**LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD ON MONDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER 2019**

**IN LYDDINGTON VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM**

**Councillors present:**

Cllr L.Hobley (Chair)

Cllr D.Hurwood

Cllr G.Macfarlane

Cllr B.Sturgess

**Members of the public:**

Ms Tina Elliott

Richard Hurwood

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

**1. Questions and comments from the floor**

Lyddington Parish Council (LPC) agreed that Richard Hurwood could take the minutes in the absence of the parish clerk and members thanked him for taking on this responsibility.

**2.** **Apologies for absence**

Cllr H.East

Cllr T.Fowell

Cllr J. Meadows

Fiona Buchanan, parish clerk

**3. Neighbourhood Watch Discussion**

Russ Horne, new Chair of Rutland Neighbourhood Watch Association has agreed to attend the next parish council meeting in November to explain how the scheme now works. Mr Roger Edwards, who has been the Lyddington Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) coordinator for many years, retired at the end of August and it is hoped that a village resident will volunteer to take on this role. LPC expressed their gratitude for Mr Edwards’ hard work and commitment to community safety in the village. Members agreed that LPC should record a vote of thanks and present a token of appreciation for his long service.

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The Safer Villages Scheme was also discussed and members agreed that PC Peter Icke would be invited to the November meeting to enable LPC to fully comprehend how NHW and the new scheme works together to enable members to make an informed decision on the best course of action for Lyddington. There are a number of Rutland villages who use the local new smartphone app to remain up-to-date rather than implementing an actual NHW scheme in the community.

The “WhatsApp group Lyddington Ladies” recently helped find a lost dog and is a good example of modern technology improving our safety and quality of life. However, Cllr Geoff Macfarlane noted his preference for having a village coordinator/NHW scheme. It was agreed that the parish council will discuss the possibilities at the November meeting, although LPC will not manage the scheme, but seek to help facilitate the decision-making process on NHW for Lyddington.

**Actions**

**The parish clerk to invite PC Icke to the November meeting.**

**Arrange formal vote of thanks to Mr Roger Edwards who has recently retired as NHW coordinator for Lyddington.**

**4. Declaration of Interests**

None were declared.

**5. Minutes of the Parish Council**

The minutes from the meeting held on Monday, 8th July 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair, Cllr Libby Hobley.

**REGULAR REPORTS**

**6. Lyddington Playing Field and Park**

**New nets**

The football posts have been painted by Cllr Dinah Hurwood; new netting will cost £60.72 plus £9 carriage charge, excluding VAT, for a pair of nets. Only one quote was obtainable as the posts are of unusual dimensions, and so comparisons with other manufacturers was not feasible. It was agreed to buy a pair of nets; to erect one and keep the other as a spare as it was agreed that the football area is not considered to be a football pitch.

**Action**

**Cllr Hurwood to purchase the football nets in the name of LPC.**

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**Play equipment inspection**

LPC’s insurers stated that the parish council’s monthly safety checks meet their minimum requirement and members agreed to await Wicksteed’s annual inspection report before deciding whether the quarterly operational inspections, by a RCC recommended company, would also be required, but not immediately after an annual inspection.

**Action**

**In reviewing the annual inspection report from Wicksteed, the parish council will consider whether to introduce quarterly inspections.**

**Lyddington Tennis (LT)**

No issues were raised.

Cllr Barney Sturgess had provided the 2018 accounts of LT and Cllr Libby Hobley had circulated them to LPC as part of the papers for the meeting of the Lyddington Playing Field Charity to be held after the parish council meeting.

**7. Planning Applications**

The parish clerk had sent out a list of planning applications to councillors. Responses to recent planning applications have been submitted by the stipulated deadlines and acknowledged by RCC. It was noted that the appeal in respect of the rejected application to erect three affordable houses and one market dwelling on land on the east side of Main Street (Appeal Ref APP/A2470/W/18/3207604) has been dismissed.

**8. Finance**

The parish council’s bank balance at close of business on 30th July 2019 was £24,174.55. During the period of 07.07.19 to 06.09.19, LPC spent a total of £1,159.25 including election charges from RCC and the annual fee for hosting of the parish council’s website. There was no income in this period.

**BUSINESS**

**9. Matters arising from the previous meeting**

**a) Lyddington Playing Field and Park**

Cllr Libby Hobley confirmed that the bird ‘spikes’ had been delivered and that she will arrange for them to be installed.

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**b) New boundary fence**

LPC is considering installing a new fence along part of the playing field’s boundary where the ground dips into a ditch and small stream.

Cllr John Meadows has been collating several quotes to present to LPC. The information will be considered at the next parish council meeting in September.

**Action**

**Cllr Meadows will provide the quotes he has sourced for the possible installation of a new fence on the playing field boundary.**

**c) Lyddington Undergrounding Project**

Cllr Libby Hobley had contacted Western Power Distribution, but there was no further update at present.

**d) New kerbing to protect grass verges at the north end of the village**

Cllr Tony Fowell had sourced a sample kerb stone.

**Action**

**Cllr Libby Hobley will arrange for the sample kerb stone to be placed in the vicinity of the affected area to enable parish councilors to accurately assess its likely impact.**

**e) Rutland Remembers – World War One**

The Forestry Officer at RCC has recently indicated that he will be buying two Midland Hawthorne trees to plant in the designated areas in the village.

**f) Next stage of the Lyddington Traffic Survey**

The parish clerk has met with Robyn Green from RCC’s Highways Department and the next stage of the process is for RCC to undertake a speed survey following site recommendations from LPC. Cllr Geoff Macfarlane noted that the main issues specific to Lyddington roads are horses, cyclists and the safety of elderly parishioners. The parish council thanked Cllr Macfarlane and the parish clerk for all their efforts on this matter.

In order to give this item the due consideration it deserves, it was agreed that a separate meeting will be arranged to include, where possible, all members of LPC, County Councillor Andrew Brown and Robyn Green, to discuss, amongst other things, the siting of the speed survey monitoring equipment.

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**Action**

**The clerk was asked to schedule a special meeting for early October to discuss the next stage of the Lyddington traffic survey with RCC.**

**10. New Cemetery**

Lyddington aims to match Uppingham’s burial fees, and it was agreed that these would be sourced and considered at the next meeting in November.

**Actions**

**The parish clerk was asked to seek details of the burial fee charges in Uppingham to assist the parish council in reviewing Lyddington’s burial fees for the year 2019 - 2020 to be considered at the November meeting.**

**The parish clerk was asked to investigate the cost of a replacement noticeboard for the New Cemetery including both oak and aluminium models, including sourcing a quote from a local carpenter.**

**Cllr Libby Hobley will seek a quote from a local contractor to repoint the small boundary wall in the New Cemetery.**

**Other Matters**

**12. Clerk’s items**

**a) Litter**

Residents have raised concerns about filled dog waste bags and single use plastic bottles being dumped around parts of the village.

The parish council congratulated Harry, a young resident who has cleared rubbish from around the village, as an inspiring role model and agreed to maintain and increase litter picking exercises throughout the village.

It was agreed that new official dog litter posters will be purchased to refresh those that are in a faded state in the village. The likely costs are £45 for 10 A3 size posters and 10 bin stickers.

**Actions**

**Cllr Libby Hobley to source new posters.**

**Cllr Dinah Hurwood to see what options are available for providing dog litter bags with dispensers that attach onto village litter bins.**

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**b) Consultation over rural crime**

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Leicestershire and Rutland, Lord Willy Bach, is holding a meeting in our ward at 3.00pm on 2nd October at Caldecott Village Hall. It was agreed that LPC will present our case to him, especially regarding the positive impact of PC Icke’s work and the Rutland Neighbourhood Watch app.

**Action**

**The parish clerk to advise further on the collation of the required input via our County Councillor as the meeting is before the next parish council meeting.**

 **c) Footpath clearances**

The improved access along the pavement at the southern end of the village was noted, and LPC thanked the residents for their ongoing achievements in maintaining free access along this pavement.

**13. Date of the next parish council meeting**

The meeting ended at 8.28pm.

The next meeting of LPC is 7.30pm on Monday, 11th November 2019.

Parish clerk is Fiona Buchanan (T 01572 821636 and 07711 160685)

Chair ……………………………………………………………………..

Date ……………………………………………………………………..

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