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| **LAMBLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on**  **Monday 15th January 2024 at 6.30pm**  **Committee Room, Lambley Village Hall** |

**Present: Parish Council Members**: Cllrs. D Edwards, L Milbourn, K Stevenson, R Vincent, J Gregory, C Starr, S Harraway, J Loftus, A Musson

Parish Clerk: Ewa Strumnik – minute taker

**In attendance**: Philip Cox, Church Warden - Holy Trinity Church, A Gee, K Hayter, I Kassell

**24.32 Apologies**

Cllr. H Greensmith

**24.33 Declaration of Interest**

None

**24.34 Welcome and Introductions**

Welcome to John Smith, Simon Beacroft, Lee Palmer, James Fraser, Melvyn and Kay Rolling, Pat and Bob Wightman, all Lambley residents, who attended the meeting to air their concerns regarding the recent flooding and the impact on their homes. Questions were asked regarding flood planning – further details under ‘Flooding’.

**24.35 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 December 2023 & Matters Arising**

**Pg. 1** The issue of some of the Christmas lights on the trees not working at all, or some others only working for some of the time – Cllr Starr will check if the parish has been charged when the invoice is received.

Tim will be asked to attend the February meeting to discuss the Lengths man scheme.

**Pg. 2** The interactive speed camera on Spring Lane will be replaced as it cannot be repaired.

**Pg.3** Nothing has been heard regarding the Shared Use Agreement

**Matters Arising:**

None

**24.36 Cllr. Elliott**

Cllr Elliott is supportive of ongoing funding for the Reed Pond – the Community Infrastructure Fund which supports designated green spaces in villages. The fund could give £5-10K if the criteria are met. Cllr. Elliott to forward the details.

Notts CC have sent out letters to riparian landowners. Some landowners have not been maintaining water courses on their land. Some of the letters are enforcement orders and landowners will be required to act on the issues regarding water courses / dykes on their land. The letters will be followed up and the Council will carry out the work required and bill the landowner if the work is not carried out within the specified time period. There should be a marked difference with the amount of water coming off the surrounding fields in 6 weeks or so. Action points: Cllr Elliott

Cllr. Harraway mentioned the Countryside Stewardship grant which provides financial incentives for landowners to look after and improve the environment.

**24.37 Flooding**

Residents reported a significant increase in the volume of flood water. Gardens can’t cope with the amount of water and houses/garages are flooding. Higher volumes of water are coming down the fields. Sizeable pieces of concrete, wood – branches and trunks are being swept down the stream/beck. Residents feel that something has changed to cause this increase in volume. Cllr. Milbourn showed residents the Riparian Landowner leaflet which requires that landowners with land abutting a water course have responsibility to maintain it – they are required to remove debris so this is not swept further down the water course and does not impact their downstream neighbour.

Some residents could not get back into the village due to the flooding and road closures. Thanks go to Cllr. Musson who transported people using a tractor and to the Flood Wardens for their help.

The Chair and Vice Chair attended a flood meeting in Woodborough. The agencies are aware that this is a serious issue and have great sympathy for those affected. The River Trent Trust has erected bunds to slow the volume of water. There are issues with water coming down Back Lane and Dam Yard. Questions were asked whether the increased volume of water is due to the new builds / Gedling Country Park.

Woodborough Brook was adopted by the Environment Agency as more than 10 properties were flooded in 2007 and it has responsibility for maintaining it. Lambley’s brook has not been adopted. Often flooded properties have not been reported due to the impact on house prices; however this is not helpful in building a case for major community flood defences. In Lowdham over 200 houses were flooded so this triggered a multiagency response. Cllr. Greensmith has been reporting issues in the village.

The pumping station on Park Lane is not fit for purpose. The Parish Council were told in 2020 that an upgrade of the station was on the 5-year Capital Plan, the council have now been told that this is no longer the case.

The council would like to hold a public meeting. An element of home owners helping themselves wherever possible and the goodwill of landowners ploughing horizontally will be needed. Drainage on the new builds should be mitigated in the planning designs, although questions were asked about what happens to the drainage tanks when they are full. The Chair has written a strong letter to Mark Spencer.

Blocked gullies are still an issue. Questions were asked if dredging the beck would alleviate the problems, however it was pointed out that this can increase the water flow. Cllr. Elliott also attended the meeting on Friday and reported that there is still work to be done on the Dumbles; larger ponds to hold water and larger bunds, however a lot of this is dependent on funding. Prevention is better than cure and the Parish Council need ideas for solutions and establishing the problems.

The Chair thanked the residents for attending the meeting.

Action Point: Chair to seek availability of various agencies and willingness to attend a public meeting.

**24.38 Village Maintenance**

Tim has cleared and widened the footpath down the side of the green space.

Matt Hearn has cut the laurels at the bottom of the cemetery since some of the graves on the extremities are now under foliage. Cllrs need to see the progress made in the day to assess work rate versus budget before commissioning more days.

It was suggested that the trees on the green space on Steeles Way be cut down by half.

The pollarding of trees to be included in next year’s budget. Action: Cllr Gregory to obtain quotations.

The lighting bollards at the village hall entrance have been replaced and the panel light

Mick Conroy will reset the lighting clock to 6pm – 11am. The override switch is at the bottom of the board – Infuse will replace this with a new timer.

Cllr Starr has approached 6 companies regarding the play park and he will update the council at the next meeting.

**24.39 Be The Hero**

The Clerk has contacted the company and they have sent an email outlining how to apply for National Lottery funding. Action Point: Clerk to action this.

**24.40 Finance**

**Expenditure/Income/Budget**

Cllrs looked over the budget and bank balances.

**Payments for authorisation**

6 invoices to pay, totalling £1934.20.

**Precept Discussion**

GBC require the provisional expenditure and provisional income for 2024/2025, the net of these 2 figures is the Precept Requirement. The Clerk to produce the draft budget for 2024/25 for the Chair and Cllr. Vincent to discuss. Action point: Clerk

**24.41 Planning Applications**

Plans have been passed re: Orchard Farm Catfoot Lane. Clerk to contact Deborah Bellamy to ask why this was not notified. Action point: Clerk (**This has been notified now - it was on a list the week after – Cllr Gregory).**

**24.42 Reed Pond**

Karen distributed the Reed Pond annual action plan. The medium and long term strategy is also being followed. Currently there is £1600 in the bank account. Fundraising and grants from various agencies are being looked at. The group are considering the layering of hedges as a means of managing the hedgerows and an advisor has been invited to visit the Reed Pond. At some stage an arborist will be coming to look at the older woodland. An application will be submitted to GBC for tree management. It was advised that Monty Hawat GBC is very helpful in this respect. Cllr. Gregory advised that Robert Martin knows about hedge layering. The sheep ate a lot of the grass but cutting needs to be done in selective areas in February. A volunteer event for bramble cutting will be advertised in Lambley Life and on Facebook. The Reed Pond Mission Statement is being reworded to include ‘Community involvement and wellbeing’. There are challenges establishing the eastern boundary as the maps are not clear - the exact boundary needs to be established. When parish councillors had a walk round several months ago, there were two fences and it is not known which is the original. There is nothing on the deeds regarding the culvert. The Reed Pond group have cleared and tied the ditch in order to keep the culvert clear. It was suggested that a date and time be arranged to go and talk to the landowners and mark the boundary. Action Point : XXXXX Julie? Andy? To talk to Bonny / Mark about the boundaries.

The Parish Council do not want to cause any angst. Chair thanked the Reed Pond group for their work.

**24.43 Parish Council Ownership**

To be discussed at next meeting.

**24.44 Road Safety**

The Community Police Officer spoke to a parent who regularly parks on the zigzags outside the school. Blue leaflets have been left on illegally parked vehicles. Safety outside the school will be included in the Parish Magazine. Cars are also being parked illegally very close to the junction of Orchard Rise.

More volunteers have asked to be trained using the speed camera.

Action Point: Clerk to contact Trevor re: training speed wardens.

Cllr. Gregory to report complaints to Trevor.

**24.45 Magazine Update**

Cllr Gregory has secured a couple of new advertisers since Spring Lane Farm shop has decided not to advertise any longer. Cllr. Elliott has spoken to Calverton and District Funeral Services and Cllr. Gregory to confirm advertising. The magazine is breaking even.

**24.46 Correspondence**

Cllr Starr has expressed concerns regarding the onerous nature of the Lengthsman scheme. Tim is employed as the Woodborough Lengthsman. It is only fair that Tim be asked if he wishes to be the Lambley Lengthsman. There are benefits to this for both Tim and the parish. Woodborough Parish are happy with the scheme. Action Point: Clerk to ascertain if there are any issues with insurance for the lengthsman scheme.

A resident has reported that the ground has sunk at the top of the cemetery. Cllrs. will meet there and discuss any issues.

The Piste Office made a donation towards the Christmas lights. Thank you to those concerned.

Cllr. Starr has kindly donated his old gates to be put up at the end of the field to stop future joy riders – Cllrs. have no objection to this and Cllr. Musson will put them up. Action Point: Cllr Musson.

Chair has had email correspondence with Phil Berrill and a phone conversation but no information yet received on statistics for last year and breakdown regarding the Shared Use Agreement

Action Point: Chair to email.

The Muga lights and the cover on the detector in the meeting room still require attention. Action Point: Cllr Starr to follow up.

**24.47 Any Other Business**

There has been a lot of praise for Cllr Musson both on social media and generally in the community, especially for the help he gave during the flooding. Thanks to him and to all the other councillors, flood wardens and the like who give their time to the community.

Further to a meeting with Dynamite Fireworks, Cllr Harraway has more confidence with this company rather than Rainbow Fireworks. Cllr. Harraway has provisionally booked the Parish annual Firework display on 9 November at a cost of £3000.00. The booking includes music and quiet fireworks.

**Date of Next Meeting: 19 February 2024, 6.30pm**

**Meeting Closed:** 9.06pm