LOWICK PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Lowick Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Thursday 19\textsuperscript{th} January 2017 at 7.30pm

Present: JA Huddart, SA Mather, Mrs S Graham, P Hanson, W Perks, Councillor RJD Watkin

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone and wished them a Happy New Year

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Worlock, Mrs LA Bradbury, Mrs MA Bell and Mrs F Burn

3. There were no declarations of interest

4. Minutes of previous meeting – these were approved as being correct

5. Matters Arising
   - JA Huddart reported that all recipients were delighted to receive their Community Awards
   - The clerk reported that she had spoken to someone at the County Council regarding the school bus stopping outside the Village Store, the situation had been investigated and the County Council have no problems with this arrangement
   - Removal of poppy wreaths from the War Memorial – JA Huddart reported that there was no set time limit and it was up to the discretion of the Parish Council. P Hanson produced guidance from the War Memorial Trust. It was recommended that all interested parties should be consulted before the removal of the poppies. P Hanson reported that he had killed the grass at the Barmoor War Memorial to prevent the grass cutter slicing through the poppy crosses. It was decided to remove the poppies after 6 weeks
   - Duncan Moffat had looked at the trees around the hall and can cut down the dead branch

6. Finance – a statement had been received from Wellers Law Firm which was inaccurate, the clerk to request clarification. The quote for the play park inspections for 2017/18 is £859.32 an increase of £62.86 on the current year. It was decided to continue with the Service Level Agreement but to also look into the cost of training someone locally to carry out the inspections. It was decided to set the precept for 2017/18 at £4,250.00 to guard against any unknown legal costs. Proposed by Mrs S Graham seconded by W Perks and unanimously agreed

7. Interactive Speed Signs – P Hanson summarised the latest statistics. There is very little change in the overall figures although there has been a rise in the lower speed of vehicles in November.

   It was decided to add the number of vehicles passing through the village to the agenda. The numbers of vehicles in November entering from the East was 27,485 and the West was 27,687. The figures for December – East 11, 946 and West 21,454.

   JA Huddart asked if it was possible to obtain the vehicles speeds between 8.00 and 9.00am and 2.30-4.00pm when the school children are on the street. P Hanson was thanked for his work.
8. Matters to report on potholes, repairs/maintenance to highways, street lights etc.
   - Road to Laverock Law is very bad
   - P Hanson said he had already reported the road sign at the Ford road end but it still hasn’t been repaired – he agreed to pursue improved signposting at the junction as vehicles often come straight out and collide with the signposts opposite the junction

9. Correspondence
   - Highways obstruction guidance received
   - JA Huddart reported that he had written to Brian Carr following a complaint about a phrase used on his website and also regarding a complaint about JA Huddart’s letter to Brian Carr. JA Huddart’s response was circulated and agreed
   - JA Huddart suggested starting a new village website at a cost of $35, this proposed expenditure was agreed. Proposed W Perks, seconded P Hanson

10. Any other business
    - Mrs S Graham enquired about the redevelopment of the old buildings at Holburn and asked if the plans are changed at all does the Parish Council need to be notified – RJD Watkin did not think it was necessary
    - There was discussion regarding concerns at the First School. Parish Councillors expressed concern at the lack of communication with the community and staffing. JA Huddart to make enquiries
    - RJD Watkin said there was a strong possibility that there will be elections in 2018 for Head of the Regional Authority
    - The clerk reminded everyone that there will be Council and Parish Council elections in May

11. Date of next meeting – 16th February 2017

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm