LOWICK PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Lowick Parish Council was held on 16th March 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: JA Huddart, Mrs A Worlock, S Mather, Mrs F Burn, Mrs NA Bell, P Hanson, W Perks
Councillor RJD Watkin

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs L Bradbury and Mrs S Graham

3. There were no declarations of interest

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

5. Matters Arising
   • A notice is to be put up regarding the removal of the poppies – Lowick First School to be consulted
   • JA Huddart has responded to the consultation on the proposed closure of Belford Middle School
   • RJD Watkin advised that a temporary preservation can be put on trees almost immediately
   • P Hanson has contacted the police with regard to the speed of traffic through the village at the start and end of the school day. He was thanked for his dogged pursuit of this
   • Street lights – a private company is carrying out the work but there are concerns that not enough light is hitting the streets. RJD Watkin said the new lighting makes considerable savings, but he is keeping an eye on things
   • JA Huddart signed the Service Level Agreement for the Play Park

6. Finance – Mrs A Worlock commented that the bills received from Wellers don’t contain itemised detail regarding to their charges

7. The Common - it was felt that the current service from Wellers was not satisfactory. They have not responded to a query JA Huddart raised a week ago. JA Huddart has signed the easement as it had to be with the Land Registry by 17th March

8. Interactive Speed Signs – P Hanson had circulated the summary of the date prior to the meeting. He also reported that 23,000+ vehicles had entered the village from the east and 17,000+ from the west. P Hanson has obtained a quote for additional posts - £750 per post with a possible discount for more than one post. P Hanson also suggested that the Lowick signs could be hired to other Parish Councils

9. Planning Application – Ref: 17/00787/FUL – Proposed new livestock building : Aidansfield Farm, Lowick – There were no comments to make – proposed W Perks, seconded Mrs F Burn
10. **Neighbourhood Plan** – JA Huddart reported that work is currently being done on footpaths. At the last meeting people were divided into sections to work on various items. A meeting with the consultant is planned for 24th April. The first period of finance has ended, JA Huddart will apply for the second round of funding.

11. **Matters to report on potholes, repairs/maintenance to street lights, highways etc** – numerous potholes reported. RJD Watkin said that the amount allocated to Northumberland County Council to repair potholes is minimal compared with Highways budget for the A1. Concerns were expressed with regard to the Water Board workings in relation to drains.

12. **Correspondence** – Planning permission received for a single story extension at 1 Philips Place, Lowick and for the removal of small branch growth from 3 trees around the old tennis court at Hetton Steads.

13. **Any other business**
   - Parish Council/County Council elections – election date 4th May. Parish Councillors expressed their disgust that no provision had been made for nomination forms to be handed in at Berwick. The clerk agreed to take the nomination forms to Alnwick.
   - The Parish Council had received reports of locked gates on public footpaths, Mrs A Worlock to contact Phil Bradley.
   - JA Huddart suggested that as part of the village heritage the pinfold should be re-built on the common. The Lowick pinfold survived until 1952 when Lowick Parish council petitioned a surveyor to take it down. It was agreed that JA Huddart should proceed with the project.

14. **Date of next meeting** – 20th April 2017

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

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20th April 2017