LOWICK PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual General Meeting of Lowick Parish Council was held on 17th May 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: SA Mather, JA Huddart, Mrs MA Bell, Mrs L Bradbury, Mrs F Burn, Councillor RJD Watkin

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Worlock, W Perks, PD Calder and Mrs S Graham

3. Declaration of Interest – Mrs F Burn declared an interest in the Planning Application

4. Election of Officials – Chairman – JA Huddart, proposed by Mrs F Burn, seconded by Mrs MA Bell. It was decided to leave the election of Vice-Chairman until the meeting in June

5. The Clerk presented the Annual Accounts which were approved. The balances being £683.85 in the Business Saver Account and £522.69 in the Community Account. The clerk also presented the accounts submission for the Minutes external auditors which were unanimously approved

6. Minutes of previous meeting - these were approved as being correct

7. Matters Arising
   - The Common – JA Huddart reported that he has recently carried out a lot of research and has been to the archives in Berwick to search through Parish Council minutes
   - 22/3/69 – application no 27 under the Common Land Registration Act 1965
   - In the early 1970s the Parish Council applied for an environmental grant to improve the Common
   - 14/3/74 the County Council was asked if the Parish Council owned grass at the War Memorial. The Archivist replied saying the Parish Council could assume ownership as they had looked after it.
   - With regard to the conflict between Mrs Taylor, the Currahs and Mr Colgan, JA Huddart had received an email from a county solicitor – Phil Newton – who said that established rights can continue. JA Huddart had spoken to Mr Cossar who believes/has knowledge that the access to the field was established for Prisoners of War to come to the Drill Hall and has been established since the 1940s. The rights to park have existed since people started to park there and this issue could be resolved if the parties concerned could come to an amicable agreement
   - According to the minutes in the archives, Lowick Silos bought a piece of land in 1979 on which to build Burnhouse and they applied to the Parish Council for right of access to the house – easement was granted (this probably would not happen now). The Deed says the access should be laid out with gravel, but it is believed that the County Council said concrete had to be laid in front of the new houses and it was agreed that if the concrete needed replacing in the future the owners should contact the Parish Council to see what is acceptable. The owners of Burnhouse are responsible for the upkeep of the whole road. Mr Colgan has suggested to the home owners that they should be given rights to park on the edge of the Common to allow him uninterrupted access to his field, but it was suggested that he should be told that he would have to negotiate with the owners when he wants access. The Silos paid £500 to the Parish Council in 1979 for access road to Burnhouse, solicitors for the Parish Council were TC Smith.

PC Todd was unable to attend the meeting, but has been made aware of the speeding problems/traffic diversion problems
   Mrs F Burn and Councillor Watkin took no part in these discussions. There were no observations to make.

9. **Potholes** – loose kerb stones at the school

10. **Correspondence**
    - NALC membership renewal – received
    - Temporary signs – a letter received from the County Council confirming signs can be displayed for local events as long as they don’t compromise road safety

11. **Any other business**
    - Mrs F Burn queried whether Lowick is being left behind with regard to not having a defibrillator – many villages now have them. RJD Watkin said that all fire engines now have them.
    - JA Huddart said he had received an email with regard to 1st Responders. It was agreed to put something about this in the next newsletter to gauge interest
    - RJD Watkin said the Local Development Framework Strategy Framework would be arriving soon, and that the coal people had insisted on the Northern Area coal field being included. It was suggested that a meeting be set up with Bowsden and Kyloe to discuss the LDF

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm