

# Letheringham Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 at Easton & Letheringham Village Hall\*

### In Attendance

Terry Carlin (TC) (Chairman & Financial Officer)  
Jean Barker (JB)  
Richard Gooding (RG)

David Allan (DA) (Clerk)

### Public Attendance

Michael Lloyds (ML)  
Robin Vickery (RV) SCC Councillor

### Public Forum – opened at 7.55pm

RV referred to a recent meeting with David Chenery regarding numerous Highways issues, and reported some progress regarding outstanding jobs including the SID signs on the B1078. The issue regarding batteries for the sign belonging to Snape Parish Council was raised, and DC had confirmed that he and Alan Thorndike had approved the proposed siting of signs on the B1078.

TC referred to the suggestion that signs could be shared with Easton to reduce costs and confirmation from DC that the posts would be installed without charge. The purchase of signs capable of recording data would total £2,500, which could be met in part from the £1,100 already received. TC referred to an earlier email from Peter Bellfield regarding payment of the balance from his budget. RV confirmed that he would honour any agreement made by PB, although the Highways budget had already been allocated without provision for SID signs on the B1078. A new budget would be agreed after the election in May, so any allocation for the B1078 could be addressed at that stage, although he would endeavour to secure funds beforehand, possibly from the Locality Budget.

TC commented that the signs could not be ordered until the funds had been secured, and RV indicated that money may be found towards the end of the financial year. RV agreed to look into the allocation of fund prior to the moratorium that will take effect from the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 pending the elections in May.

ML raised the issue regarding the repairs to the road surface in Sandy Lane. Council officials had attended previously but no further response had been received and the work remained outstanding. DMA agreed to chase this, and also referred to issues raised by Jean Clarke regarding signs and potholes, although the exact location of these would need to be ascertained before taking further action.

PC referred to an issue raised by Paul Clarke regarding the drainage channels running parallel with some of the roads in and around the village (believed to be called 'groupes'?). These had done been done by the Council over the last couple of years, despite assurances to TC that they would be done in the Autumn. ML confirmed that the situation was the same

in his area, and RG referred to the issue of mud on roads which had led to a complaint to the County Council and signs being put into place. There was a brief discussion about the provenance of this mud, which was thought to derive from vehicle harvesting sugar beet, although ML believed that there may be a different cause as the lorries were loaded while on the road and didn't generally venture into the fields.

RV referred to a re-organisation in the Highways Department, and the anticipated closure of the Saxmundham Office with staff being relocated to Ipswich. There was a focus on flooding issues, and a dedicated team had been formed to deal with this, headed by Bob Clench. RV stated that any flooding issues should be reported to this team via email at: [drainage@suffolkhighways.co.uk](mailto:drainage@suffolkhighways.co.uk). RG commenting on the need for better management of the river, with the regular flooding at Sanctuary Bridge caused by a policy of not clearing reed beds.

RV also raised the issue of Broadband, which is an issue being examined by the County Council. TC referred to contractors apparently laying fibre on the B1078.

TC referred to the Sizewell C consultation response by Suffolk CC, and the matters raised at paragraph 506 regarding the proposed Park & Ride at Wickham Market. This had elicited a significant response, raising concerns about this forcing commuters and lorries onto the B1078 as a cut through from the A14. The Report acknowledged this issue and identified a need to move the Park & Ride further south, although it appeared that EDF were maintaining the Wickham Market plan as their preferred site. TC reiterated the concerns about this and the danger created by lorries and increased volumes on the B1078, and invited the County Council to take a more robust stand on this issue. Letheringham PC had previously submitted a response following the first consultation and would submit further representations in due course.

RG raised an issue with bird-scarers causing a nuisance by creating loud noises between 7.30am and 7.30pm, resulting in complaints from customers at Letheringham Mill. TC agreed to look into this and suggested that there was a code of conduct that dictated that these devices should not be located near houses, should not be activated in hours of darkness and that any residual noise may be reduced by re-orientating them.

### **The Public Forum Closed and the Meeting opened at 8.53pm**

#### **2017.01 Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Carol Poulter and Andrew Maskery

#### **2017.02 Declaration of Interests**

None, save for RG's previously declared interest in relation to the Minutes of the previous meeting.

#### **2017.03 Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

Approved unanimously and signed by TC

**2017.04 Matters of Report**

**(i) Police**

No Newsletter or recent update had been provided, although the Police website referred to incidents in Hoo in November, although no further details were available.

**(ii) Village Hall**

A letter had been received from Ian Palfreyman, Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee, referring to the loss of income arising from the Pre-School relocating to Easton Farm Park and requesting that Letheringham Parish Council make an annual financial contribution to help make up this shortfall.

TC referred to information received from AM previously that the Village Hall had encouraged the Pre-School move and had calculated that the loss incurred would be balanced by savings and alternative sources of income. RG commented that there appeared to be a contradiction between the information provided previously and the content of Ian's letter.

It was resolved that this issue should be addressed at the next meeting, with Ian and/or Andrew invited to attend.

**2017.05 Planning**

None

**2017.06 Phone Box & Defibrillator**

It was resolved that issues regarding VETs scheme and maintenance would be put over to and discussed at the next LPC Meeting. An email had been received from David Holborrow confirming that he and Ruth would be happy to be included in the proposed VETs scheme.

**2017.07 B1078**

This had already been discussed and addressed in the Public Forum.

TC referred to the potential for other signs to be put into place – for example stating “Kill Speed” – for times when any SID sign was not in place.

TC also referred to the option of having SID signs that actively recorded traffic data. These were more expensive (believed to be £2500 instead of £200 for the standard signs) but were useful in providing data about traffic volumes and speeds, and would support representations to the Council in the event of any significant change in traffic flow.

Once the installation of SIDs had been agreed, and their cost / value confirmed, DMA agreed to contact the insurers to arrange for their inclusion on the Policy and to clarify issues regarding cover for theft and public liability.

TC agreed to contact relevant landowners regarding access to their land for the purposes of installing and maintaining the signs.

**2017.08 Budget for 2017-2018**

Correspondence regarding the amended precept as well as the claim for VAT refund had been sent and a response was awaited. Further decisions regarding budget levels would be made once the SID issue had been settled.

**2017.09 Financial Report**

TC presented updated Accounts and Financial Report [attached herewith at Annex A and Annex B], with no changes other than receipt of interest totalling 3 pence. This brought the total balance on both accounts to £3,256.96.

Accordingly, it was agreed that the Accounts and Financial statement presented were accurate and would be Minuted accordingly.

**2017.10 Meeting Dates**

DMA to circulate an email setting out dates of LPC Meetings for 2017. A copy of the Sizewell Report would also be attached

**The meeting closed at 9.45pm**

Signed.....



Date.....

27/3/2017

**Next Meeting: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.45 pm in the Village Hall**

**Appendices follow:**

- A Financial Report as at 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017
- B Parish Accounts as at 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017

**Letheringham Parish Council****Financial Report as 23rd January 2017****Cheques presented for payment at this meeting**

	date	chq number	payment
nil transactions			
<b>Income received</b>			
nil			£00.03

**Current position before cheques are paid**

Community Account	£2,989.86
Business Premium Account	£267.07
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 3,256.93</b>

**Current position before cheques are paid**

Community Account	£2,989.86
Business Premium Account	£267.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 3,256.96</b>

Expenditure approved minute 2017.09 refers  
Date 23/01/2017

**ANNEX B**

<b>BUSINESS SAVER ACCOUNT #50571431</b>						
<b>transaction</b>	<b>date</b>	<b>Payments</b>	<b>Receipts/ interest payments</b>	<b>Balance</b>	<b>Bank statement date</b>	<b>statement date</b>
c/f 01/04/2016				£267.01	£267.01	12/04/2016
acct interest	06/06/2016		£0.03	£267.04	£267.04	10/06/2016
	29/11/2016		£0.03	£267.07	£267.07	13/10/2016

<b>Total account balances</b>			
<b>date</b>	<b>Community Account</b>	<b>business premium account</b>	<b>Total funds available</b>
23/05/2016	£2,967.66	£267.01	£3,234.67
25/07/2016	£2,849.00	£267.04	£3,116.04
03/10/2016	£2,989.86	£267.04	£3,256.90
28/11/2016	£2,989.86	£267.07	£3,256.93

<b>LPC</b>		<b>ASSET REGISTER</b>	
<b>Capital asset</b>	<b>Value (£)</b>	<b>Comment</b>	
Village sign	£1,469.00	Sign insured for public liability and replacement cost £4000	
Phone box	£1.00	Replacement value £1000	
Salt Box	£67.00	Replacement value £100	
Millennium seat	£485.00	Replacement value £500	
defibrillator	£2,130.00	replacement value£2130	
village notice board	£500.00	replacement value £500	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,652.00</b>	<b>total replacement £8230</b>	