A meeting of Lowick Parish Council was held on 18th February 2010 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall

Present: Ms ME Harker, SA Mather, A Fairbairn, W Perks, PD Calder, JA Huddart, Mrs F Burn, and one member of the public

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs MA Bell and Mrs S Graham

3. Declaration of interest - none

4. Minutes of previous meeting - these were agreed as being correct

5. Matters Arising
   • No update from Lowick in Bloom received
   • Cold weather vulnerable list, Ms ME Harker has compiled and distributed a list of people who should be contacted in the event of bad weather, she was thanked for this work
   • The clerk has reported the pavement obstruction
   • No update on the request for an extension of the speed limit

6. Planning Application: Application No: 10/B/0034 : Full Planning Application : Proposed alterations and extension to provide ground floor office, toilet and improved kitchen area, 4 South Road, Lowick. There were no comments to make regarding this application

7. Traffic calming measurers - this matter was discussed in response to a letter received from Northumberland County Council
   • Parish Councillors were not in favour of speed bumps
   • PD Calder commented that the cars parked down Main Street acted as speed restrictors
   • A Fairbairn asked about the possibility of speed cameras, he also asked about the possibility of inviting someone to a meeting to discuss the proposals
   • Mrs F Burn asked about the possibility of signs at the entrance to the village which shows the speed of vehicles
   • A suggestions was made about joining together with other villages to buy a mobile speed camera. JA Huddart expressed doubts that the money raised by fines would cover the cost of the camera
   • Mr Argo (the member of the public) said that in his opinion most vehicles travelled through the village at more than 30mph and he suggested a chicane type of arrangement.
   • It was agreed that the speeding problem is at both ends of the Main Street and that speed indicators might ease this problem. PD Calder was not in favour of a chicane

8. Matters to report on potholes, repairs/maintenance to street lights, highways, etc
Ms ME Harker had already supplied the clerk with an extensive list of problems which
will be reported to Highways

9. Correspondence
   - It was agreed to make a donation of £50 to the Air Ambulance
   - It was agreed not to make a donation to Victim Support
   - It was agreed not to make a donation to the NSPCC
   - Taxi licensing consultation - received

10. Any other business - A request had been received to put an extra bench at Philips Place at right angles to the existing bench. PD Calder suggested 2 single chairs which would be moved, it was felt these could get stolen. JA Huddart suggested a small shelter could be considered with 2 benches facing each other. It was felt it was a good idea to encourage older people to be out to meet each other. Clerk to check who is responsible for benches.

   JA Huddart reported that he had attended a Community Forum meeting which was mainly on health issues, it wasn’t very well attended. He said that everything which is brought up at these meetings is written down and acted on.

11. Date of next meeting - 18th March 2010

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

18th March 2010