



Lassington Oak

Highnam Parish Council

Highnam ~ Linton ~ Over ~ Lassington



LOTTERY FUNDED

Minutes of a Meeting of Highnam Parish Council held in The Old School on Tuesday 12 September 2017

Present: Cllrs: M Welch, D Davies, M Moir, C Coats, T Talbot, Y Watkins and V Tustin Smith

In Attendance: R Hicks (Clerk), Cllr. P Awford and 10 members of the public

Public Forum:

An offer was made to plant more daffodil bulbs if they can be ordered; Comment was made about remarks published by Highnam Heritage in the Link, and likened to those of a petulant child; Q asked when cycle path is going to be cleared; Q asked when issues regarding a fallen tree and a broken gate at Lassington Wood will be dealt with; Q asked when ponding issue at Barn Ground will be resolved; Speeding issue was raised again with reference made to signs at Highleadon and Maisemore.

1. To receive apologies for absence

None

2. To approve Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 July 2017

The minutes were received by the Chairman. It was proposed by Cllr. Watkins, seconded by Cllr .Moir, all in favour that they be approved and signed as an accurate record.

3. Members of the Council are invited to declare any interest they may have in the business set out below

None

4.. To allow dispensations

None required

5.. To receive County Councillor's Report

Cllr Awford reported that the damning Ofsted report on GCC childcare was to be discussed at an imminent meeting, which he will be attending. He further reported that Minsterworth School is likely to be closed, as there were no pupils on the first day of the new term; this is a sad state of affairs in light of the 70+ houses expected. He confirmed that the cycle track is now totally owned by GCC, and that attempts had been made to hold a meeting to discuss its maintenance. He also made comment on the speeding signs at Maisemore and elsewhere.

6. To receive District Councillor's Report

Cllr Davies asked Cllr. Awford if weeds in Highnam could be attended to, especially at mini roundabout. He referred to the fact that construction has started at Lassington Reach, and had generated a number of complaints, mainly concerning mud, noise and start times. Bellway have been reminded of the terms and conditions of their planning approval, and have agreed to clean 2 properties in Lassington Grove. He also referred to the forthcoming Town & Parish seminar at TBC, and encouraged attendance.

7. To receive Clerks Report -

Clerk reported that there had been a considerable amount of correspondence regarding cycle path, ownership and clearance. PC Bank account has now been transferred to Lloyds, with RBS account left open to be used for S106 monies. A Flood Warden buffet presentation was being held at TBC on 9 October between 6 and 8.30pm

8. Finance - to approve invoices for payment

RBS a/c			Power	Amount
28 July 2017	Admin.Costs	S/o	13	£ 376.23
14 August 2017	Mainstream Digital	DD	59	£ 1.34
14 August 2017	HCCT	000277	40	£ 25.00
14 August 2017	Proactive	000278	16	£ 123.60
28 August 2017	Admin Costs	S/o	13	£ 376.23
Lloyds Bank A/c				
12 September 2017	GPFA	000001	23	£ 50.00
12 September 2017	Glebe Gardening	000002	40	£ 280.50

There were no questions and these were approved

9. To consider and adopt revised Standing Orders

Cllr Talbot suggested that some revisions might be necessary; Cllr Coats proposed, Cllr Talbot

seconded that this matter was deferred for further consideration; all agreed

10. To discuss Lassington Wood

Cllr Tustin Smith spoke on this matter; she referred to TBC's current management of work being done on only urgent matters; this wood is about 20 hectares with a value of around £120K, is important to the community, but needs better management. It was suggested that HPC could lease from TBC on a low annual rent or TBC could gift the wood to HPC. HPC would need to manage after an initial survey had been carried out, and the cost might be met through a small increase in the precept. Other suggestions were that a grant be obtained from TBC, some S106 monies were used or that some of the timber could be properly harvested and sold. There was a reference to this being included in the Parish Plan Refresh, and to the fact that in the past there was a management group who met regularly, whose brief was that only dangerous matters would be dealt with and others issues would be left to nature. Comment was made that residents would not take favourably to commercialisation of Lassington Wood.

11. To discuss HCCT Legal Issues

Cllr. Watkins reported that HCCT had been advised that the cost of drafting a basic management agreement would be c.£2K + VAT. Cllr Welch has volunteered to join the Trustees. Cllr Coats volunteered to liaise with the solicitor.

12. To discuss Highnam Parish Plan Refresh

Cllr. Coats reported that the Steering Group have produced a report that has been circulated to all Councillors; actions need to be monitored, assessed and driven forward; Leisure, Environment and Community are the 3 main themes. There may be up to 27 possible volunteers to help implementation of proposals. Draw down of S106 monies can start around the beginning of 2018, but no proposals have yet been costed; other sources of funding have also been identified. An Open Event will be held at 7.30pm on 4 October 2017 when it is hoped to engage local groups. It is intended that monthly reports will be made to PC, and it is hoped to finalise a programme by Nov/Dec. Cllr Talbot reported that he had worked through the report, and that the group were looking for PC acceptance of the work to date and support for the proposals.

13. To discuss Communications

Cllr. Talbot reported that a specification for a new notice board had not yet been decided; the web site is to be expanded in the near future.

14.1 To receive and comment on Planning Applications:

17/00536/FUL	Mr J Evans	Home Farm, Two Mile Lane, GL2 8DW	Reduction in size of proposed single storey extension
17/00821/FUL	Mr/Mrs B Youney	10 Lime Kiln Grove, GL2 8NQ	Proposed single storey rear conservatory
17/00867/FUL	Mr R Daldry	Timberyard, Two Mile Lane, GL2 8DW	Retrospective application for storage barn

The first two applications have been decided by TBC, and the third is still waiting a decision

14.2 To receive information related to application for development on land south of Oakridge (16/00486/FUL)

Any appeal has to be lodged by 14 September 2017 with Sec. of State; there has been no confirmation yet whether this has been done but a reliable source indicates that an appeal will be made. Plans are already underway to enable an appeal to be fought.

15. To discuss need for a Flood Warden

A volunteer is required to take on this role; training would be required and this individual would be the contact point in the event of such need. *Clerk to include call for a volunteer in next Link article.*

16. To discuss Over Farm activities

There are various concerns here with an approved application for a Solar Farm, an impending appeal for 40 houses at Oakridge, Farm Shop and consent for a new Farm Shop; questions would include where will the Theme Park go if new Farm Shop is built because the planned site is where the Theme Park is currently located, use of Roundhouse, Skybar, Festival, Microlights and small aircraft, parties etc. and access. A retrospective planning application was supposedly to be submitted. Where is this all going and what are the future plans for this business? A constructive dialogue needs to be sought with TBC and Over Farm and a proposal by Cllr Coats, seconded by Cllr Watkins that PC should engage with TBC to arrange such a meeting was carried.

16. Bank Reconciliation

Has been supplied to all Councillors; there were no questions

17. Residual Items

1. Question was asked whether a footpath could be built in front of Nos. 1 and 9 Maidenhall
2. Lassington Wood sign has disappeared

3. Question was asked about the dead tree on the Long Field exit to Oakridge

Meeting closed at 8.51pm

Next meeting : 10 October 2017 at 7.30pm in the Old School Room

Signed _____

Date _____