**LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on

12h July 2021 and subsequent actions regarding LPC business.

**PLAYING FIELD**

**LYDDINGTON TENNIS: PROPOSED NEW ANNUAL STATEMENT**

Cllr Barney Strugess, who represents Lyddington Parish Council (LPC) on the Lyddington Tennis (LT) committee, has proposed a simplified approach that features a new annual statement from LT. The statement would cover its finances, which they already provide as a spreadsheet, along with a brief written statement by email which outlines:

* Confirmation of income from the year, member numbers, costs incurred, and balance,
* The general condition of the court
* Any maintenance and repair of the surface, fencing, net and posts that may be needed in the year ahead, and the likely cost of such. Confirmation that the funds are in place to manage that
* A statement regarding the long term view of major resurfacing work that will eventually be needed, how far off that is likely to be and how successfully the funds are accruing for that
* Any other matters of note

Cllr Sturgess added that - if approved - the new annual statement would be supplemented by a brief interim statement to make sure everything’s going in the right direction at the midyear stage. All statements would be circulated to LPC for any comments.

**OPERATIONAL SAFETY INSPECTION**

LPC has agreed to the recommended repairs and the parish clerk has requested that Wicksteed Leisure proceed ASAP. A recent message said that they were waiting for the play net to be finished and they would then be able to provide a start date.

Playscapes Playgrounds Ltd has also been commissioned to carry out the work to create no-parking areas in the Chapel Lane carpark. A recent email (dated 29th August) stated that the work would be carried out in the next 10 days.

There are considerable backlogs of work that both companies are dealing with.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

LPC wished to remain neutral concerning the planning application 2021/0843/FUL and 2021/0844/LBA as there were two objections from near neighbours. LPC agreed to leave the decision to Rutland County Council (RCC) to determine the application in accordance with the requisite planning regulations.

**BUSINESS**

**LYDDINGTON TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

The speed calming scheme has now been approved for construction and work should be completed by the end of November. The proposals include the introduction of 40 mph buffer zones for the northern and southern approach to the village, an improved gateway sign into the village (southern) and slow road markings through Lyddington.

The instructions have been issued to the legal team to start producing the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for the buffer zones The next stage involves publishing the plans for the buffer zones for the specified three week consultation period to gather any feedback.

The planned works to the entrance of Windmill Way will be delayed for 12 months and will be reassessed to see if the other traffic calming measures have been effective. Parked cars have increased in this area of Main Street, which may be a sufficient deterrent to slow traffic down. However, if there is still a need for this measure, LPC will request its implementation as a matter of urgency.

REASSESSMENT REQUEST

A member of the Highways Development Team has raised the concerns of LPC concerning speeding traffic with Leicestershire Police and has asked the police to revisit the village and reassess the situation to be considered for inclusion in the mobile safety camera programme.

The police are only able to provide the camera van at a suitable and safe location for their officers and where there is clear visibility of the approaching vehicles. At both the northern end and southern end of Lyddington there are no appropriate locations for the safety camera van to sit. Therefore, the assessment would have to be carried out in the middle of the village where vehicle speeds are usually lower.

At the moment the village has been included onto the speed monitoring programme which involves a local officer using a handheld speed detection device.

An engineer with the Highways Development Team is meeting with Leicestershire Police in September and will raise the issue again.

**Status ongoing**

**THREE INCH FOOLS PERFORMANCE**

LPC has previously paid the performers £525.00 to cover the costs of promotional activity. The ticket sales generated a total of £2,387.00 (£2,028 online sales and £359.00 cash sales.) A further payment of £1,068.50 has now been paid to the Three Inch Fools, which leaves a profit f £793.50 for the village.

**TREE SURVEY**

The quotes received from Sanderson Tree Care to pollard the specified trees have been accepted and work is due to start in the next few weeks. James Sanderson has submitted the necessary requests to RCC’s planning department to obtain the required permissions before commencing the work. LPC is waiting to hear the decision of the RCC’s planners.

**Status ongoing**

**OTHER MATTERS**

**SPEED ACTIVATED SIGN**

Repair work is planned for Thursday, 2nd September. The repairs are for the sign at the north end of the village (Uppingham).

**RUTLAND COUNTY COUNCIL’S PROPOSAL TO REWRITE THE COUNTY’S LOCAL PLAN**

Ms Penny Sharp, the Rutland County Council “Strategic Director: Places” presented a report to the Parish Forum (a meeting of representatives of all the parish councils in the county) on Monday 23rd August 2021.

Her report makes several recommendations to the County Council, the most significant of which are:

to withdraw the submitted Local Plan (following the decision made by Council on 22nd March 2021 not to accept the offer of £29.4m Housing Investment Fund grant funding)

to approve the creation of an earmarked reserve of £1.395 million to resource the making of a new Local Plan for the County

to approve the need to positively prepare and submit a new Local Plan.

A Special Meeting of RCC was planned on Wednesday, Sept 1st to discuss this matter.

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED

After consulting with councillors and residents, LPC submitted the following questions to RCC to be answered at the Special Meeting on September 1st.

The questions raised were:

If the Report's recommendations are approved to withdraw the submitted Local Plan, will the Council in the interim, until a new Local Plan is prepared and adopted, take advantage of the recent Court of Appeal judgement (Peel Investments \*) to enhance its prospects of resisting speculative and unplanned housing developments by:

1) Preparing a publicly accessible planning document, regularly updated, of those environmental protection and other planning policies in its existing adopted Local Plan which it considers not to be out-of-date in terms of paragraph 11d of the National Planning Policy Framework (the NPPF).

2) Preparing a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) under Regulations 11 to 16 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 by using the work already undertaken for the submitted Local Plan to update the settlement hierarchy planning policies which guide development locations in Rutland (policies CS3 and CS4 of the adopted Core Strategy). An SPD is a material consideration in decision-making.

3) Preparing a Supplementary Planning Document by using the work already undertaken for the submitted Local Plan to update the Planned Limits of Development set out in policy SP5 of the adopted Site Allocations and Policies DPD.

4) Where necessary, updating key Conservation Area Appraisals in those towns and villages likely to be under development pressure to ensure that key open spaces, views and sensitive building groups are highlighted as areas to be kept free of development.

\* Peel Investments v Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government [2020] EWCA Civ 1175. The court held that where a 5-year housing land supply was not provided, and/or a local plan was out-of-date for other reasons, and/or a local plan period had expired, this does not automatically render the policies in the plan out-of-date for the purposes of paragraph 11d of the NPPF. In particular, some non-strategic housing policies, such as environmental protection policies, might be intended and designed to operate on a longer timescale than the plan period.

LPC is waiting to receive an update from RCC>

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON SMALLER SERVICE CENTRES

The current Rutland Local Plan designates a further level in the settlement hierarchy of smaller villages with fewer shops and services, but where some limited growth is appropriate.

This has ensured some flexibility and the continued evolution of these villages. The smaller villages with some services and reasonable access to services in other centres are considered suited to taking limited levels of development and meeting local needs. With the exception of Whitwell, villages scoring between 5 and 10 points in the sustainability assessment are considered to be sufficiently sustainable for this policy approach to continue.

Whitwell’s scoring in the assessment is boosted by the presence of an hourly bus service and the nearby employment opportunities at Whitwell Manor. It has no general store or post office and no village hall. In addition its physical suitability for any further development is constrained by its location on the A606, rising land to the north and its inclusion within Rutland Water Policy Area.

Whitwell is, therefore classified in the Other Villages category. It is therefore recommended that the villages of Belton, Barrowden, Caldecott, Essendine, Exton, Glaston, Great Casterton Langham, Lyddington, Manton, Morcott North Luffenham, South Luffenham, Tinwell, Whissendine and Wing are selected as Smaller Service Centres