**LOVERSALL PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting**

**22 March 2017, 7.30pm at the WI Hut, Loversall**

**In Attendance:** Councillors Spencer Morris, Nigel Tomlinson, Keith Wilson (Chair), Colin Wright

**Apologies:** The Clerk was unable to attend. The Chair agreed to take the minutes of the meeting in the Clerk’s absence.

1. **Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda:** None were made by those present.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2017** (previously circulated) were accepted as a true record of that meeting and signed.

**Proposed:** - Cllr Morris **Seconded:** - Cllr Tomlinson

1. **Matters arising:**
2. **Superfast South Yorkshire Broadband (Minute 3c) -**  In response to communication from the Clerk, DMBC Councillor James Hart reported that he had requested further information from the cabinet member responsible. The response in effect was to reiterate the original programme which was evidently not on schedule. Councillors agreed that ensuring acceptable broadband speeds was a major issue for the village which affected businesses , homeworkers and schoolchildren. It was agreed that the response from DMBC was unhelpful and that the Clerk be asked to contact the Tickhill and Wadworth Councils, to ascertain progress with Superfast Broadband programme in their areas, and subsequently the MP and the Cabinet member responsible for the programme in Doncaster.
3. **Loversall Parish Council Website (Minute 4b) -** Councillors were complimentary about the new website, noting the added security features, the potential for sending alerts about new information on the website and that the Clerk would be responsible for updating the website. The Chairman once again acknowledged the work done by Sophie Wright in setting up the original website enabling the Council to meet its minimum legal requirements early on.
4. **Fence over bridge on Bubup Hill (Wadworth end)(Minute 7) -** Councillors noted the repair of the fence over the bridge on Bubup Hill. Evidently the Clerk would need to remind DMBC to paint it.
5. **Finance:**
6. **Balance shown on Bank Statement at 03.02.17 - £1771.80**

Amounts outstanding for payment were as follows:

*11.01.17 300 Stamps & Stationery (awaiting signature) 17.35*

Payments due to be made prior to the end of year 2016/2017 will be:

Clerk’s salary for 6 months (with additional 15 hrs payment for work on new website) 464.81

Parish Council Websites (set-up and 2017/18 hosting fee) 380.00

YLCA 2017/2018 Membership fee 52.00

**The balance after outstanding payments are made will be 857.64**

It was agreed that, further to the resignation of Councillor Barbour, it would be necessary to authorise alternative signatories for cheque payments. **The Chair proposed that Cllrs Tomlinson and Wright both be authorised to sign cheques and this was seconded by Cllr Morris and agreed by all** – the Clerk to be asked to make the necessary arrangements in conjunction with Councillors Tomlinson and Wright.

The Chair reminded Councillors that because the Council had no facility for electronic banking both he and the Clerk made payments on behalf of the Council from their own bank accounts and were subsequently reimbursed by cheque payments authorised by the Council. Because of the relationship between the Clerk and the Chair it had been earlier agreed that cheques payable to either the Chair or the Clerk should be signed by authorised signatories other than the Chair. In order to avoid undue delay on outstanding payments **the Chair proposed that he be allowed to sign cheques on any outstanding payment but only after seeking explicit agreement of all councillors by email on each cheque to be paid. This temporary arrangement was agreed unanimously.**

1. **Precept for 2017/18 -** It was noted that the precept amount requested for 2017/18 (Band D tax equivalent of £19.69)had been accepted by DMBC and incorporated into the Council Tax statement issues to residents for the 2017/18 financial year
2. **YLCA Membership costs 2017/2018 -** Following a query made by the Clerk, the YLCA had belatedly confirmed that that the subscription for 2017/18 was £52 not, as previously stated, £155.
3. It was agreed that following the update on the YLCA subscription the resulting balance of £53 be held in reserve for 2017/18.
4. **Vacancy for Parish Councillor -**  Cllr Barbour’s formal resignation from her role as a Loversall Parish Councillor was received by email by the Clerk on 25 January 2017; the reason given for resignation being an impending move out of the area. The Chair recapped on due process that had been followed: DMBC electoral services had been notified and the notice of vacancy was posted online and on the Parish Notice board on 06.02.17 with a closing date of 25.02.17. Since DMBC had not received a request from residents for an election to be called the Parish Council were required to fill the vacancy by co-option. Although not a legal requirement to advertise the vacancy, the Council followed best practice and advertised the vacancy online and on the noticeboard on 07.03.17 with a closing date of 21.03.17 The Clerk had not received any enquiries regarding the vacancy. The Chair reported that informal approaches had been made to two individuals who had previously shown interest in attending meetings but neither felt they were in a position to take on the role at present. It was agreed to meet informally following the ordinary meeting to identify other residents who might be approached with a view to co-option.
5. **Fly-tipping on Hall Balk Lane -** The Chair reported that DMBC Councillor Hart had been contacted on 12.01.2017, querying the estimated cost of clearing fly tipping from Hallbalk Lane and suggesting that DMBC consider alternative strategies . No response yet received. The Clerk to be asked to follow up with DMBC.
6. **Planning Applications -** It was noted that the earlier application ( 16/03148/FUL) re “Ingledale” Tickhill Road had received approval. No further planning applications had been received since the last meeting.
7. It was noted that correspondence had been received from Hallcross Medical service Ltd who were working with DMBC Public Health Dept to offer free health checks to people aged 40-74. After due consideration, it was agreed that given the population and demographic of Loversall and the many conditions that prevented eligibility for the health check then there was little likelihood of the service being viable in Loversall. However the health checks (“MOT” - height/weight, cholesterol, blood pressure, lifestyle advice) should be available through GPs and at a local one off event at St Catherines House on 30/03/17. It was agreed to publish this information on the Council’s website.
8. **In the absence of the Clerk, the Chair gave the report -**
9. **Road markings** – following requests from the parish Council DMBC had taken the following action
10. At the junction of the farm road and Bubup Hill - renewed road markings but a “Give Way” sign not provided (traffic sign regulation criteria not met) ;
11. at junction of Rakes Lane and Bubup Hill - cut down foliage and renewed markings but concealed entrance sign not provided (traffic sign regulation criteria not met);
12. at the approach to the turning off A60 onto Bubup Hill after Hallbalk Lane – “Slow” markings painted on road but no addition signposting indicating a left turn off the A60 (traffic sign regulation criteria not met);
13. at entrances to village and Hallbalk Lane “no access to iport” signs installed. All of the above improvements are illustrated on the Council’s website.

Regarding the farm road/Bubup Hill junction. It was agreed that an approach be made to Loversall Nursery and Loversall Farm asking for them as a gesture of good will to local residents, to arrange for the provision of a “Stop! - You Do Not Have Right of Way” sign on the private farmland side of the give way markings.

Regarding Rakes Lane/ Bubup Hill junction. Cllr Wright pointed out that the original markings were solid “stop” markings which have been replaced with hatched markings. Cllr Wright also pointed out that the the very wide junction between Bubup Hill and A60 at the Wadworth end of the village resembled a motorway access approach and probably encouraged drivers to speed down the hill past the end of Rakes Lane. Cllr Wright advised that from his professional experience this sort of wide junction is not approved on new developments. It was agreed that the Clerk to be asked to make these observations known to DMBC.

1. **Hall Balk Lane status -**  It was noted that DMBC had confirmed that Hallbalk Lane was adopted by them as a “rural unclassified road” along its length from the junction with the A60 to the railway bridge at the other end.
2. **St Katherine’s Church -** Correspondence had been received from Rev Liz Strafford, assisting Alun Price in the three Parishes and taking the lead on St Katherines Church. Rev Strafford invited attendance of the Chair and/or other councillors at an upcoming visit from the church architect. It was agreed that attendance could be useful and Councillors were willing to attend subject to availability. The Clerk to be asked to forward details of the visit to councillors.

**The next Ordinary Meeting, Annual General Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 24 May 2017 in the WI Hut.**

The meeting closed at 20.30hrs.

Signed ………………………………………………………….. (Chair) Date …………………………….