

Lartington Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on September 17th 2019

Present

Mr. Campion, Mrs. Parsons Munn, Mrs Hinchliffe, Mrs. Cross, Mr. Crawford, Mrs. Stephenson. Mr. Jerred (Clerk).

01. Recording of the meeting

The Chair opened the meeting by enquiring whether anyone present intended to make a recording of the meeting. No one had such an intention.

02. Apologies

The clerk reported that there were no apologies.

03. Disclosures of Interest

The Clerk explained that those members directly involved in any Section 101a Application would need to apply to himself for a dispensation to take part in future discussions of the subject.

Meeting with Maurice Dunn of Northumbrian Water Limited

The Chair welcomed Mr. Dunn formally to the meeting and invited him to explain the process of a Section 101a Application for a public sewer and how it might affect properties in the village.

Mr. Dunn then explained how the deterioration of the old septic tank which served Lartington Hall and several adjacent properties had led to the involvement of the Environment Agency and the suggestion that a section 101a Application be made for the installation of a first-time sewer. This application would lead to a preliminary appraisal as to the appropriateness of taking this forward and then a detailed feasibility study which would consider whether a new public sewer would provide a solution that was both technically and financially viable. He explained the kind of costs that would have to be met by those whose properties would be directly served by any new sewer and by adjacent properties which might have the opportunity to connect to it. Members questioned him on the likely extent of these costs and he agreed to provide some estimates in due course. He was also pressed on the possible obligation of those properties which lay within 30 metres of any new sewer to connect to it and gave some re-assurance that anyone with a septic tank which was in good order would not be pressed to do so.

A lengthy discussion followed in which the Chair insisted that whilst the Council was open-minded about the proposal it had neither the technical knowledge, legal expertise or financial resources to commit to a project which was likely to serve only a small section of the village. Members were pleased, therefore, to note that Mr. Wilkes was prepared to make the application on behalf of the Hall and the owners of other properties connected to the existing infrastructure. The Council was also satisfied that much of the consultation needed to take the project forward would be directly undertaken by NWL.

The Chair then thanked Mr. Dunn for his willingness to meet with us and for the good humoured and patient way in which he had dealt with questions in both our own meeting and the meeting with residents which had preceded it. Whilst she hoped that the difficulties in which the Council found itself in this matter were fully understood, she closed by re-assuring him that the Council would co-operate in any way that it felt able.

Full details of the Section 101a Application process can be found at https://www.nwl.co.uk/_assets/documents/101a_guidance_notes.pdf

04. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on July 9th 2019 were read. The Chair asked that Para.05 Section b. should be amended to emphasise that the meeting held between Maurice Dunn, NWL representative, and local residents was a public meeting and NOT a Parish Council meeting. The clerk agreed to re-draft this section and bring the minutes back to the next meeting for approval.

05. Matters Arising

- a. The Aqueduct. The clerk reported that he had been informed that this was leaking again and that he had asked Bryan Harris for an update. The chair reported that some work had been done at the base of the structure.
- b. Dispute with DCC Planning – the Clerk reported that Mrs Parsons Munn had drafted a letter on our behalf but that it had only recently been sent.
- c. Footpath 29 – the Clerk reported that Mike Murden, DCC Footpath Officer, had agreed to check this when he was next in the area.
- d. Parking at Deepdale – the Clerk reported on correspondence with DCC which indicated that the historic access and national highways policy regarding signage meant that they were unable to take any action in this matter.
- e. Police Accident statistics – the clerk reported that he had been given some useful information regarding road safety initiatives and some contact points for further information.

06. Items of Urgent Business

There were no matters raised.

07. Principal Correspondence

- a. Various emails routinely circulated
- b. HGV Group – no further information
- c. Cotherstone Parish Council – survey about the use of the village shop. The clerk reported that he had responded expressing our interest but explaining that geography meant that few Lartington residents used the shop.
- d. Yorkshire Devolution Movement – information regarding the flying of flags on authority buildings on Yorkshire Day.
- e. CPRE Newsletter

08. Statement of Accounts

The clerk reported that there was £2072.26 in the current account and £369.36 in the Deposit Account. He reported that preliminary precept information for next year indicated a likely increase in the tax base from 65.6 to 66.1 which results in a net gain of £11.57 on a standstill precept of £23.14

09. Accounts to be paid

Hall Hire	£15
HMRC	£50
Clerks Salary	£200
COI	£40

10. Co-option of Councillor

Mrs. Hinchliffe reported that Cynthia Symon had expressed an interest in being co-opted to the Council. This was welcomed with unanimity and alacrity. The Clerk was instructed to write to confirm her interest and to put the usual procedures in place.

11. PACT and Speedwatch

The Clerk reported that he understood that the Speedvisor had recently been in action. Mr Crawford and Mrs Parsons Munn agreed that they would mount further "speedwatch" exercise in coming weeks.

It was also agreed that a newsletter would be produced this theme shortly.

12. Planning Matters

Wesley House – Erection of a Summer House

The Clerk reported that this had now been approved.

Park House

The Clerk reported that an application had been received but that the work was very largely internal – first-floor alterations to create an en-suite bathroom and an associated bathroom window with obscured glass. It was agreed that there were no concerns in regard to this.

15. Date of Future Meetings

September 17th November 12th January 14th 2020