

LINGWOOD & BURLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting,

held at the Lingwood Village Hall Meeting Room, Station Road, Lingwood,
on Tuesday 7th January 2025 at 7.30pm.

Present were – Councillors (Cllr) Ian Chapman, Cheryl Grace, Brenda Jones, Mike Ingram, Richard Morton, Ian White and Clerk - Sonya Dickinson.

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, Cllr Richard Morton agreed to Chair the meeting.

25/01. Welcome and Apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Chair David Robinson, Vice Chair Jenny Stafford and Councillor Roz Simpson.

25/02. Declarations of interest: None.

25/03. Public Forum:

(15 minutes allocated for public participation with a maximum of 3 minutes each).

We were joined by 4 members of the public and District Councillor (DC) Jess Royal – Jess sent a report to the Council.

Jess – It was nice to see the toys, donated by Businesses in Broadland, being given to families. The Full District Council Meeting on 19th December discussed:

Tenancy Regulations

Environmental Policy Review – Increased penalties for fly tipping.

Broadland are running a survey for Women's safety across the District, which will result in creating a Woman's Safety Charter. The survey is open to all genders.

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities/womens-safety-charter>

Devolution – The Government is reviewing priority areas for two tier Councils. Norfolk County Council will decide if they are postponing local elections.

Broadland are pushing for a fair devolution deal.

Public – Allotments; you came and filled the bait boxes at the allotments but they were empty within 2 days. Some of them are difficult to find, if you call me, I will help you find them all.

Cllr Morton – I will come and do them again. I'll let you know when I am coming to do them.

Public – There are 2 allotments that haven't grown anything for 2 or 3 years. I will let you know the numbers. They need to go to people waiting on the list. The poor land allotments were mentioned in the December minutes. If the Council is taking them on they need to know that they are a mess, there is no water so people won't want them for garden plots. There is a mares tail problem and there was a fire that required the fire brigade to come out years ago because of someone having a bonfire.

Cllr Morton – Mares tail needs to be split before having weed killer put on.

Clerk – The Parish Council is not going to be running the allotments, but agreed to the Trustees request that I can take on the administration duties.

25/04. Co-option of Councillor:

Tim Gurr attended the December meeting and expressed an interest in becoming a Councillor.

Decision: Councillors unanimously voted in favour of Tim Gurr becoming a Councillor. Tim was not in attendance so will sign the declaration of acceptance at the next meeting.

25/05. Minutes of the meeting 3rd December 2024:

Were signed as a true record.

25/06. Any updates on matters from previous meetings:

Cllr M. Ingram – I attended the Village Hall meeting and asked about a motion sensor light and/or lighting for the charging points, so the CCTV camera we paid for works properly when it

is dark. They said that the Parish Council would have to pay for it. They said it was only a cheap system.

Clerk – They told us at the time that they were purchasing 2 additional cameras for their system for £800 so we paid half (£400), specifically for a camera to cover the MUGA electricity box as it was being broken into regularly.

Is the new committee aware of how much money the Parish Council has given over the years? There is also the question of whether the Council need an extra camera or can the one that is there be positioned to catch the electric vehicle charging points?

25/07. Planning:

a) 2024/3655: Replacement self-build dwelling and cart lodge.

Location: Barn, Rear Weaver Barn, North of Buckenham Road, Lingwood, Norfolk.

This was a Class Q barn that was given permission to convert to residential Dec 2023/Jan 2024.

The Class Q rule opens it up to be knocked down and rebuilt somewhere else on the site, as per the one at Hillcrest Nurseries. The difference is that Hillcrest Nurseries just moved it to another part of the garden. The original barn in this case didn't have much space around it for it to be moved to, so it didn't seem it would apply.

The applicant has purchased additional agricultural land for garden and is now proposing to put a new barn on that along with a 2 storey, 4 bay cart lodge.

Is this new land now classed as the same curtilage? It doesn't seem right that agricultural land can be built on because the land around the original barn was extended.

It is similar in design to the original barn.

Has the Council had any complaints from neighbours?

Due to the additional land purchased, the proposed new barn is now further away from neighbouring properties so they probably won't complain.

It sounds great as it will give more privacy.

The applicant was in attendance and assured Councillors that the footprint of the new barn is the same size as the original barn, although on the block plan it looks larger. In addition to the barn there is also a large 2 storey, 4 bay cart lodge with room in the roof and roof windows.

The applicant says the 4 bay lodge is needed because there will be 4 cars.

Decision: Support.

There were 5 for and 1 abstention, due to the use of agricultural land being used.

b) 2024/3807: Front porch with pitched roof.

Location: 114 Homelea Crescent, Lingwood, Norfolk, NR13 4BP.

Decision: Unanimous Support.

25/08. Buckenham Ancient Woodland Trust:

Cllr I. White – There is nothing new to report.

There is a work day coming up in a couple of weeks, I will let Sonya know the dates.

25/09. Community Payback workforce:

They will be visiting the Millennium Green to finish edging the path.

Clerk to make sure they know to put the grass taken up, around the edge.

25/10. Electric vehicle charging points:

Clerk – This is still going ahead and is in the hands of Norfolk County Council.

25/11. Pond:

To consider the quote to put a concrete slab and build up the ground in front of the bench at the South end of the pond.

Clerk – Beighton Builders went to look at the bench and recommended that the ground be built up and a concrete slab put in instead of paving slabs.

They quoted £140 to do the job.

They also quoted to re-instate the slabs or provide new ones, for the top of the brick meter box near the MUGA. Some of the slabs were broken so they recommended new coping stones and quoted. £80.

Decision: It was resolved to go ahead with the work at the pond and meter box.

25/12. Reading Room:

The sale didn't go ahead at auction as it didn't reach the reserve.

The Auctioneers did a few viewings after the auction and an offer over the reserve price has been accepted by the Trustees and the sale is proceeding with planned completion by the end of January.

The Trustees will be considering the best use of the funds raised for the benefit of the Community, within the restrictions of the trust deed, in due course and welcome any suggestions.

A portion of the proceeds has already been agreed to go to Buckenham Woodland Trust, for the purchase of Buckenham Woods.

25/13. Defibrillators:

Cllr Ingram – I let the Village Hall know that their defibrillator isn't registered, and they said they didn't maintain it.

Clerk – I managed to get into the cabinet at the Spar, I obviously did something wrong last time because it was easy to get into this time. Although the cabinet is 10 years old and a bit rusty, the inside of the cabinet was watertight and the light was working, the defibrillator looked new and the light was on. I sent the pictures to the lady at Heartstart, actually called Heart 2 Heart, and she said it was Brundall First Responders and had the same problem with their units at Blofield. None of them were registered etc. The defibrillator is an old model, it looks new because it has probably never been used.

Blofield Parish Council voted to take on the defibrillators and maintain them.

Perhaps we should do the same for the one at the Spar?

The lady at Heart 2 Heart is coming back to me ref. Network Rail putting one at the Railway Station.

25/14. Highways:

Nothing new to report.

25/15. Finance:

a) Payments requested: i) HMRC – National insurance contributions on December salary £39.35, tax £0.40 = £39.75 (Chq 2610).

ii) Clerk's expenses Oct/Nov/Dec. £211.04 (Chq 2611).

iii) K. Monsey cemetery grass cutting Nov/Dec £225 and hedge cut and cleared Dec £325 = £550. (Trf 10/1/25).

b) Retrospective payments:

i) Eibe Play – duo cableway, wire and cartridge replacement as quoted. £2,898.44 (Trf 11/12/24).

ii) Underpayment to Norfolk Pension Fund in December for the November increased salary. £29.66 (Trf 11/12/24).

c) To agree bank statements with bank reconciliation.

They were Inspected and agreed.

Cash at Bank as at 1 st April 2024	£73,806.31
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Receipts April to end of December	£50,439.67
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Less Expenses April to end of December	<u>(£47,999.85)</u>
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Cash at bank as at 31 st December 2024	<u>£76,246.13</u>
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This is including the Cemetery accounts.

d) Verges Grass cutting contract for 2025. Verges inc. Avondale Close, Post Office Close corner and Clarkson Road plus the Allotments.

The quote has gone up by 9.9% this year, which seems a high percentage, but the price is still within the Norfolk County Council range for the verges. They do a good job. Keep an eye on next year's increase.

Decision: It was resolved to give the contract to The Garden Guardian again this year.

e) Cemetery Grass cutting contract for 2025.

The quote has gone up by 6.7%. The cemetery is well maintained by K. Monsey.

Decision: It was resolved to give the contract to K. Monsey.

f) To consider the quote for filling old sunken graves.

Due to there being 20-30 sunken graves at the Cemetery, some 12" deep, we asked for a quote to fill them with soil and re-seed. The quote has come in from K. Monsey for £275.

Decision: It was resolved to go ahead with this quote and get K. Monsey to do the work.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.24
Next meeting of the Parish Council is on 4th February 2025 at 7.30pm.