

Lingfield Parish Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 26th JANUARY 2010 AT 8PM IN THE LINGFIELD AND DORMANSLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present:

Ron Palmer – in the chair
Mary Edwards (part of meeting)
Graham Marks
Fran Palmer
Valerie Millar
Sonia Perkins
Lisa Bangs

District Cllr Brian Perkins (part of meeting)
County Cllr Michael Sydney (part of meeting)

In attendance:

Fay Elwood, Clerk to the Parish Council

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 Apologies for Absence

Mary Edwards attended a meeting with the Chief Constable on behalf of the Parish Council so was only present for part of the meeting.

1.2 Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest

Lisa Bangs declared a personal and prejudicial interest in items 3.2 and a personal interest in item 4.3. She left the room whilst item 3.2 was discussed.

1.3 Minutes of meeting held on 29th September 2009

The amended minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 29th September were signed as a true and accurate record.

1.4 Minutes of a meeting held on 24th November 2009

These were signed as a true and accurate record.

1.5 Correspondence

Members noted correspondence received between 30th November 2009 and 20th January 2010.

2 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Progress Report and Actions outstanding

No actions outstanding.

2.2 Finance Report and Cheques for Payment

Members noted receipt of the financial report which included details of expenditure against budget for 2009/2010. The cash held in the bank on 31st December was £37,161.63.

The following cheques were agreed for payment:

Chq No.	Details	Total	Power to Spend
1519	A. Heaton - Expenses relating to Talbot Road	23.57	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
1520	SLCC - CiLCA Registration for clerk	150	LGA 1972 s111
1521	Surrey CC - Pension Apr - Dec	1823.74	LGA 1972 s111
1522	W. Martin - Emergency work to remove tree	130	PHA 1875 s164
1523	SLCC Membership	135	LGA 1972 s111
1524	D. Heaton - Cleaning Talbot Road	56	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
1525	A. Heaton - Salary Nov	290.4	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
1526	F. Elwood - Salary	398.06	LGA 1972 s111
1527	Inland Revenue - November	302.92	LGA 1972 s111
1528	Inland Revenue - December	148.52	LGA 1972 s111
1529	F. Elwood - Stamps	15	LGA 1972 s111
1530	R. Deller - Gun Pond and Village Maint	505	LGA 1972 Sch14
1531	1st Lingfield and Dormans Scouts - grant	250	LGC 1972 s.137
1532	F. Elwood - Clerk's Salary - Jan	825.4	LGA 1972 s111
1533	A. Heaton - Salary Dec	225.6	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
1534	D. Heaton - Cleaning Talbot Road	24.5	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
1535	Inland Revenue	238.92	LGA 1972 s111
1536	Surrey CC - Pension	227.97	LGA 1972 s111
1537	Sutton & East Surrey Water	36.35	LGA 1972 Sch 29
1538	Sutton & East Surrey Water	364.05	LGA 1972 Sch14
1539	British Telecom - Phone	84.34	LGA 1972 s111
1540	Ling & Dormans Comm Centre - grant	1000	LGA 1972 s133
1541	EDF Energy - Electricity	173.72	LGA Act 1972 Sch 14
	Total	£7,429.06	

2.3 CRB Check for Adrian Heaton

Lingfield Youth Football Club has applied for an updated CRB check for Adrian Heaton. The clerk will obtain a copy of the Enhanced Disclosure when it is available.

Action: Clerk

2.4 Guaranteed Investment Bond

Members agreed to invest £25,000 in a Guaranteed Investment Bond for six months.

Action: Clerk

2.5 Audit Process

Members noted a reply from the Audit Commission concerning the cost of the external audit. The Chairman commented that although he couldn't

understand why it is necessary for Parish Councils to have both an internal and an external audit, he accepts that we cannot change the situation. The clerk will supply information to members about the differences between the two audits.

Action: Clerk

2.6 Grant Application for War Memorial

Members agreed to submit a retrospective grant application to the Tandridge District Council for the work recently carried out on the war memorial.

Action: Clerk

2.7 Grant Application for Village Sign

Members agreed to defer this item pending information from Surrey County Council. Graham Marks commented that when he made the suggestion to apply for an Environmental Initiative Grant he was thinking about the Twinning Sign. The Clerk will check to see if this is owned by the Parish Council.

Action: Clerk

3 GRANTS, FUNDING AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS

3.1 Actions Outstanding and Progress Report

We have not yet been advised how much was raised by the business community for the Christmas Lights. The clerk will contact Paul Hearnden so that we can pay the Parish Council grant previously agreed.

Action: Clerk

3.2 Grant Applications

Members agreed to pay a grant of £250 to Lingfield Scouts towards the cost of the Centenary Camp. This money should not be used for any other purpose.

This is the second grant to the Scouts in this financial year and both grants are paid using Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

4 PARISH FACILITIES

4.1 Actions Outstanding and Progress Report

None.

4.2 Sport and Recreation Committee

Members noted minutes of the Sport and Recreation Committee dated 15th December 2009 and 12th January 2010.

4.3 Letter to Richard Woodward

Members noted receipt of a copy of a letter sent to Richard Woodward requesting a transfer of the freehold of Talbot Road Recreation Ground to Lingfield Parish Council.

4.4 Search for allotment land

Members noted a report by the clerk on the search for land to provide additional allotments. Punch Taverns have rejected the offer of £5000 for a piece of land to the rear of the Hare and Hounds. Dormansland Parish Council is still pursuing land at NCYPE and Racecourse Road. The Chairman suggested that we should make an offer of £5000 to Lingfield Park Racecourse if they can identify a suitable area of land for allotments.

Members agreed the clerk should make an approach to Paul Shrimpton.

Action: Clerk

4.5 Water Trough for Allotments

Members agreed expenditure up to £150 to provide an additional water trough at the allotments.

5 HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC AND PARKING

5.1 Actions Outstanding and Progress Report

The clerk has been corresponding with John Pateman at Tandridge District Council about the confusion with the proposal to install double yellow lines in Gunpit Road. The Local Area Committee has agreed to extend the double yellow lines from the car park for a length of six metres. However, the order should have included double yellow lines from the car park to Plaistow Street. We have been assured that this is likely to happen in due course but must be formally approved by the Local Committee before the order is issued.

5.2 Parking Permits

Members noted a reply from Richard Woodward, Director of Community Services to a letter sent to Tony Elias who is the Chairman of Community Services. The Chairman expressed his frustration at the content of the reply and asked the clerk to request details of the income generated by Gunpit Road Car Park.

Action: Clerk

6 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT

6.1 Actions outstanding and Progress Report

The list of work which could be included if the Parish Council takes over responsibility for hedges, verges and ditches is still outstanding.

The list of contractors for the above is also still outstanding. This information is required by the middle of February. Members were asked to pass suggestions to the clerk.

Action: Clerk

6.2 Village Sign in Godstone Road

Members noted that the village sign has gone missing from Godstone Road. A resident has asked if the Parish Council will fund a replacement but members deferred making a decision until we have received a response from Surrey County Council. It was suggested that we could use the statistics produced for the planning application at The Bays to ask that our request for a VAS be given higher priority.

Action: Clerk

6.3 Rural Exception Scheme

Members noted a reply from Bob Evans dated 4th January 2010 concerning Lingfield's inclusion in the Rural Exception Scheme. The Chairman pointed out that Tandridge District Council seems to class Lingfield as 'rural' only when it suits them. We have recently been made aware that the businesses in Lingfield are to lose their rural status in relation to business rates. The Chairman asked the clerk to send a further letter to Bob Evans explaining that we didn't make a comment on the Core Strategy because we were misled about the issue of affordable housing.

Action: Clerk

Lisa Bangs clarified the difference between an affordable housing scheme built under the Rural Exception Scheme and affordable housing built within the existing village boundaries. To qualify for Rural Exception Status, the houses do not qualify for the 'Right to Buy' and must be allocated to people already within the village.

THE CHAIRMAN SUSPENDED THE MEETING TO TAKE COMMENTS FROM BRIAN PERKINS.

6.4 Fly Posting

Lisa Bangs asked the Council to consider agreeing a policy on fly posting following the recent campaign against building on the Green Belt. The clerk has requested information from Bob Evans at Tandridge District Council and members agreed to defer this item until we have received details about the District Council's policy.

6.5 Meeting with Lingfield Park Racecourse

Members received notes of a meeting with Paul Shrimpton, who is the Managing Director at Lingfield Park Racecourse. The meeting was held to find out about their intentions in relation to the recently submitted licence application. We were assured that there is no intention to play music or use amplified sound beyond 10.30pm but we were advised that their licence application was withdrawn because their revised operating schedule had not been submitted soon enough.

6.6 Lingfield Youth Club

Lingfield Youth Club closed at the end of December. The Parish Council is keen to see it revived. Lisa Bangs will work in conjunction with the clerk to try to recruit enough volunteers to form a management committee and deliver the service on a rota basis.

Action: LB and clerk

6.7 Loitering in Station Road

We have received a report of suspicious activity in the vicinity of Station Road. This has been investigated by the police who do not think there is cause for concern. However, the resident who reported the incident has asked us to consider installing extra street lighting between Lingfield Station and Signal Court. We will await a Police Report before considering the

suggestion but are mindful of the fact that some residents think too much street light detracts from the rural nature of a village.

7 TRAINING AND MEETINGS

Nothing to report.

8 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Nothing to report

9 CURRENT CONSULTATIONS

Nothing to report

10 MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members noted minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 15th December 2009 and 12th January 2010.

11 MATTERS FOR REPORTING

11.1 Risk Assessments

Members noted that risk assessments should be completed by 10th March 2010. The clerk will forward the necessary forms.

Action: Clerk

11.2 Email from Chris D'Avray concerning Business Rates in Lingfield

Members noted an email from Chris D'Avray asking the Parish Council to lead a complaint to the District Council about their decision to remove the rural discount on business rates in Lingfield. **Members agreed** that the Chamber of Commerce should be encouraged to take the lead but the Parish Council will lend its support.

11.3 Tandridge Local Committee – Winter Maintenance

Lisa Bangs will represent LPC at an informal meeting of the Tandridge Local Committee to discuss the issue of winter maintenance. Michael Sydney had advised at the start of the meeting that Parish Councils will be invited to purchase extra grit bins if they think it necessary.

11.4 Talk of the Town Project

Members considered information about a community project being carried out in East Grinstead whereby recording booths are set up for residents to record anecdotes and conversations. It was agreed that the RH7 History Society should be approached to see if they would like to include this when they run their annual exhibition.

Action: Clerk

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Lingfield Parish Council will be held on 30th March 2010

Meeting closed 10.00pm

