information could be found on the website.

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It was also confirmed that the auditors Grant Thornton would be in touch shortly to confirm an inspection. Ongoing

9.3

### Other Matters:

- (i) **Signs throughout the village.** Cllr J Tyers confirmed that an old sign had been removed from the Green on request. Cllr J Tyers also showed examples of road signs and markings in neighbouring villages for the Parish Council views. The general consensus was that a speed limit marking on the road was more in keeping with the village and shaded tarmac was felt to be unsuitable. The Parish Clerk noted that she had seen a document from the County Council Highways Department, which noted the completion of a proposal form, might need to be submitted. Ongoing
- (ii) **Get quotes for hedge removal and fence at Gretton and entrance to the village.** Cllr J Tyers had previously met with the owners of the hedge at the entrance to the village. Permission had been given to tidy up the area by removing the hedge and replacing with a post and rail fence and levelling the area but this was to be done at the expense of the Parish Council. The Parish Council had agreed to this in principle and a quotation from Peter Wright for tidying and fencing noted as £400.00. This is subject to various permissions being sought. Ongoing
- (iii) **Renew Insurance:** Completed. Parish Clerk confirmed that the Parish was on the second year of a three-year cycle and the renewal was noted as an action for 2017
- (iv) **Contact allotment holders re water butts.** Completed
- (v) **Investigate new PC website providers.** Cllr E Hobley confirmed that there was a need to decide how to progress the change of website provider, funding and the actual transfer. The Parish Clerk noted that it was possible to apply for a grant to pay towards this cost. Cllr E Hobley to explore further. The Parish Council agreed to a payment of £150.00 to cover the transfer of data. It was noted that the current website would no longer be operating after 31/8/16
- (vi) **Confirm arrangements for Shakespeare performance on village green:** Cllr H East confirmed 30 tickets had already been sold. It had been confirmed that the church could be used in inclement weather. The costs reported for production noted as follows:
  - Accommodation in the Village Hall: £40.00
  - Meal: tbc
  - Marketing/advertising costs: £13.50Cllr J Tyers asked for help erect a barrier on the green and for helpers on the day to collect money. Cllr E Hobley and Cllr T Fowell agreed to be available. Cllr E Hobley confirmed that she would be responsible for collecting money on the night itself and distributing - 25% share to Parish Council to include costs and 75% to the performers. Cllr H East to contact Julia Unna in the afternoon of 22 July to open up the village hall for the performers. The Parish Clerk confirmed that the grass would be cut prior to the performance

**10 Street Lighting:** An email from the County Council was noted with an assumed nil cost to the village for the upgrade for the Parish Council to absorb. A concern was noted with regards to reducing the schedule for lighting the village once the County Council were responsible. The Parish Clerk requested to investigate this further with the County Council.

**11 Cemetery:** Previously covered under matters arising.

**12 Parish Council Website:** Previously covered under matters arising.

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- 13 **Transparency Fund Grant Application:** The Parish Clerk presented a document outlining the transparency grant application document outlining costs for the purchase of a computer, printer/scanner. Cllr J Tyers confirmed the need for reliability. The costs and purchase of suitable equipment to be explored further

### OTHER MATTERS

14 **Clerk's items**

- (i) **Undergrounding Project Update:** Cllr E. Hobley confirmed that she had made some progress with regards to a proposed new sub-station at the north end of the village. It was noted that the plot of land being discussed had been valued at £10k an increase from the £5k noted as the valuation in 2010. It was confirmed that both Spire Homes and Western Power Distribution were currently engaged in negotiations, which may take some time. Cllr E Hobley to follow up
- (ii) **Cemetery Fees:** The Parish Clerk presented the revised cemetery fees for Lyddington, which were noted as being in line with those of Uppingham. The Parish Council approved the fees

15 **Dates of Next Meetings**

- Monday 12th September 2016 - 7.30pm in the village hall. Parish Council Meeting.

Apologies noted from Cllr H Hassell. Cllr D Couldwell reported that this would be potentially his last meeting as he was moving out of the area. A vacancy on the Parish Council would be noted at this time

- Monday 14th November 2016 - 7.30pm in the village hall. Parish Council Meeting.

14 **Other Matters (at the discretion of the Chairman)**

- Cllr E Hobley noted that she had received a complaint about the hedging on the corner of Colley Rise. Cllr H East to contact the owners of the property to discuss
- Cllr E Hobley noted that she had received complaints about the tarmac on the road and the weeds in the tarmac on the pavements at the North end of the village. Parish Clerk to write to the County Council
- Cllr E Hobley noted that she had received complaints with regards to the use of the field at the north end of the village. Parish Clerk to seek advice from the County Council re a suitable resolution
- It was noted that the matters arising/actions schedule would be useful for a visitor attending the Parish Council Meetings. The Parish Clerk in future to post this document along with the agenda on the notice board for all subsequent meetings
- Thanks were offered to Cllr D Couldwell with regards to bell ringing to commemorate the Queens birthday. Cllr D Couldwell noted his concern that the battle of the Somme was not marked in Rutland.

**Chairman:**

**Date:**