LOWICK PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Lowick Parish Council was held on Thursday 15th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: JA Huddart, P Hanson, W Perks, Mrs S Graham, Mrs L Bradbury, SA Mather, Rt Hon. Anne-Marie Trevelyan, MP and T Forrester (agent)

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting

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

3. Rt Hon Anne Marie Trevelyan was invited to address the meeting. She said she felt it was important to visit Parish Council meetings and she is trying to build new networks for the community with regard to what is working and what isn’t. The key areas being

   • local plans which give a genuine voice to small communities
   • broadband - the most common complaint. She felt that everyone should have access to good fast broadband. P Hanson commented that once fibre broadband was introduced the speed on the original broadband dropped. Ms Trevelyan said that there was a split view in Westminster on BT/Open Reach being split. She also said that an emergency services network is to be installed in most rural areas which mobile providers will be able to tap into

JA Huddart commented that County Council cuts are putting more pressure on Parish Councils. Ms Trevelyan said that the Council is having to learn how to handle money coming back to them through business rates

Mrs S Graham (Women against state pension inequality) asked for an update. Ms Trevelyan replied that the new Secretary of State for Work and Pensions is planning a meeting. The reality is that procedures have not been correctly followed and that rebalancing will happen but only if there’s enough proof. Ms Trevelyan said she had seen enough evidence that matters had not been done correctly (eg failure to inform) and the problems may have to be rectified through a court. She suggested that anyone should contact Tom Forrester if they have any problems.

JA Huddart thanked Ms Trevelyan and Tom Forrester for attending the meeting

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

5. Matters Arising

   • Hugh Burn is willing to cut the tree down
   • W Perks reported that one bench on the common has been removed and the other repaired
   • The bid for funding for the Play Park from the Windfarm fund has been submitted

6. The Common – JA Huddart reported that peace has broken out and the issues appear to have been resolved although no money has yet been paid to the Parish Council by anyone. The chain link fence will be removed once the easement is signed and the money received
7. **Neighbourhood Plan** – the grant application from Workspace to develop the plan over the next 6 months has been approved. There will be an open day on 24th September and fliers advertising this have been circulated and posters will go up. There will be pavilions in the hall on community activities and a questionnaire to try and gauge what people would like to see in the future. Mrs S Graham and SA Mather said they would not be able to attend this event due to an event on Holburn Green which has been agreed to by the Parish Council.

After the open day there will be one or two walks around the village to allow people to give their views on the styles of buildings etc. Once all the information is collated Jenny Ludman will begin to write her report.

8. **Interactive Speed Signs** – speeding through the village still an issue. P Hanson said he would try and locate the speed camera which members of the public can use.

9. **Matters to report on potholes, repairs/maintenance to highways, street lights etc** – it was reported that a footpath sign is missing near the common. P Hanson said he plans to walk all the footpaths in the parish over the coming months.

10. **Correspondence**
    - The second payment of the precept received - £1795.00
    - PREAPP received regarding a proposed new dwelling near Western House. JA Huddart commented he’d been unable to access this on the website, clerk to contact Planning
    - Regulations re A boards/sandwich boards received
    - CAN request for a donation, it was agreed to give £30 – proposed W Perks, seconded P Hanson
    - Parish Council insurance documents received
    - Mobile Post Office visiting time changes – letter received
    - NHS – most Parish Councillors happy with service. P Hanson commented that the mental health side is being pushed aside
    - Control of dogs – letter received
    - A quote of £1,507.97 received from the County Council for 3 extra grass cuts in the Parish. It was decided not to go ahead with these

11. **Any other business**
    - W Perks reported that Bookless Motors donated 6 bolts to enable him to repair the bench on the Common. JA Huddart thanked W Perks for carrying out the repairs
    - The school bus is stopping outside the shop instead of at the bus stop

12. **Date of next meeting** – Thursday 20th October

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm

18th October 2016