

LIDGATE PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th May 2015**

Councillors present: C Bliss (Chairman), J Whitefield, S Sage, S Child, C Wade and L Gilmour

Also present: Mrs J Ince (clerk)

1. Election of chairman and vice chairman

C Bliss was nominated and following a vote, it was resolved that he would be chairman. J Whitefield was nominated and following a vote, it was resolved that J Whitefield would be vice-chairman.

2. Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office and agreement to abide by the Council's Code of Conduct by the chairman and councillors

The chairman and councillors signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies were received from C Morley and the reason for absence accepted.

4. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

No councillors declared an interest in any items on the agenda.

5. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2015

It was resolved that the minutes were correct. The chairman then signed them.

6. Update on list of actions agreed at the last meeting

There were no outstanding councillor actions

7. Register of Members' Interests form.

The councillors completed new Register of Interest forms.

8. Finance

a) Approval of any payments and signing of Schedule of Payments

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- Lidgate PCC - annual donation - GPC - **£150.00**
- Friends of Lidgate Churchyard - LGA 1972 s214(6 -)**£150.00**
- Lidgate Village Hall - annual donation - LGA 1976 (Miscellaneous Provisions) s19,3a - **£500.00**
- J P Ince expenses – LGA 1972, s111 – **£35.92**

J Whitefield and C Wade signed the Schedule of Payments and C Bliss countersigned it.

b) Approval of the record of online payments made since the last meeting

It was resolved that the record of online payments would be approved. J Whitefield then signed it.

c) Signatory to complete the checklist of Internal Controls

J Whitefield completed the checklist of internal controls.

d) Internal control of the 2014/15 accounts carried out by C Morley

C Morley raised the following points:

- He could not find the Schedule of Payments. The located it in the accounts folder marked with an orange tag. The Chairman verified them.
- He could not find the bank reconciliations for June - July and July- Aug 2014. The clerk checked the accounts folder. The July/August statement was reconciled on 8/08/14 though this had not been written on the bank statement. The same applied to the June/July statement which had been reconciled on 23rd July 2014. Both statements were accompanied by a printout of the Excel accounts with the reconciliation date on them.

e) To approve the Income and Expenditure accounts for the financial year 2014-2015

It was resolved that the Income and Expenditure accounts would be approved.

f) To complete and sign sections 1 and 2 (Statement of Accounts and Statement of Assurance) of the annual return 2015 and to approve and sign the supporting notes.

Councillors completed sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return 2015 (Statement of Accounts and Statement of Assurance). The chairman and RFO then signed both sections. Councillors also approved the supporting notes.

g) To approve the Financial Report which the Council needs to publish as part of the Transparency Code 2015

It was resolved that the financial report would be approved.

h) Confirmation of the Council's eligibility to continue to use the General Power of Competence

The Council confirmed its eligibility to continue to use the General Power of Competence based on the following criteria:

- At least two thirds of the membership of the council had been elected in 2011

- The clerk holds the Certificate in Local Council Administration and has passed the 2012 CiLCA module on the General Power of Competence

i) Precept information for 2015/16

St Edmundsbury Parishes	Total Parish Requirement (amount paid to Parish)	Parish Revenue Support Grant	Local Council Tax Support Grant	Parish Precept (amount paid by Parish Residents)
Lidgate	£5,964	£482	£106	£5,376

9. Planning

- a) DC/15/0842/TCA - White Cottage, The Street, Lidgate -TCA notification - (i) Fell 5 cherry trees (ii) Reduce 1 x cherry by 20% back to live growth (iii) 1 lilac reduce back to grass border**

It was resolved that no objections would be made to this application.

10. Highways/rights of way matters/tree or transport issues:

- a) Update on Speedwatch and the need for Lidgate to purchase its own speed gun and possibly a VAS unit**

In the last Parish Review, 85% of residents said speeding was their main concern. Community Speedwatch (CSW) has had an impact on speeding but because Lidgate shares the speed gun with other villages, it cannot carry out as many speed checks as it would wish.

It was resolved that the Council's next village project would be to purchase a speed gun for the village and a VAS unit at an approximate cost of £5,000. The clerk agreed to contact Mary Evans to find out if there is any funding available and Clive Pollington, the new Borough Councillor, to ask if he would be willing to donate some of his locality budget. The Parish Council has allocated £300 in its budget for a village project, the remaining funds would be obtained through fund raising though and village donations.

- b) The bottle bank has been removed from the pub as it has to pay for it to be situated there. The clerk was asked to contact Waste Management to ask if it could request that a village bottle bank be sited there with the permission of the pub.**

11. To discuss the following playing field issues:

- a) Play inspection report April 2015**

No action is required.

12. Correspondence

- a) Information from BT about their Adopt a Kiosk scheme**

It was resolved that this item would be discussed at the next meeting.

- b) Letter from Havebury about the installation of solar panels on some of their properties. They do not have a definitive list of properties yet (for information only)**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8pm.

Signed(Chairman) Dated