

MINUTES OF LOLWORTH PARISH MEETING

**held in Robinson Hall, Lolworth
on Thursday 23rd November 2017, at 8.00 pm.**

Chairman: J. Short

Clerk: J.E.F. Houlton

Also present: District Councillor Roger Hall; County Councillor Lynda Harford.

Geoff Dodgson, Reader, Papworth Team Ministry

24 parishioners

Bob Pettipher & Jade Pettit Stakeholder Managers of the Integrated A14
Delivery Team

1. **Apologies** District Councillor Bunty Waters, Alex and Dame Veronica Sutherland, Eric and Jenny Wakefield

2. **Welcome to Newcomers** – Geoff Dodgson, who outlined the change that will occur on Jan 1st 2018 when All Saints Lolworth will leave the 5 Folds Benefice and join the Papworth Team Ministry.

3. **Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 27th April 2017**

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 27th April 2017 was proposed by David Cressey, seconded by Ed Coe and unanimously agreed. Accordingly, they were signed as a true record.

4. **A14 update by Bob Pettipher**

The timetable has changed from that previously reported such that the flyover at the Robin's Lane junction will not open until 2019. The work west of the Swavesey junction has been brought forward.

The reason for the safety barrier between the slip road and the main carriageway was explained. Part of the original barrier has been removed as a consequence of serious concern expressed by villagers attempting to join the west bound carriageway but the remainder has to stay to protect the work-force. Other ways to mitigate the difficulty in joining the west bound carriageway included repositioning the signs and removing the triangle of grass.

A request was made to extend the distance of ultra-low noise surface and the difficulty in identifying the realigned lanes, particularly at night, due to the use of reflective paint to obscure earlier lane markings was highlighted. All these concerns will be relayed to the traffic managers.

Thanks were expressed to Bob Pettipher for his ready and timely liaison.

5. Matters arising

- a) Table tennis table: Malcolm Cunnington and Paul Silvester have put the table on slabs to create a stable and level base.
- b) Damage to the verge on the small green: Robert Pearson has generously provided three concrete blocks together with some top soil to repair the existing damage. Sadly, the problem of HGCs damaging the verge remains.
- c) Volunteers to form a contact list as part of emergency contingent planning. Prior to the meeting Derek Hill offered his services. John Short, Gina Williams and Sue Smith also volunteered.

6. Junior Club

The Junior club has had a quiet 6 months. We enjoyed a bouncy castle at the village games afternoon at the Wakefields, and the children enjoyed a spooky Halloween walk organised by Emma. As we didn't find a volunteer to continue the club when Ged and Fiona moved, the remaining float (approx £50) has been donated to the Village Hall to help maintain the children's play area. Thank you all for your support over the years.

Fiona Corbett

7. Correspondence

Revised Local Plan

The allotment land has been changed from a Local Green Space to a Protection Village Village Amenity Area under the revised Local Plan.

8. Tree Officer's report

Carol Churcher advised a working party is required to prune the fruit trees in the meadow. One dead apple tree needs to be replaced as does one blossom tree on the village green.

9. Planning Applications

Planning Applications

S/1990/17/PA Land at Long Acre, Robins Lane, Lolworth

Change of use of an agricultural building to a use falling within Class C3 (dwelling/house) and associated building operations. Outcome awaited.

S/1746/17/FL Long Acre, Robins Lane, Lolworth

Erection of single dwelling, including car port and adjustments. Outcome awaited.

S/3814/17/FL 1, Meridian Drive, Lolworth Summer House in the garden.
Outcome awaited.

S/2594/17/TP Lolworth Grange, Robins Lane, Lolworth Works to Trees (TPO)
approved.

Paul Jones and Adam Williams agreed to join the planning subcommittee in place of Fiona Corbett & Eric Wakefield. They were elected unanimously and thanked for their offer.

10. Town Acre Charity

Sue Houlton reported the trustees were planning to call a meeting of all allotment holders to discuss distribution of the Income from the annual rents. Maintenance of the allotment area is one possibility.

£

11. Financial Report

The Financial Report was presented by the Chairman.

In addition to the usual heads of expenditure, this year there is an additional cost of £350 for play equipment repair/maintenance.

CGM's poor performance in cutting the grass was noted. They failed to cut in April, the machinery cuts coarsely leaving an unsightly appearance and they are inflexible, cutting fortnightly regardless of the conditions.

The Chairman proposed three options:

- Continue with CGM (Option 1)
- Buy mower for village and set up a volunteer rota to cut grass / strim (Option 2)
- Pay John Houlton to cut grass using his mower plus volunteer rota to strim (Option 3)

Option 1

Assumption is 5% increase in all costs. On that basis budgeted expenditure would be £4578 which includes a contingency of £500 and assumes 17 grass cuts . This is a substantial increase over last year principally because of :

- Increase insurance costs (£200)
- Playground inspection/maintenance (£470)
- Planings for footpath (£400)

On that basis I estimate that at the end of the year 2018/19 we will have approx. £660 in the kitty which is clearly not sensible. To restore reserves to a sensible level precept

needs to rise by £1500 to £4250 which would give year end reserves of approx. £2160. This is a 54% increase or £23 per household on average.

Option 2

We would save the grass cutting cost but in year 1 would have to:

- Buy new mower (£2000)
- Convert outbuilding (£550)
- Buy safety equipment (£150)

Additionally we would have maintenance and consumables costs estimated at £500 p.a.

Allowing for 5% inflation p.a. I estimate that we would save £1350 over 5 years but bear in mind that we would have no fund to replace the mower when obsolete.

Option 2 would increase budgeted expenditure to £6,545 requiring a precept increase of £3500 to £6250 (127% increase). This would give year end reserves of £2190.

Option 3

We would save the equivalent of vat on the number of cuts and would budget 15 not 17 cuts. We would still have to buy safety equipment for strimming (£150). All other cost would remain as in options 1 and 2. On that basis budgeted expenditure would be £4365 and if the precept was raised to £4250 we would have year end reserves of £2370 approx.

Adoption of the report was proposed by Gill Coe, seconded by Steph Chamberlain and approved unanimously. The meeting then approved the

- i) Annual Governance statement 2016/17 for Lolworth Parish Meeting
 - ii) Accounting Statements 2016/17 for Lolworth Parish Meeting,
- proposed by Derek Hill, seconded by David Cressey and approved unanimously

Thanks were expressed to Michael Fisher for once again carrying out the audit with no charge.

12. District Councillors' report

District Cllr. Bunty Waters summarised the District Councillors' annual report – see appendix 1.

13. County Councillor's report

County Cllr. Linda Harford thanked everyone for their support. Her written report is attached as appendix 2.

14. Any other Business

- a. 50th Anniversary of Bar Hill; celebrations on July 1st.
- b. Milton Country Park "ParkLife 2017". Sunday June 25th 10.00 – 17.00
- c. Progress on the construction of the A14 is being recorded monthly by a local drone enthusiast. Google "A14 Swavesey drone" to watch on U-tube.
- d. David Cressey reported a need for awareness following recent harassment of elderly people by individuals touting for work. The Clerk described the "Safe and Well visits" offered by Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service and will ascertain whether they are willing to give a group talk. Jim Allen offered free advice to villagers on fire protection. Volunteers will be sought to form a contact list as part of emergency contingent planning.
- e. "Operation Hunter" a burglary and crime prevention awareness event, will be held on 10th May at the Church of St Peter & Paul, Park Street, Dry Drayton starting at 5.00pm

15. Date of the next meeting

Thursday April 26th 2018 at 8.00 pm

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.28 pm

Signed

Date