

LOCKWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON THURSDAY 30th MAY 2019 At 7.00 PM AT LINGDALE VILLAGE HALL, MEADOWDALE COURT, LINGDALE

PARISH COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

Cllr's C.Kingham (Vice-Chairman), A.Groves, J.Halliday, A.Clayton, D.Williams, A.Murray and J.Henderson.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ward Councillors: Steve Kay (Lockwood Ward)

Sirius Minerals: Leoni Bradnam

Members of the public: 4

Clerk: Ms M.Kingham

The Vice-Chairman declared the meeting open and thanked all for attending.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were given for Cllr A.Slater, Steve & Lynn Nicholls (Coastal View), Yvonne Johnson (Lingdale Village Hall) John Whitehead (Chair of Governors Lingdale Primary), Jean Scott (Chair Stanghow Community Centre) and Ken Gillance (Moorsholm in Bloom).

2. TO FORMALLY APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON THURSDAY 10TH MAY 2018.

Copy of the minutes were provided for all who were in attendance and were taken as read.

The minutes were proposed by A.Groves, seconded by A.Clayton and formally **agreed** by those present to be a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

4. PRESENTATION FROM LEONI BRADNAM (SIRIUS MINERALS)

Leoni reported that following the completion of a grout curtain around the shaft at Lockwood Beck, a temporary workshop has been built and the works to construct the foundations for the temporary winder building and headframe are progressing. The initial part of the shaft is currently being excavated in order to accommodate the Galloway - a multi-decked working platform used in shaft sinking - and is now at a depth of 15m. The 25m tall Galloway will be assembled in two parts on the surface before being lowered into the shaft. Preparations also continue for the arrival of the 45m winding tower in the coming months, which will remain on the site for the duration of the construction period and will be the tallest visible building on the site. In advance of this, deliveries of shaft structural steel and the unassembled Galloway are ongoing to the site. The main shaft sinking will start, following the construction of the winding tower, during the summer. Public consultation will be held in the area in the coming months to enable residents to find out more about these upcoming works and to ask questions or raise any concerns.

At Wilton, the first tunnel boring machine is now fully assembled and has begun its journey towards Lockwood Beck. The TBM 'Stella Rose' – Stella meaning star in Latin (and Sirius meaning brightest star) and Rose by the landmark Roseberry Topping – was unveiled by local school children at a naming ceremony in April after over 20 schools in Redcar and East Cleveland took part in a naming competition. Wilton's concrete segment factory, which will make the 148,000 segments that will line the tunnel, is also up and running, with the majority of its workers recruited via the Training and Employment Hub in Skinningrove. Other jobs across the site now almost number 1,000, with the majority being local people, and Sirius expect a further large-scale recruitment drive to begin at Woodsmith Mine later in the year.

DRAFT MINUTES - Subject to confirmation.

Leoni sought questions from the audience and amongst those attending there was a feeling that Sirius do not do enough to keep residents close to Lockwood updated. It was stated that letters aren't being distributed widely enough and the request was made to send update letters to Moorsholm / Stanghow / Lingdale and other surrounding villages.

It was raised that Lockwood Beck does not appear in press releases very often. Leoni advised that she usually puts in a line about Lockwood but it is often omitted by the press.

The question was raised as to how many people from Whitby and Teesside are working on the LWB site – and also whether there will be a core of staff working on the site during operations, or whether it would just be ad-hoc. Sirius agreed to make this information available at the public events they will be holding in the area in the coming months. Leoni stated that there will not be any staff members working permanently on the LWB site once operations have commenced.

It was questioned whether any further works would take place in Charltons and whether Sirius could reassure people during the public information events.

The Sirius Minerals Foundation and grant funding was brought up and residents were referred to the website below for further information.

<https://www.siriusmineralsfoundation.co.uk/>

The Vice Chair thanked Leoni Bradnam for her update.

5. THE CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.

As the Chairman of Lockwood Parish Council, Alan Slater, cannot attend because of work commitments, it falls to me, as Vice Chairman, to present the Annual Report.

Welcome to the Parish Assembly and thank you all for attending. I am delighted to be able to report another successful year for the Parish Council.

Our main activity is the management of the allotments. We have continued to invest in the sites for the benefit of our tenants, as well as for those parishioners who live near the allotment gardens.

There have been a number of fencing improvement projects on our sites at Boosbeck, Kilton Lane, Lingdale Playing Field and Moorcock Row. These have improved the appearance of our sites: all in key locations, visible by the general public from nearby roads and footpaths.

Our 6th Annual Best Allotment competition proved once more to be a great success and, yet again, the Bennison family excelled.

The competition gives tenants something to aim for, helping to raise standards throughout the allotment gardens. Indeed, we are very proud of the improvements to our allotment sites over the past few years, and we want all our tenants to be proud of their individual contributions to this success.

I'd like to give a big thank you to the members of the Allotment Committee and to our former chairman, Mike Jefferson, whose hard work throughout the year helped continue the progress we are making on all our sites.

Amongst our other work, we continue to maintain the five defibrillators sited across the parish. Every year there are 30,000 extra hospital cardiac arrests in the UK. For every second that defibrillation is delayed, a casualty's chance of survival falls by 10%. We therefore believe the initial investment in defibrillators, and their maintenance, to be completely justified.

Although research shows that 9 out of 10 owners clean up after their dogs, dog dirt remains one of the most unacceptable and offensive types of litter on our streets.

DRAFT MINUTES - Subject to confirmation.

In our fight against dog fouling, we continue to provide dog glove bags and we support Redcar & Cleveland Council in the exercise of its enforcement powers. Please have a look at the the display board at the side of the room for more information on this unsavoury subject.

We have continued to invest in developing our headquarters, here at Lingdale Village Hall. We hosted the Lingdale Klondike activities and have held several other events over the year. We are now the home of a parent & toddler group, on Tuesdays. And, when the Saturday bingo came to an end in April, we took up the reins. Once profitable, we hope bingo will fund other events and activities in the Hall.

A big thank-you to the members of the Village Hall Committee whose hard work throughout the year has helped us put on events and increase the use of the Hall by the community. Former Vice Chairman of the Council, Sandra Young, will be missed in this respect.

On behalf of the Council I should also like to thank all the community groups in the villages, whatever their objectives, and whether or not they currently enter Northumbria in Bloom. The Council values your work and will continue to give you all the support it can to enhance the villages of Lockwood Parish.

We know that the continued achievements of our villages are due to the many hours of voluntary time given by the members of our community groups. And so, after their many regional and national successes, it's understandable that both Moorsholm and Stanghow have decided to take a break from competition. We do hope, however, they will both be competing successfully again in the near future.

Finally, as you will see from the previous five years' accounts, displayed at the side of the room, the Council has been using its reserves to invest in the Parish. You will see, for example, that £10,000 was spent last year on purchasing a vehicle for the use of the Parish warden. We believe this to be prudent, as it will save the considerable cost of hire in future years.

On the subject of prudence, to protect our reserves we now need to focus on matching our spending to our income.

We do not want to increase the parish precept, you all pay through your council tax. So, in the next four years, we will look to make both the parish council and its activities sustainable.

We would like to involve you in this process and have placed a board and some post-it notes at the back of the room. If you have any suggestions for improvements, savings, or sustainability, please write them on a note and post it on the appropriate sheet.

Meanwhile, if you have any questions, my colleagues and I shall endeavour to answer them.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/03/2018

The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to the Council gave the following report.

The Parish Council has approved its Annual Accounts as presented to you this evening. The accounts files are currently with the Internal Auditors and once the files are received back they will be available for public inspection and parishioners can request to examine them.

The Annual Return will then be made to the External Auditor as part of the normal process at the beginning of June.

DRAFT MINUTES - Subject to confirmation.

The Statement of Accounts provided gives a detailed breakdown of where the council incurred expenditure and where income was received. The Statement of Accounts also illustrates that the council is currently financially stable with a healthy reserve balance.

The council has closed its financial year 2018-2019 with a balance of £40,494.70 reduced by £14,037.88 from the previous year. The council has in place a three year financial plan which will be reviewed before the end of the year by the new council.

The council has set a budget for 2019-20 which utilises reserves of around £2,000, this may be difficult to maintain as we still have major work to carry out on replacing perimeter fences around Moorcock and Kilton allotments. However as we have now purchased the Parish Warden's vehicle we will save around £4000 a year from rental.

In spite of not increasing the parish precept for several years (the money which we receive from council tax) the parish council has continued to work effectively within its precept and after considering its other income from Allotment Rents etc. the council still has healthy reserves.

As a result of this, the council has once again frozen its precept for 2019-2020 and will continue to improve the allotment sites and support the community with smaller grant giving donations.

I further advise there are no adverse issues to report in the Statement of Accounts and as the Responsible Financial Officer for the council I present these accounts to the Annual Assembly of Parishioners as being a true and accurate record of the council's financial position.

The Clerk offered parishioners the opportunity to ask any questions relating to the Statement of Accounts.

7. PRESENTATION OF CHEQUES TO REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL COMMUNITY 'IN BLOOM' GROUPS

The Vice-Chairman presented cheques to representatives of the local community and 'In Bloom' groups as the Parish Council's contribution to the excellent work the community groups undertake to brighten up the villages in the Lockwood Parish Council area.

The Chairman thanked all groups for their continued efforts to improve their local villages.

8. REPRESENTATIONS BY ELECTORS

Lockwood Ward Councillor Steve Kay congratulated the Parish Council on their commitment to be prudent and sustainable. He commented that it was important to have a healthy reserve in case of emergency.

He thanked the Parish Council for their continued financial support to the In Bloom groups which allows them all to do such a wonderful job in enhancing the Lockwood area.

He praised the Parish Council for their maintenance of the five defibrillators in the parish area (Lingdale, Boosbeck, Stanghow, Charltons and Margrove Park). He noted that the publicly funded defibrillator located at Moorsholm Memorial Hall was the focus of a recent training activity at the Hall. He questioned whether any training was planned for the Lockwood Parish Council funded defibrillators? The clerk responded that this was a good idea and something that the council would discuss at their next meeting.

9. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Vice-Chairman thanked Councillor Kay for his remarks, thanked everyone who had attended the meeting and wished everyone success in the coming year.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

Signed:

Dated: May 2019

DRAFT MINUTES - Subject to confirmation.

Cllr (Chairman of the Council)

Signed: Dated: May 2019
Ms M Kingham (Clerk to the Council)