

LEADENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th October 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Mrs J Thurlow (chairman), Mrs C Stokes, Mrs K Willgoose, Mr S Locking, Ms M Nelstrop, Mr G McLusky, District Councillor Ms L Conway, District Councillor Mrs M Overton, County Councillor Mr R Phillips and PCSO Meneses.

1. Apologies – Mr N O' Brien

Declarations of Interest: none

2. Consideration and signing of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Ms M Nelstrop proposed that they be a true record of the meeting. Mrs K Willgoose seconded the proposal. There were no objections. The chairman signed the Minutes.

3. Clerk's Report on Matters Arising from the Minutes

- a) Maintenance of verge opposite Troops – ongoing.
- b) Play Area monthly checks – Mr Walker currently away. Suggestion put forward regarding Tesco as a possible grant source for use on Play Area. Clerk to follow up
- c) All gulleys, pot holes and drains reported last month are in Highways system. Highways officer has been round the parish and recorded all requirements.
- d) Cliff Cluster meeting – Agenda received. Date of meeting 22.10.15 Councillors informed.
- e) Back Lane 30 mph sign inappropriately positioned – ongoing

4. Consideration of Planning Matters

Planning Application: S15/1764

Erection (25 year operation and subsequent de-commissioning) of wind farm consisting of 10 wind turbines (each up to 110m to the blade tip) and associated infrastructure, including underground cable connections.

Location: Former RAF Fulbeck Airfield, Stragglethorpe Lane.

Councillors object to this application on the following grounds:

1. Visual impact and the effect on favourite views. Leadenham stands on the Cliff Edge with imposing views across the designated site.
2. Landscape devaluation - landscape is precious to the overall health and wellbeing of many who reside in our area, of any generation. Industrialization on such a scale in this specified area is contrary to those values.
3. Visual impact upon homes within this parish - a number of homes in this village will be directly impacted by this development.
4. Historic buildings set within the area - the proposed height of the turbines will over shadow all churches/historic buildings in the area will be visible over a much wider area than the parishes directly affected, possibly as far as Newark. Such visual intrusion ruins the settings of such magnificent and greatly regarded buildings so much part of local history.
5. Noise - there is evidence (and continuing research) that those dwelling near to such sites can be affected.
6. Tourism and local economy - tourism boosts local economy. Local Councils throughout the country are well aware of this fact and actively support and promote this. Lincolnshire is well aware of the potential still available for such development. A wind turbine site set as this proposed would be counter productive to such aims.
7. Impact of local construction works - the access road to the site from all directions available are in no way suitable for the extent of the proposed works (construction lorries passing through every 4 mins!). The access road (from Stragglethorpe through to Marston/A1) is

already well used by lorries for access from Lincoln to A1. Farmers with large agricultural vehicles regularly use the road according to the season. It is already in very poor condition.
8. Wildlife - the number and height of turbines proposed could not fail to effect regular resident bird population as well as numbers of migratory birds.

5. Consideration of Financial Matters

a) Bank Statements

Community a/c as 4 th Sept '15	£1,386.41
High Interest a/c as 4 th Sept '15	£9,738.65

b) Payments in

nil

c) Payments to be made

LALC (Councillor Training)	£47.00
NKDC (Election charges)	£105.66
Playsafe Ltd (Annual Play Area check)	£88.80
Glendale Countryside Ltd (grasscutting)	£114.19
Mr P Orme (Dog Warden Services)	£140.00
British Legion (Poppy Wreath - s137)	£30.00
Sleaford & District Citizens Advice Bureau – donation (s137)	£25.00

Mrs C Stokes proposed these payments be made. Mr G McLusky seconded the proposal. There were no objections.

d) Review of Dog Warden contract

Following discussion, Councillors agreed to request further Wardening services but at reduced hours if Mr Orme was agreeable.

6. Police Report

PCSO Meneses reported no crimes within the parish during the last month.

7. County and District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Ms L Conway reported and updated on progress with the Local Plan covering the presentation dates/venues and the Consultation period. The value of parishes undertaking their own Parish Plan which would be incorporated into the Local Plan and thus be acknowledged in future Planning Applications was reiterated.

District Councillor Mrs M Overton reported similarly giving additional dates for presentations she was organising to assist understanding for Councillors and members of the public prior to commenting on the Local Plan at Consultation level.
Leader Grant – Mrs Overton explained the availability and usage of this grant for community purposes.

County Councillor Mr R Phillips reported:

- There were still ongoing problems with SERCO, the company who had taken over dealing with salaries for LCC
- Grit boxes in parishes – need to check these are filled and ready for use.
Unitary Authorities – Lincolnshire County Council intends to bid for devolved responsibilities to be able to receive a lump sum from the Govt and be totally responsible for spending throughout the County
- The uniting of three Forces (Police, Fire and Ambulance) under one umbrella, under control of the Police Commissioner is a possibility for the future.

8. Consideration of Matters of Correspondence

a) LCR News

b) Donation request from Sleaford and District Citizens Advice Bureau – following discussion members agreed to a small donation under s137 as it was considered a charity which was possibly beneficial to all residents if necessary.

c) Transparency Code – introduced to members via the LCR News. The need to adopt the code, the proposed changes to Auditing system for smaller Councils in 2017 and the need to

decide how to advertise our accounts with justification on spends each month. This will be ongoing over the next few meetings.

9. Consideration of Speeding issues

Mr McLusky outlined his research via Road Safety Partnership on the various speed reduction devices/notices available and the costs involved.

It was decided that additional 30/40 mph signs which can be attached to lamp posts throughout the village would be a sound initial starting point in tackling speeding throughout the length of the village.

Further discussion at meetings in preparation for the next budget will decide further steps according to costs.

10. Consideration of items requiring research pertaining to War Memorial works and the Fountain in preparation for 2015/16 budget.

War Memorial - Mr O'Brien who has carried out research on grant sources was absent so further discussion at next meeting. The idea was discussed of the possibility of moving the Memorial back to its original position at the cross roads.

Fountain – further quotes to be sought regarding works required with associated costs.

11. Consideration on dates for a meeting with representatives from Leadenham Bowls Club.

Discussion took place as to the current position regarding a barrier on the disabled bays to prevent vehicles hitting the rear wall of the Pavilion. Also the need to have a legal contract between the PC and the Bowls Club outlining ownership and responsibilities of both parties concerning the Bowls Pavilion and grounds for clarity in the future.

Several dates were noted to enable a meeting between the three parties concerned (PC/Bowls Club/Village Hall Committee).

12. Matters for Urgent Discussion

- a) Barrier on the exit to new Primary School exit gate – Highways to be contacted.
- b) Mr Locking asked about the possibility of an additional street light between the Farm Shop and the Green on A607. Clerk to investigate.
- c) Long lane – rubbish requiring removal. NKDC to be informed.
- d) High Street – road surface breaking down following repair works carried out by Anglian Water several years ago. To be reported to Highways.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.45 pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall