

LOVERSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Wednesday 12th January 2022, 7.30pm

In Attendance:

Councillors: Nicola Harris, Spencer Morris, Nigel Tomlinson, Colin Wright Keith Wilson (Interim Clerk)

1. **Apologies for Absence:** DMBC: Cllr Cannings, Cllr Greenhalgh
2. **Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda**
None declared
3. **Minutes of Meeting held on 27th October 2021** (previously circulated on 03.11.21). These were accepted as a true record of that meeting. (Proposed: Cllr Tomlinson. Seconded Cllr Harris)

4. **Matters arising:**

a) Queens Jubilee Celebrations

Leaflets asking for interested residents to contact Ms Murray had been printed by Cllr Wilson and distributed as agreed. The distribution had been carried out by Milly Harris and councillors asked that their thanks to Milly be formally recorded. Information received about the lighting of Beacons to celebrate the Jubilee had been passed to Cllr Tomlinson who agreed to pass it on to Ms Murray **Action: NT**

b) Christmas Lights 2021

Cllr Wilson reported that, with the assistance of Cllr Greenhalgh he had completed the paperwork to request £315 from the DMBC from the Members Ward Budget Allocation. DMBC queried whether the funding could be utilised before Christmas 2021 and, if not, used before March 31st 2022. Cllr Wilson gave assurances that if not used before March 2022 it could be carried forward under the regulations to 2022/23 to be used next Christmas. No funding had yet been received and in the absence of Cllr Greenhalgh it was agreed that the matter be pursued outside the meeting. The possibility of applying again in 2022/23 was discussed with the view to pooling the funding with the earlier amount. **Action KW**

It was agreed that thought needed to be given about how the allocation if received could be used for low budget Christmas lighting in 2023 and that ideas should be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council. **Action All**

c) Relocation of displaced footpaths signs

Cllr Wilson reported that he had been notified at the end of November 2021 by DMBC Senior Rights of Way Officer that the wrongly positioned footpath sign at the end of Rakes lane would be repositioned and the footpath near the Church would be inspected and signed at either end. **Action: KW**

d) Iport/YWT Update

Cllr Wilson reported that he had been advised that discussions were still taking place regarding the lease to YWT and that the local office of the IDB had been advised of the drainage erosion problems reported by Mr Goodhall at Low Farm. Mr Goodhall had been advised of the action

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e) Litter/ Dog Fouling

Cllr Wilson reported that he had put a notice about dog fouling on the website. The spate of dog fouling seemed to have abated and for that reason he had not purchased any signs.

5. Financial Report

a) Summary

The balance at the bank as at 12th January 2022 was reported to be £1235.87, this amount includes expenditure of £18.00 on bank charges.

b) HMRC Statement of Liabilities

Cllr Wilson reported discussions with HMRC who now required the Council to use HMRC PAYE software and to update their returns historically. The work had been passed to a local accountant. Cllr Wilson explained that the work may be done on a grace and favour basis but it was agreed that if there was a charge for the work it would be met by the Council. (Proposed Cllr Tomlinson, Seconded Cllr Morris)

c) Budget 2022/23

Cllr Wilson supplied a range of budget options based on inflation forecasts of 1.75%, 5% and 7% and local government pay award of 5%. It was agreed that the budget be based on an overall inflation forecast of 1.75% across both pay and non pay headings, resulting in funding requirement of £1426 which was 2.1 % increase on the previous year. No provision for additional Clerk hours was agreed (Proposed: Cllr Morris. Seconded: Cllr Wright)

d) Parish Precept 2022/23

It was agreed that amount of the Precept should be £1426 and this should be submitted to DMBC. (Proposed: Cllr Morris. Seconded: Cllr Harris) **Action KW**

6. Planning Applications

None to report

7. Reporting Noise Nuisance

No complaints had been received from residents since the last meeting

8. Items raised by residents

a) Van sales operation Loversall Farm

Concerns had been expressed to a Councillor about the amount of traffic emanating from, what appeared to be, a van sales business at Loversall Farm and whether this business was legally registered. Arising from discussion it was apparent that the Farm may also be operating a distillery of some kind with a private bar, alongside an indoor motor cycle riding facility. The parish council had not been notified of planning applications relating to any of these alleged activities. It was agreed that it was beyond the scope of the Council to investigate the accuracy of the allegations but in view of concerns expressed, Cllr Wilson, in his capacity as the Clerk, was asked in the first instance to draw the matter to the attention of the DMBC planning authority and local ward councillors. (Proposed: Cllr Tomlinson. Seconded: Cllr Wright). **Action KW**

b) Amount /speed of traffic at junction of Bubup Hill and the private farm road

It was agreed that this item was linked to 8a above and no separate action would be necessary, other than to ask DMBC Highways, again, to reinstate the *Give Way* sign that had been

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knocked out of the ground. A discussion ensued regarding the speed of traffic coming up Bubup Hill, linked to the design of the junction with the A60. It was agreed that this should also be raised with DMBC. **Action KW**

9. Clerk Vacancy

Cllr Wilson reported that the vacancy had been advertised on the YALC website, used by parish councils generally, and on the parish council website. Three people had requested details but none had applied, which was unsurprising given the small number of hours available for the post. Cllr Greenhalgh had also agreed to make some enquiries of local parishes but as yet there had been no interest reported. It was agreed that all would make some personal approaches to people in the village because it was obvious from recent and past experience that the funding was insufficient to the task and required someone who was accepting of the small payment and had a commitment to the village. It was noted that in the past twenty years the post had been filled only briefly by a person not associated with the village, otherwise it had been filled by a previous Chairman's daughter, a Chairman's partner, and by Cllr Wilson acting as an interim Clerk on a honorary basis. **Action All**

10. Date of Next Meeting; 16th March 2022 at 7.30 pm, WI Hut

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.00 hrs

Signed Date

Chair