

D R A F T

MINUTES OF SOUTH WILLINGAM

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2015

The meeting was preceded by an interesting and informative presentation from Community Lincs on Affordable Warmth which was attended by residents and Councillors.

Present:

Councillor D Challender

Councillor P Cutts

Councillor M Edmundson

Councillor P Elliott

Councillor N Harris

Councillor D Nutten Chair

Councillor N Spencer Vice Chair

1 Apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Councillor R Fry, East Lindsey District Council.

2 Declarations of interest in any items on this Agenda:

There were no declarations of interest.

3 To agree the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 September 2015:

The Minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Matters arising from the Minutes:

There were no matters arising.

5 Parish Council response to the offer of permissive footpaths/current footpath applications:

An informal meeting had been held on 27 October with Christopher Heneage, Andrew Carter and John Bonas to discuss the footpath applications. Christopher Heneage had submitted a new route for the Council's consideration and indicated that he saw no reason why the current permissive footpaths should not continue beyond their current end date of 2017 unless there became any issues with misuse. Members of the Parish Council were pleased to accept the new route but stressed

that while they continued to support the current applications they were not minded to pursue them as a compromise had been reached which benefited all parties. **Action: Councillor Nutten to contact Christopher Heneage to inform him of the Parish Council's decision and ask for the required documents to be drawn up.** Lincolnshire County Council would be contacted following the next Parish Council meeting in January.

6 Financial Matters:

Councillors were able to view the current bank statement and budget statements.

Budget/precept for 2016/17 and proposal to raise the precept from the current level:

The Clerk had circulated a letter from East Lindsey District Council indicating that the cost of future District and Parish Elections would be recharged to Parish Councils with the following costs applied: Combined Parish and District Council election in 2019 - £500.00; Parish By-Election - £2000,00; for an uncontested Parish Election in 2019 or an uncontested Parish By-Election - £48.50 per Parish Ward. **Action: Clerk to contact East Lindsey to clarify these figures to enable accurate budgeting.** The Clerk had received a letter from the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils stating that the levy LALC had to contribute to the NALC had increased and would mean an increase of 1p per elector from 5.6p to 6.6p.

The following items were taken out of sequence as they had a bearing on the discussion on the precept for 2016/17.

8 Wildlife Conservation: costings on animal/bird boxes and potential article for the Village Newsletter:

Councillor Challender provided a comprehensive list of costings for various owl, bat, hedgehog, bee and frog houses and had also drafted an article for the newsletter. Following discussion it was agreed that further guidance on any grants available and suitable sitings for the boxes was necessary before any purchases were made. **Action: Clerk to contact the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service to ask for someone to come and talk to residents.**

9 Action to cut trees back which are causing problems for agricultural vehicles within the village boundaries:

Christopher Heneage had asked if the Parish Council could arrange for trimming of branches which were causing a hazard to high vehicles when turning at the junction in the village. **Action: Councillor Nutten would contact LCC Highways Department.**

10 Grass cutting on village approaches:

Councillor Nutten was still awaiting a reply from LCC with costings for additional grass cutting. **Action: Councillor Nutten to contact LCC again and report to the next meeting.**

12 Best Kept Village Competition Feedback:

South Willingham was placed 18/25 in the small village competition. The judges had pointed out that road signs were obscured with branches and leaves and needed cleaning. The judges' comments were circulated to Councillors.

11 Update on possible site for children's area:

Further information would be available for the meeting in January.

The Chairman asked Councillors for their views on increasing the precept for the 2016/17 financial year. It was agreed that this would be necessary but any proposed spending should be focussed and there should be widespread support from residents on any proposed additional spending. **Action: Councillor Elliott would create a questionnaire for residents to gauge interest in various topics and determine whether there was support for the increase. This would be completed before the next meeting to enable the precept to be set at the January meeting before the closing date for submission of the form to ELDC on 25 January.**

7 Update on Egdon Resources Planning Application:

The application was ongoing and no further action was required by the Parish Council.

13 Broadband Speed Update:

Councillor Spencer had received conflicting information from LCC. **Action: Councillor Spencer would contact LCC again for clarification before the next meeting.**

14 Correspondence:

A request had been received from East Lindsey Citizens Advice for funding. Councillors agreed that the Parish Council was unable to submit a donation in line with requests from other charities.

15 Planning Matters:

There were no planning matters to be discussed.

16 Meeting Dates for 2016:

These were agreed as follows: 14 January, 10 March, 12 May, 14 July, 8 September, 10 November. **Action: Clerk to book the Parish Hall for these dates.**

Post meeting note: The hall has been booked for these dates.

17 Items for the Next Agenda:

Footpaths; precept and budget setting; results of questionnaire; progress on cutting back of trees; possible children's area; broadband speed update; wildlife conservation.

18 Date of Next Meeting:

14 January 2016.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Signed:

Chairman

Date: