LOWICK PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Lowick Parish Council was held on Thursday 15th March 2018 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Present: JA Huddart, Mrs S Graham, P Hanson, SA Mather Mrs A Worlock and 2 members of the public

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs MA Bell, Mrs L Bradbury, W Perks and County Councillor R Lawrie

3. There were no declarations of interest

4. Minutes of previous meeting – these were agreed as being correct, there were no matters arising

5. Transfer of Community Asset – P Hanson outlined the process to date.

- The Parish Council has been looking into patches of land in the village which might not be registered. The land at the side of the village hall is registered to Northumberland County Council and the land beside the War Memorial is not registered
- Northumberland CC has asked if the Parish Council would be interested in taking over the land beside Kyloe View which is used for parking as well as the land beside the Village Hall.
- P Hanson cautioned that taking over the land could be a poisoned chalice, and that NCC should be asked to undertake any necessary work before any transfer. JA Huddart felt that the Parish Council would keep the land beside the Village Hall tidier than NCC and that there was the possibility of the land becoming allotments again. JA Huddart proposed applying to NCC for transfer of the land beside the Village Hall to the Parish Council this proposal was unanimously agreed.
- JA Huddart felt that the car parking area beside Kyloe View could be expensive to upkeep and the County Council appear to own the footpath to all the houses on Kyloe View and that insurance liabilities could be high. JA Huddart proposed that the Parish Council did not take over this land, this was unanimously agreed
- With regard to registering the land beside the War Memorial, which would just be the chained area, P Hanson said that the Land Registry suggest taking legal advice before trying to establish adverse possession. The Open Spaces Society’s information sheet on unclaimed land and adverse possession: protecting commons and other open spaces with no known owner states “the best course is to persuade the local council to take possession of any unclaimed land in your area so that it is held in the public interest. Otherwise an individual may succeed in appropriating it as his own” It was decided to consider this matter further at the next meeting

6. Planning Application: 18/00625/VARYCO : Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) and variation/removal of conditions 4 (materials), 6 (construction method statement) and 7 (refuse storage) of approved planning application 17/02378/FUL. 1 Laverock Law Farm Cottages, Lowick

There were no comments to make regarding this application
7. Neighbourhood Plan  JA Huddart said the next meeting was on 19\textsuperscript{th} March when Jenny Ludman will be in attendance. JA Huddart circulated copies of the proposed settlement boundaries and all existing planning application – these will be discussed at the meeting.

8. Interactive speed signs  P Hanson said that due to computer problems he has lost 3 months information, the most recent information has been circulated.

9. Matters to report on potholes, repairs/maintenance to highways, street lights etc  It was agreed that the clerk should write to Anne-Marie Trevelyan with regard to the state of the roads following the lengthy diversion of traffic from the A1 through Lowick.

9. Correspondence
   - JA Huddart reported that he had received a letter from Susan Fulton who was worried about her carers not being able to get to her home during the bad weather, one carer had damaged their car because of the state of the roads. It was agreed to find out if the County Council has a priority list of road repairs following bad weather.
   - Thanks received from Air Ambulance for Parish Council’s donation
   - R Lawrie offer of £2000 from his Councillor’s fund, it was agreed this should be put towards the cost of the pinfold.

10. Any other business
    - The 20mph petition past the school has been handed to the Parish Council, the clerk will forward it to NCC
    - JA Huddart said he would ask NCC what their snow clearance plans were.
    - JA Huddart said that he was very disappointed with the lack of guidance and communication received from R Lawrie, all Parish Councillors agreed with this sentiment. It was agreed that JA Huddart write to NCC to express the Parish Council’s concerns at this lack of guidance and ask for help in contacting R Lawrie as currently the Parish Council is receiving very little feedback from NCC.
    - All Parish Councillors conveyed their thanks to all who helped throughout the parish during the recent snowy weather. Thanks were also extended to Williamson Brothers for managing to deliver coal.

11. Date of next meeting – Thursday 19\textsuperscript{th} April at 7.00pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

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19\textsuperscript{th} April 2018