

MINUTES OF LOLWORTH PARISH MEETING

**held in Robinson Hall, Lolworth
on Tuesday 24th November 2015, at 8.00 pm.**

Chairman: J. Short

Clerk: J.E.F. Houlton

Also present: District Councillors Bunty Waters & Roger Hall; County Councillor Lynda Harford. 12 parishioners

1. Apologies

Bryon & Frances Bache, Ed & Gill Coe, Roger Horsford, Sue Smith, Robert & Irene Pearson, Pat & Sigi Disley, Pat & Ray Hampton, Debbie Lowther, Fiona Corbett, Eric & Jen Wakefield

2. Welcome to Newcomers

none

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 21st April 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st April 2015 were signed as a true record.

4. Matters arising

- a) Lolworth sign
Thanks were expressed to Robert Pearson for removing the bottom of the sign which now just reads "Lolworth". A new "pedestrians in the road" sign has been attached to the pole carrying the 30mph sign.
- b) Millennium footpath
Thanks were expressed to Robert Pearson for re-surfacing the path. A grant of £400 has been received from the SCDC Community Chest for materials.
- c) Defibrillator
The defibrillator has been attached to the wall of Robinson Hall adjacent to the entrance, housed within a temperature regulated cabinet (thanks to Derek Hill & Darren Chamberlain). Much of the cost was met by a donation from Domino Printing. Training in its use is still awaited.
- d) Broadband
Superfast broadband is now available in the village.
- e) Veronica & Richard Frost donations

The additional £95 donated in memory of Richard and Veronica Frost has yet to be spent on providing an improved surface on which the outdoor table tennis table stands.

5. Junior Club

The Junior Club reported a range of activities. In addition to normal club nights, there was a summer party with a bouncy castle and hot dogs.

For the second year running a camping night, where the children had a BBQ, a campfire and slept out in tents, was hosted by Jen and Eric Wakefield. They were thanked for their generous hospitality and help in arranging this successful event (despite the weather which deteriorated rapidly to an almighty thunderstorm during the night).

Sadly Halloween fell during half term when many of the children were away. However a small Spooky walk took place and the children were very grateful for all those households that welcomed their visit, offered them goodies and even some tricks!

Recently club nights have involved preparation for the pantomime with Emma Mills leading the children in songs and rehearsal. If the pantomime is postponed an earlier opportunity to show off the children's skills may be arranged!

It is planned to hold a pudding night in the New Year to fundraise.

If anyone would like to join the Junior Club, they should email Fiona Corbett who will add them to the email list.

Finally, thanks were expressed to all who supported the Junior Club through the year.

6. Correspondence

A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Team

A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme (TR010018)

The formal examination into the Development Consent Order (DCO) necessary to build the highway has been completed. The Examining Authority which is appointed by the Planning Inspectorate now has three months to make its recommendation to the Secretary of State who then has a further three months to review it. A decision is expected by May 13th 2016.

Highways England are carrying out topographical, drainage and pavement surveys so they can fully understand the landscape they will be working with and finalise the design of the new road should it be given the go-ahead.

A Statement of Common Agreement was completed with Highways England but a number of issues were not agreed, namely noise, surface water run-off, air quality & the width and alignment of the non-motorised user route.

Details of access during construction of the road remain outstanding.

Cambridgeshire County Council

- a) Cambridgeshire County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan was adopted in 2006 as part of the Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan 2006 – 2011. Comments on the new Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan were requested. The draft update will form part of the third iteration of the Local Transport Plan known as LTPP3. Publication date is November 2015 but nothing has been received yet.
- b) Street Lighting Energy Charges
CCC is increasing its administration cost to 15% of the energy costs used by each Parish, starting on Oct 1st 2015. Parishes are charged for actual energy used rather than the previously estimated value.

The Local Government Boundary Commission

The results of the consultation were expected on November 17th but this has been delayed to 9th February 2016 as the Commission is undertaking further limited consultation on electoral divisions in Cambridge.

It is likely that Lolworth together with Fen Drayton and Swavesey will have one councillor.

South Cambs District Council

Green bin collection becomes monthly at the end of November.

7. Planning Applications

- S/1714/15FL Solar Farm and Associated development on land east of Battlegate Road, Childerley

Applicant: Mr Wai-kit Cheung, Big60Million Ltd

Amendments received: Revised access to the site for construction vehicles, revised landscaping and boundary treatments & additional ecological information

8. Financial Report

The Financial Report was presented by the Chairman.

The main recurring expenditures are

- Insurance
- Bark for playing area
- Robinson Hall precept

- Electricity for street lighting
- Grass cutting
- Website hosting and domain name

For 2015/16 these items total £2,422. On that basis our reserves will be £1,950 approx. at 31 March 2016. For 2016/17 we are budgeting expenditure of £2,945 which includes a contingency of £250 and assumes 17 grass cuts (current year 14).

However, if precept is not increased our reserves will be down to £1,423 at 31 March 2017. Historically year end reserves have been between £2,000 and £2,500. Furthermore precept has not been increased since 2012 and is £2,250 p.a.

Proposal – to increase precept by £500 to £2,750 for the year 2016/2017.

This is a substantial rise but

- Lolworth will still have one of the lowest precepts in South Cambridgeshire
- Volunteers save a lot of cost e.g. we bought the new Pedestrians in the Road road sign for £48 which John Houlton fitted. Robert Pearson cut off the bottom of the old sign at entrance to village. The county council would have charged us £723 for new signs.
- Averaged across the 65 properties in the village it works out as an increase of approx. £7.69 p.a per household.

Adoption of the report was proposed by John Short, seconded by Carol Churcher and approved unanimously.

9. Tree Officer's report

Carol Churcher reported the trees in the communal orchard fruited this year but one needs replacing. Two trees on the green were pruned and the two apple trees on the little green require similar treatment later this year.

10. Town Acre Charity

Paul Jones and Roger Horsford both expressed a wish to stand down as Trustees. David Cressey and Sue Houlton were elected unanimously as the new Trustees.

11. County Councillor's report

County Councillor Lynda Harford described on-going cost cutting measures due to reduced funding. The council now shares a CEO with Peterborough Council.

Lolworth was acknowledged as being a “resilient community”, recognising the need for parishes to do more as central government funding is cut yet further.

Cllr. Harford will support the continued gritting of Robins Lane in face of the proposed drastic reduction of the number of treated roads in the county.

12. District Councillors' report

District Councillor Roger Hall described shared services with Cambridge City. Collecting waste from 150,000 homes is expected to save £100K pa.

Most of SCDC recommendations for the Local Plan have been endorsed by the Inspectors. In addition to the proposed 33,000 new homes required by 2031 (14,000 new homes in Cambridge City and 19,000 in South Cambridgeshire), another 500 homes are recommended.

Nominations for this year's, expanded, community awards are sought.

13. Future Events

Nov 29th Combined service with Conington, Fen Drayton and Swavesey at 10.00

Dec 5th Restaurant Night in the Hall

Dec 18th Annual Club Draw preceded by Children carol singing

The pantomime has been postponed until hopefully a date in January

Dec 20th Carol service at 15.30

Dec 24th Midnight mass at 11.30

14. Any other Business

A 20 mph speed limit was proposed for the village. Cllr. Harford will investigate the practicalities of such a change.

The potential damage to the electricity wires as they course through the trees in Robins Lane was highlighted. The Clerk will contact UK Power Networks for their view.

15. Date of the next meeting

Thursday April 28th 2016 at 8.00 pm

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed

Date