

LITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Extracts 2018

As published in the Church and Village Magazine

FEBRUARY 2018

At the **February** Parish Council meeting which was attended by seven Councillors, County Councillor M Kiddle Morris and three members of the public the following was considered:

Planning: Applications. There were no applications to consider. **Decisions:** The application for a single storey rear extension and internal alterations at 19A Wellingham Road and the application for a detached agricultural building on land at Dereham Road had both been approved.

Neighbourhood Watch: There are vacancies for local coordinators for the following areas:-

Rectory Meadow and Druids Lane
Pound Lane, Back Street, Front Street and Lexham Road
the north end of Tittleshall Road
Weasensham Road and Keppel Close and Lexham Road West
Hall Farm House and Coronation Cottages.

If any parishioner wishes to assist please contact the Clerk.

Highways: The Clerk had received confirmation that further works are to be carried out on the vegetation along Mileham Road and that the surface at the junction of Druids Lane and Mileham Road is scheduled for repair. The Parish Council is to suggest that this is undertaken in school holiday times to ensure there is no disruption to the school bus services. The problems of potholes on Pound Lane, the unfinished footway on Pound Lane and flooding on Mileham Road will all be reported.

County and District Councillor Reports: The County Councillor reported that the Council tax from Norfolk County Council is likely to rise by 5.99% which will increase revenue by £3.7 million which will pay for the increase in the cap on salaries from 1% to 2% and the possible reduction in bus subsidies and gritting routes had been reversed as the increase in revenue will pay for these. The Police and Crime Commissioner is preparing a business case for taking over the Fire service which is not supported by Norfolk County Council. There is also a worrying trend of drugs coming into Norfolk from London and

Litcham Parish Council - Extracts 2018

Birmingham and the suppliers are using young people to deliver these, the young are groomed into the system and are being robbed by the gangs which means that they are then trapped in the system. This is a serious problem which it is difficult to get on top of.

Clearance of Trees. Several parishioners raised concerns over the felling of trees by Breckland Council on the land between Wellingham and Weasenham Roads. Several had been felled on the authority of Breckland Council yet at the open public consultation for a possible development none were said to be felled. The Chairman had contacted Breckland Council who had confirmed that it had given permission for 6 to be felled. A parishioner stated that he did not believe that the fencing contractor employed had the correct licence or that it was conforming to health and safety regulations. It was agreed to monitor the situation and to contact Breckland Council again. It was also disappointing to note that the contractor was from Ipswich when a local contractor could have been employed.

MARCH 2018

At the **March** parish council meeting which was attended by seven councillors, county councillor m kiddle morris, district councillor e gould and twomembers of the public the following was considered:

Planning: applications. There were no applications to consider. The application for a dwelling on land at lime kiln house had been referred to the planning committee. Decisions: there were no decisions to report.

Neighbourhood Watch: There Are Vacancies For Local Coordinators For The Following Areas:-

Rectory Meadow and Druids Lane: Pound Lane, Back Street, Front Street and Lexham Road: the north end of Tittleshall Road; Weasenham Road and Keppel Close and Lexham Road West, Hall Farm House and Coronation Cottages.

If any parishioner wishes to assist please contact the Clerk.

Highways: Considerable correspondence had been received regarding the state of the track off Wellingham Road. Breckland Council had suggested that the bollards be re-sited closer to the road but the District Councillor informed the members that this would not occur and that she had informed the officer that the Parish Council would not be contributing to the cost of repairs to the track. Norfolk County Council had also been contacted as it owns the land immediately adjacent to the highway and all the potholes will be filled.

County and District Councillor Reports: The County Councillor reported that the budget for the County Council had been passed. The Police and Crime Commissioner is continuing to prepare a business case for taking over the Fire service which is not supported by Norfolk County Council. The County Council is opposed to this and it would be necessary for the Police and Crime Commissioner to take over all the capital, stations and equipment and he felt that it would be 2 years to sort out the finances to enable this to happen. He also stated that the highways with the assistance of local farmers and builders had managed to get all the roads passable following the drifting snow. The District Councillor reported that Breckland Council. Had set a balanced budget and a Band D property would have an increase of £4.95 on its Council Tax. Breckland Council is supporting a mobile phone app to inform the owner of the availability of items and these can then be delivered to a site in a town. This should encourage more people into the market towns.

Clearance of Trees. Breckland Council had been contacted regarding the cutting down of trees and it had been hoped that a representative from Breckland Council would be attending. The District Councillor reported that as these are on land owned by Breckland Council and there are no tree Preservation orders on the trees the Council is entitled to maintain them as it sees fit. It was noted that the contractor used may well not be employed by Breckland Council in the future. The Parish Council was still disappointed that these had been felled prior to any application being submitted for planning.

APRIL 2018

Prior to the Parish Council meeting the **Annual Parish Meeting** was held attended by seven Councillors, County Councillor M Kiddle Morris and six members of the public. Reports were received from local organisations, the Chairman of the Parish Council and the County Councillor.

At the Annual Parish meeting the school informed the meeting that it is trying to alleviate the parking problems at the primary phase but Norfolk County Council is not funding any more transport to allow children to be ferried by coach from the High School to the Primary School so there is always a profusion of cars on pound lane which means that a large coach is unable to pass along the road or to turn round.

The Parish Council will support any resolution to resolve the issue but without any land to utilise as a car park this is very difficult to achieve. The school is also looking to replace the pavilion and a discussion was held as to whether a play area could be incorporated within the plans.

At the **April** Parish Council meeting which was attended by seven Councillors and two members of the public the following was considered:

Planning: Applications. No objection was raised to the application from the Jubilee Hall for the extension and redesign of existing single floor structure to allow the hall to be used in a more convenient manner. No objection was also raised for the retrospective application at Willow House Druids Lane for the alterations to the fenestration, insertion of rooflights within the east elevation roof and a new patio and steps to the rear. The Parish Council objected to the change of use of land to residential at Willow House Druids lane as this has encroached onto a SSSI and also the application stated that no trees or hedges would be removed which is not correct as these have already been removed, and a new access constructed which again is not as per the application.

Decisions: There were no decisions to report.

Neighbourhood Watch: There are still vacancies for local coordinators for the following areas:-

Pound Lane, Back Street, Front Street and Lexham Road: the north end of Tittleshall Road; Weasenham Road and Keppel Close and Lexham Road West. It is anticipated that a meeting of the coordinators will be held in the near future once all areas are covered.

If any parishioner wishes to assist please contact the Clerk.

Highways: The parish Council was pleased that some repairs have been undertaken at the junction of Druids Lane and Mileham Road but was disappointed that not all the resurfacing has been completed. The flooding on Mileham Road opposite the school playing field and also at the bend near to Coronation Cottages will be reported. The potholes on Dereham Road, Druids lane and Pound Lane will be reported.

County and District Councillor Reports: The County Councillor reported in the Annual Parish Meeting on the previous year and has contacted the highways department to install a new post on Dereham Road to affix the SAM2 sign to check the speed of vehicles as a complaint had been received from a parishioner.

MAY 2018

At the **May** Parish Council meeting which was attended by seven Councillors, County Councillor M Kiddle Morris and one member of the public the following was considered:

Elections: Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Councillor M Oldfield was re-elected chairman and Councillor Mitchell re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council.

Planning: Applications. There were no planning applications to consider. **Decisions:** The application for the extension and redesign of existing single floor structure to allow the hall to be used in a more convenient manner from the Jubilee Hall had been approved. The retrospective application at Willow House Druids Lane for the alterations to the fenestration, insertion of rooflights within the east elevation roof and a new patio and steps to the rear had also been approved by Breckland Council.

Neighbourhood Watch: There are still vacancies for local coordinators for the following areas:-

Pound Lane, Back Street, Front Street and Lexham Road: the north end of Tittleshall Road; Weasenham Road and Keppel Close and Lexham Road West. It is anticipated that a meeting of the coordinators will be held in the near future once all areas are covered. If any parishioner wishes to assist please contact the Clerk.

Highways: The flooding on Mileham Road opposite the school playing field and also at the bend near to Coronation Cottages had been reported and Norfolk County council had confirmed that these had been investigated and it is going to resolve the problem. The potholes on Dereham Road, Druids Lane and Pound Lane had also been reported and Norfolk County council had confirmed it is going to repair these but this may take 6 weeks. The new potholes on Back Lane, Weasenham Road, Tittleshall Road, the overgrown signs on Tittleshall Road and Druids Lane are all to be reported. The white lining on several roads including across the Common are to be requested to be refreshed. As there has been a second accident on the Common involving a pony, the Parish Council is to contact Norfolk County Council to enquire if the speed limit can be extended to the furthest cattle grid.

Accounts for the Financial Year 2017-2018. These were approved at the meeting and the full details will be posted on the website as per the new regulations that have come into force for this year.

County and District Councillor Reports: The County Councillor reported that there is mobile phone detection sign similar to a SAM2 sign that will scan a vehicle to see if a mobile phone is being used that is not on Bluetooth but is breaking the law by being used whilst driving. There will be four cameras on trial in the county and these will be moved around to determine hotspots for illegal usage of mobile phones. There is a consultation underway on a western link from the NDR to the A47. At present it is likely that there is more traffic on the B1145 through Litcham as vehicles travel from the NDR to the A47 via King's Lynn.

JUNE 2018

At the **June** Parish Council meeting which was attended by seven Councillors, County Councillor M Kiddle Morris, District Councillor E Gould and one member of the public the following was considered:

Planning: Applications. The Parish Council supported the application from the Methodist Church to replace the selected wooden windows with uPVC wood grain windows. The applicant explained the reason for the change to uPVC and as this building is an integral part of the village being used continuously the Parish Council supported the application. **Decisions:** There were no decisions to report.

Neighbourhood Watch: There are still 5 vacancies for local coordinators. It is anticipated that a meeting of the coordinators will be held in the near future once all areas are covered.

If any parishioner wishes to assist please contact the Clerk.

Highways: All the matters raised the previous month have been reported and the failure to repair around the ironwork on Dereham Road near to Devlin Cottage was raised with the County Councillor again. The footway on Lexham Road and Pound Lane will be requested to be cleared.

County and District Councillor Reports: The County Councillor reported that the Leader of Norfolk County Council had resigned due to ill health. The new leader is Councillor Andrew proctor who has been the Leader of Broadland District Council. An application is being submitted for an extension to the Punch Farm quarry although this had not been submitted in to the Minerals and Waste Local Plan. The first consultation on the Minerals and Waste Local plan is due to commence in mid-June. The County Councillor has requested that the Highways Department look at the speed limit and any other improvements to the road across the Common. The reduction in width of the road at certain points will be requested as well.

The district Councillor stated that the “shopappy” app has been launched which encourages residents to purchase and collect locally. The Breckland Lottery has also been started which will provide funds for local community projects as well as giving prizes to winning residents. The Local Plan examination in public is due to finish at the end of that week.

General Data Protection Regulation: The Parish Council does not have to appoint a Data protection officer so it will now proceed with the policy and privacy notice once clarification has been received on what data is covered by the new Act.

JULY 2018

At the July Parish Council meeting which was attended by five Councillors, County Councillor M Kiddle Morris and District Councillor E Gould the following was considered:

Planning: Applications. The Parish Council raised no objection to the application for the erection of a proposed dwelling, part conversion to link to dwelling and to realign the roof line to the outbuilding on land adjacent to Anvil House Butt Lane.

After a lengthy discussion the members decided by a majority decision to raise no objection to the two applications for housing of Weasenham and Wellingham Roads. Both applications are for 8 dwellings on the land to the rear of the houses along Wellingham and Weasenham Roads. Concern was raised by the Parish Council about the increased traffic that would ensue outside the Primary School and at the crossroads at the Bull Inn. A request was made in the response to address these concerns prior to any approval being given. The Parish Council also expected that the provision of play equipment would be a condition of any approval. **Decisions:** Approval had been granted by Breckland Council for the change of use of land to a parking area at Willow House Druids Lane although the members were disappointed that no mention had been made of the felling of a tree at this point to provide access to the parking area.

Neighbourhood Watch: There are still vacancies for local coordinators for the following areas:-

Pound Lane, Back Street, Front Street and Lexham Road: the north end of Tittleshall Road; Weasenham Road and Keppel Close and Lexham Road West. It is anticipated that a meeting of the coordinators will be held in the near future once all areas are covered.

If any parishioner wishes to assist please contact the Clerk.

Highways: All the matters raised the previous month have been reported and the failure to repair around the ironwork on Dereham Road near to Devlin Cottage was raised with the County Councillor again. The junction of Druids Lane and Mileham Road had been surface dressed but there was concern that this would not last the constant traffic at this point. The gulleys on Church street had been cleaned and it was hoped that the refreshing of the signs on the roads in the parish would be done soon. A parishioner had contacted the Parish Council regarding the junction of butt Lane and Tittleshall Road and the crossroads at the Bull Inn. The County Councillor will take the matter up with the Highways Engineer to see if a STOP sign on Butt Lane could be installed but it is unlikely that any further improvement can be made at the crossroads as this was considered some years ago but would entail the demolition of properties which are listed. This is therefore not feasible.

County and District Councillor Reports: The County Councillor reported that the former Leader of Norfolk County Council, Cliff Jordan, had died. The new Leader had requested additional funding for shire counties from Central Government.

General Data Protection Regulation: The Parish Council approved the General Data Protection Policy, the Terms of Reference for the Committee and the Privacy Statement. To view these documents please visit the website. The Parish Council will only hold information that it has the right to hold to carry out the duties of a Parish Council. All parishioners now have a right to have their information to be removed.

SEPTEMBER 2018

OCTOBER 2018

NOVEMBER 2018

DECEMBER 2018

END OF EXTRACT FOR 2 0 16

Monthly Meetings

All parishioners are welcome to attend the monthly meeting that are held in the Jubilee Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m. The first part of the meeting is made available for public discussion and to bring matters to the attention of councillors.

Litcham Parish Council - Extracts 2015

Council meetings will normally take place on the first Monday of each month, but this could be subject to change in any one month. Please consult the Notice Board for the date or contact the Clerk on 01362 861112.

The full minutes are available for viewing by any parishioner by contacting the Clerk or via the Litcham Webiste at www.litcham.org

Litcham Parish Council - Extracts 2018

Downloadable PDF of Full Minutes and Extracts are available on the Meeting Page:

http://www.litcham.org/Litcham/Litcham_Parish_Council_Meetings.html
