

**MINUTES OF LOLWORTH PARISH MEETING**  
**held in Robinson Hall, Lolworth**  
**on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

*Safety barrier between the Lolworth slip road and the main carriageway:* 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, including repositioning the signs and removing the triangle of grass, were suggested.

*Ultra-low noise surface:* a request was made to extend its distance further west.

*Difficulty in identifying the realigned lanes:* this is particularly difficult at night due to the use of reflective paint to obscure earlier lane markings.

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 HGVs damaging the verge remains.
- c) *Volunteers to form a contact list as part of emergency contingent planning.* Prior to the meeting Derek Hill had 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 Mills. 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*

Stuart Easton indicated he may be able to take over the Junior Club at a later date.

## 7. Correspondence

### *Revised Local Plan*

The allotment land has been changed from a Local Green Space to a Protected Village Amenity Area under the revised Local Plan. This reduces its status as far as planning applications are concerned. Sue Houlton, on behalf of the Trustees of the Town Acre Charity reassured the meeting that the land is held in trust with the Charity Commissioners and there was no intention to change its status.

## 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 a mower for the village and set up a volunteer rota to cut grass / strim (Option 2 )
- Pay John Houlton to cut the grass using his mower plus a volunteer rota to strim (Option 3 ). This would be for a trial period of 12 months.

**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 year end reserves for 2018/19 will be approx. £660. To restore them to a sensible level the precept would need to rise by £1500 to £4250 which would give year end reserves of approx. £2160. This is a 54% increase.

### **Option 2**

We would save CGM's cost but in year one would have to:

- Buy new mower (£2000 )
- Convert the Hall outbuilding (£550 ) to house the mower
- Buy safety equipment (£150 )

Additionally there would be maintenance and consumables costs estimated at £500 p.a.

Allowing for 5% inflation p.a. a saving of £1350 over 5 years is estimated but there would be 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**

Cost per cut would be £58, with a budget of 15 not 17 cuts. We would still have to buy safety equipment for strimming (£150 ) and organise a rota. All other costs would remain as in options 1 and 2. Budgeted expenditure would be £4365 and if the precept was raised to £4250 year end reserves would be approx. £2370.

Darren Chamberlain was thanked for providing a strimmer and the Clerk left the meeting while the options were discussed. Option 3 was proposed by Carol Churcher, seconded by Ed Coe and carried (22 votes in favour and 2 abstentions).

## **12. District Councillors' report**

District Cllr. Roger Hall summarised the District Councillors' report – see appendix 1.

## **13. County Councillor's report**

County Cllr. Linda Harford's written report is attached as appendix 2. She further indicated that SCDC can apply to have their housing revenue cap lifted, thereby allowing the Council to borrow more money to build council houses.

## **14. Any other Business**

- a. A street lamp outside Glebe House was removed several years ago, resulting in an unlit part of Robins Lane. The cost of a replacement light will be investigated.
- b. The performance of those collecting the blue bins has deteriorated in the last month with litter being left outside properties. The Clerk will write to SCDC.

**15. Date of the next meeting**

Thursday April 26<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 8.00 pm

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.45 pm

Signed

Date