

# Lothersdale Parish Council

Clerk: Esther Barrows  
8 Rook Street, Lothersdale, BD20 8EH  
estherbarrows@hotmail.co.uk 01535 636776

## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

**Present:** Councillor Stephen Cohen (Chairman)  
Councillor Michael Edward Cullen  
Councillor Catherine Gott  
Councillor Peter Harrison  
Councillor Julian White  
Councillor Patrick Mulligan (NYCC)

Clerk Esther Barrows

### **3/01 Apologies were received and accepted from:**

Councillor Pat Fairbanks (CDC)

### **3/02 Declaration of Interest:**

Cllr Harrison and Cllr Cullen declared an interest in item 3/08, Planning:

*Application number: 53/2013/13317.*

Cllr Cullen declared an interest in item 3/04, n: Traffic concern, Lothersdale Primary.

### **3/03 Reports from invited guests:**

**Cllr Mulligan** reported news about the Waste PFI project. The Government has pulled PFI credits of over £125 million across the life of the project. The project has been ongoing for 5-6 years. This is now seen as a reflection of the Government trying to save money. There have been three PFI projects across the country, and as the government did not sign a promissory note for Norfolk and Bradford, then there is no legal obligation to give the money. Council officers are still trying to get MP's to address this. It would have given waste security for thirty years.

The Government is still trying to move waste from landfill. It was said that there was not enough landfill sites, and £5 million was allocated to build more. Now the Councils are being told there is over occupancy, and the council could lose the £5 million with contractors. Cllr Mulligan will keep the Council informed as they develop.

### **3/04 Minutes:**

- i) Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on February 14<sup>th</sup> be signed as a true record. It was noted by Cllr Mulligan that his report to the Council needed a slight amendment, which the clerk has carried out.

i) Clerk's and members' reports on updates and actions taken on matters discussed at the previous meeting:

- a) Lengthman discussion: The Council first addressed two questions:  
1 – Do we need a Lengthman  
2 – If so what would be his role

Firstly the Council considered looking for a voluntary group within the village to help with litter and wrapper collecting, removal of dead branches, leaf clearing etc. The clerk is to place notices on the website, in the Parish Magazine and on the village noticeboards asking people if they feel a Lengthman is needed, what his role would be, and if anyone would consider joining a voluntary group to assist in keeping the village tidy and safe. The clerk will also advertise this in the Craven Herald, and Cllr Cullen is to pass the Social Clubs email database to the clerk so she can forward the request to various village organisations.

Action

EB

The clerk is to find the job description for a Lengthman in the Councils past records to try and ascertain a budget for discussion at the next meeting.

EB

- b) Tennis net storage: Cllr Harrison reported that he has requested a written quote for the storage unit, but as yet this has not come in.

PH

- c) MUGA defects: The clerk reported on her contact with the Contract Administrators for the MUGA, and the successful lowering of the fence panels in order to keep tennis balls out. The Council was happy that the work had now come to conclusion and agreed to issue final payment. The clerk is to query the arrangement for the Final Completion Certificate due.

EB

- d) Land Registry: The clerk informed the Council that the park valuation and deeds have been passed to the solicitor, and there is nothing further to report at present.

- e) Village Map: The clerk informed that Council that advertisements had been placed on the noticeboards, on the website and in the parish magazine. Some residents have come forward with details to amend. The clerk is to place one final request in the Craven Herald to ensure everyone has been made aware of the update to the map. The clerk will inform the Council when the illustrations are complete.

EB

- f) Digley Risk Assessment/Bi-annual risk assessment of the recreation ground: Digley have now carried out the annual risk assessment. There are various items within this that will need attention, and it was agreed to add a full discussion of the risk assessment to the agenda for the next meeting.

The clerk reminded that Council that after the spot check Audit last year, we were recommended to carry out our asset risk assessment twice a year. This now needed doing, and the Council carried this out at the meeting. The two asset assessments are now in place ready for the next Audit.

	Action
g) Street furniture: The Bench at Four Lane Ends is now installed. The Council <u>agreed</u> to pay Marmax Products and M. Parker, and the clerk forwarded bank details to Cllr Cullen for payment.	
h) Bank accounts/internet banking: While internet banking has been set up with the savings account, this still needs setting up with the current account. The Council <u>agreed</u> for the clerk to be the Primary user, and completed the application form. The Chairman is to accompany the clerk to the bank to give identification.	SC EB
i) Playing fields/MUGA license: The Clerk issued an amended invoice to the School, which has now been paid. The License will now run from December to November every year, unless either party terminates with three months' notice.	
j) Tree Pruning/Maintenance: The Clerk researched the possibility of funding available to assist with the cost of the annual tree risk assessment for the recreation ground. None was available, so the Council has <u>agreed</u> to pay for the annual tree risk assessment to be carried out, but request details of funding bodies that will assist in helping towards a woodland management plan.	EB
k) Precept: The Precept request has been forward to the Council, and the monies are to be paid into the savings account this year.	
l) Telephone box: At present no information has been received back from BT regarding the telephone box purchase. It was discovered that if there is no further phone box within four hundred metres then BT has to contact the local Council for approval to purchase. This can also take two months. The clerk will keep the Council informed as this progresses.	EB
m) Speed concern letter: The clerk had contacted Highways North Yorkshire to request details of the investigation carried out to address speed concerns at Rook Street, Lothersdale. No response has yet been received, and there is no contact phone number for the clerk to use. Cllr Mulligan agreed to forward details to the clerk of Stacey Mitchell at Craven Community Safety Partnership who may assist in the reported investigation. The clerk will also look on the Police and Crime Commissioners Website for further assistance.	EB
n) Traffic concern, Lothersdale Primary: Cllr White had requested a discussion about the large volume of traffic outside the school, particularly drivers carrying out three point turns, or parking on the zig-zag lines outside the clubhouse. As Cllr Cullen is also on the Governing Body of the school, he informed the Council that this matter is already in discussion. The white zig-zag lines (which are not enforceable) should be outside the school. Highways were not aware of this mistake, and they will shortly be moved. As the school is very popular, with over 50% of pupils from outside the area, if the school didn't allow these to attend then it would close. While there are those that come from outside the village, there are also pupils from outlying farms to consider. Cllr Cullen informed the Council that there may also be a sign painted on the road, stating 'no parking', to encourage parents to park further away from the school, in order to reduce congestion in that area. It was agreed for the clerk to write to the Governing	EB

Body, agreeing with their proposal, but requesting that enforceable zig-zag lines were used outside the school.

**3/05 Public Question Time:**

There was no adjournment for public question time.

**3/06 Finances:**

Digley Risk Assessment	48.00	
Michael Parker bench installation	72.00	
Marmax Products: bench	432.00	
Village Hall Trust Rent Jan – Mar 13	54.00	
Esther Barrows Feb – Mar fees	206.04	
Landscape Engineering MUGA completion	<u>2,323.43</u>	
TOTAL	3,135.47	

(ii) February 2013

Opening balance	£	
Current account	15,100.35	
Deposit account	<u>7,048.23</u>	
	22,148.58	22,148.58
Receipts		
1.2.13 Interest	<u>5.21</u>	
	5.21	22,153.79
Payments		
CAB donation	20.00	
Chris Cowgill Jan invoice	78.40	
Esther Barrows Jan – Feb fees	204.34	
Hunters Park valuation	<u>140.00</u>	
TOTAL	452.74	<u>452.74</u>
		21,701.05

Closing balance (February)

Represented by:		
Cleared cheques	-204.34	
Uncleared cheques	-248.40	
Lodgements/petty cash		
Current Account Barclays	15,100.35	
Deposit Account Standard Life	<u>7,053.44</u>	
	21,701.05	21,701.05

**3/07 Correspondence:**

- a) Tender for April 2013 – March 2014: Tender notices have been displayed on the website and noticeboards. Cllr Harrison informed the clerk of changes to the administrative process for Tender application which she will put in place for next year. The clerk had advertised the Tender slightly later this year to tie it to the new financial year. This will now be discussed and finalised at the next meeting.

- b) Planning focus newsletter: The latest edition of Planning Focus Newsletter is now out (Feb 2013). It is intended to keep people informed about progress on the Council's Local Development Plan and other policy issues. The clerk is to place copies on the noticeboards, and a link to how to view the newsletter on the Council's website.
- c) Parish Liaison Group Meeting: The clerk informed the Council of the next Parish Liaison Group Meeting to be held at CDC on 27.3.13. The clerk is to forward details if anyone wishes to attend.
- d) CDC – The Big community Switch: Craven District Council launched The Big Community switch on 28<sup>th</sup> February to help save residents money on their gas and electricity bills. All households will be sent a promotional leaflet advertising the scheme with their council tax bill.
- e) Conservation/management in Recreation Ground: Having been initiated by Cllr Cullen, it was agreed to convene at the recreation ground at the beginning of the next meeting in order to discuss improvements and planting.
- f) Drainage issue in Recreation Ground: The Council discussed the need to address the drainage issues in the recreation ground. While the quotes obtained by the clerk last year gave examples of how contractors' would attempt to fix the problem, now the Cllrs wish to 'up size' the existing pipes which they believe are redundant or collapsed. The clerk is to gain quotes for laying new pipes alongside the existing ones.
- g) Vandalism in Mill Yard: An email had been sent to the clerk informing the Council that a resident had twice had their vehicle vandalized with dog excrement. While the Council expressed concern it was recommended that the resident contact the Police for advice.
- h) Road repairs by NYCC: It was believed that although the clerk was reporting damage to Lothersdale roads, repairs were taking excessively long. The Council was aware that there were huge cuts in Highways which were slowing repairs down. The clerk is to query the cutting of overhanging branches at the Brow, and report the narrowing of the road at the top of Tow Top. While damage to the verge outside school was repaired quickly, the quality of repair is to be challenged by the clerk.
- i) Elections: The clerk informed the Council about the upcoming elections in May 2013. Notices will be posted and information about candidates given when received.
- j) Annual Meeting: The clerk reminded the Council that in May an Annual Parish Meeting, and Annual Meeting of Lothersdale Parish Council will need to be held. It was agreed to hold these at the May meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May, and the clerk is to proceed with arrangements.

Action

EB

EB

EB

EB

EB

### 3/08 Planning:

#### **Notice of Appeal against planning objection:**

**Appeal ref:** App/C2708/A/13/2192521/NWF

**Proposal:** Erection Of 2 No. 11kw Wind Turbines On 18.3m Towers.

**Location:** Skythorns Farm, Cowling. Keighley. BD22 0LJ.

*This applicant has appealed against the planning objection.*

#### **Notice of Withdrawal of application:**

**Application Number:** 53/2012/13190

**Proposal:** Installation Of 1 x Endurance 50kw Wind Turbine With An Overall Height Of 34.2m

**Location:** Bent Laithe Farm, Lothersdale. Keighley. BD20 8HS

*This application has been withdrawn.*

#### **Planning applications received:**

**Application number:** 53/2013/13317

**Proposal:** Replacement Of Barn With A New Garage/Workshop With Storage Over (Re:Submission Of Previous Application 53/2012/12923).

**Location:** Summers Gill, Lothersdale. Keighley. BD20 8HQ

The Council raises no objection to the above planning application.

**Application number:** 53/2013/13361

**Proposal:** Felling of One Beech Tree

**Location:** Burlington House, Lothersdale. Keighley. BD20 8EL

The council raised no objection the above planning application, but would like to see a replacement tree planted as Lothersdale is within a conservation area.

**Application number:** 53/2013/13346

**Proposal:** Removal Of 1 Sycamore Tree

**Location:** Quaker House, 15 Dale End. Lothersdale, Keighley. BD20 8EL

The Council raises no objection to the above planning application.

### 3/09 Members' Community Reports:

**Date of the next meeting April 11th 2013**

Signed..... Date