**LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD ON MONDAY, 14th MARCH 2022 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

If village parishioners do not wish to attend a meeting, comments and questions can be emailed to the parish clerk for consideration by Lyddington Parish Council (LPC).

**COUNCILLORS TAKING PART:**

Cllr Tony Fowell (Chair)

Cllr Holly East

Cllr Libby Hobley

Cllr James Robinson

Cllr Barney Sturgess

**CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:**

Ms Tina Elliott and Stephane Palluault

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

**1. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Tina Elliott requested that there should be an explanation on the website and with the platinum jubilee mugs that explains the history of the Mary Parnham Trust.

Stephane Palluault asked councillors about the work of the parish council in Lyddington.

**ACTION**

**Parish Clerk to add further information on the website and noticeboards concerning the Mary Parnham Trust that provides funding for educational activities for children in Lyddington.**

**2.** **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs Dinah Hurwood and Geoff Macfarlane.

**3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None

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**4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes from the meeting held on Monday, 10th January 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair, Cllr Tony Fowell.

The minutes had been previously circulated to members who had raised no objections.

**REGULAR REPORTS**

**5. LYDDINGTON PLAYING FIELD AND PARK**

**a) Play equipment repairs**

New information signs have been posted in the play park and repairs have been completed on the boundary fence around the carpark. The parish clerk has asked Wicksteed Leisure to undertake a repair to a swing in the double swing bay.

**b) Lyddington Tennis**

Cllr Barney Sturgess reported that Lyddington Tennis is proposing to repaint the tennis court and, at the end of the year, the club has funds of just over £5,000.

**ACTION**

**Cllr Sturgess to send the accounts of Lyddington Tennis to the parish clerk.**

**6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The parish clerk had compiled a list of recent Rutland County Council (RCC) decisions and planning applications.

**7. FINANCE**

**a) LPC financial statement**

LPC’s latest Barclays bank statement dated 28th February shows a closing balance of £10,808. Cleared cheques during this period totalled £6,309.24, which included play equipment repairs and the annual grounds maintenance invoice for £3,421. There was no income received.

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**b) Staff salary**

The parish clerk submitted an invoice for £448.20 for the period covering 10th January – 11th March 2022 plus an expenses’ claim of £80.34, which includes payment for additional playground signs and a green bin permit.

**BUSINESS**

**8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**a) New kerb stones**

RCC has agreed to source new kerb stones for the village, with a financial contribution from LPC. The parish council agreed that its priority for 2022-2023 would be to install appropriate kerbs and to plan the work in affordable stages.

**ACTION**

**Chair Cllr Tony Fowell was awaiting an update from RCC, which he will share with LPC.**

**b) Outstanding actions to control speeding traffic**

Cllr Dinah Hurwood and Deputy Chair, Cllr Geoff Macfarlane, had highlighted that there were still some outstanding actions concerning the road safety programme that should have been completed by the end of December 2021.

The outstanding actions were:

- introduction of painted ‘dragon teeth’ on the approach to the 30mph zone at the northern end of Lyddington

- refresh the High Friction Surface at the southern end of the village.

The parish clerk explained that a Highways Engineer at RCC said that the introduction of the 40 mph buffer zones had superseded all the other outstanding recommendations.

The works completed by Tarmac at the end of November 2021 were actions ordered by the Integrated Transport Feasibility Study Report (ITCP 2019-23). RCC has completed the improvement intended and so would not instruct further work at this time.

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 **ACTION**

**Parish clerk to contact County Councillor Andrew Brown to inform him of the latest situation.**

**OTHER MATTERS**

**9. CLERK’S ITEMS**

**a) Grass cutting in 2022**

LPC has agreed to renew the contract with Spendlove Contracting for the 2022 season, which involves 13 cuts per season.

The contactors explained that there has been a 21% increase in the price of the diesel fuel over the last 12 months, and due to an increase in the minimum wage, their labour costs have risen by 7%. Some of the costs they are trying to absorb, but this year’s quote has increased by 4%. The price for the 2022 season will be £2,965.66 plus vat. The cost of grass cutting and spraying of weeds in 2021 was £2,851.60 plus VAT which totalled to £3,421.92.

**b) Broken Vehicle Activated Sign**

During Storm Eunice (18.02.2022) a tree was blown over which crashed into the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) at the north end of the village.

The parish clerk has taken pictures of the damage and emailed Unipart Dorman to request an engineer to assess the damage and whether the sign can be repaired.

The parish clerk has also contacted the parish council’s insurers in regard to making a claim for the cost of the repairs.

Unipart Dorman asked for a fee of £495 to visit the site and make a report and has indicated that the replacement parts could include a new GRP Enclosure - £608.00 and a new LED Display - £949.00.

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 The information has been sent to the insurers.

**c) Celebrating the Platinum Jubilee**

Parish councillors have agreed to fund and supply free commemorative mugs for children, aged 16 and under, living in Lyddington.

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The parish clerk has promoted the initiative and has compiled a register of children’s names and addresses put forward by parents who gave their consent.

The total number of orders is 76. Around half of the requests are from residents who will be paying for their individual mugs. The mugs will be delivered in the week leading up to the celebratory weekend in June.

The funds will be taken from the Mary Parnham Trust and will display the name - The Mary Parnham Trust of Lyddington for the mugs that are given free to participating children in the village, but for mugs that are purchased by the recipients, it will just say Parish of Lyddington as these mugs will not be financed by the trust.

St Andrew’s Church and the Village Hall Trustees have also donated money from their portions of the Mary Parnham Trust.

**d) Reservation of burial plots**

LPC had received a request from a former resident of Lyddington to reserve two burial plots in the New Cemetery as her parents’ are buried there and she was married at St Andrew’s Church. However, the applicant left Lyddington in 1975.

After careful consideration, parish councillors declined her request as the available burial spaces must be kept for current residents of the village.

**ACTION**

**Parish clerk to notify the applicant of LPC’s decision.**

**10. OTHER MATTERS (at the discretion of the Chair)**

**a) Three Inch Fools**

The confirmed dates for the 2022 performances are June 10th and September 9th, which will feature the Gunpower Plot.

**b) Resignation**

At the end of the meeting Cllr Libby Hobley resigned her seat from the parish council. Cllr Hobley has been the parish clerk, parish councillor and Chair of LPC during her long years of service. Fellow councillors thanked Ms Hobley for her dedication, professionalism and unwavering support.

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**ACTION**

**Parish clerk to forward Ms Hobley’s resignation letter to RCC to begin the notification process that advertises the vacant position on the parish council.**

**c) Annual Parish Meeting**

Members discussed possible subjects to feature that local residents would find interesting.

**ACTIONS**

**Parish clerk to contact Rutland’s local police representative to ask them to attend and County Councillor Andrew Brown.**

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm.

**11. DATE OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The date of the Annual Parish Council meeting is Monday, 11th April 2022 at 7.00pm.

**12. DATE OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

 Monday, 16th May at 7.30pm.

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

 Parishclerk@lyddingtonpc.org.uk

Chair ……………………………………………………………………..

Date …………………………………………………………………….

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