

LINBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 14th January 2025 commencing 7:30pm at Brooke Farm, Linby

Present: Cllr's D Ireland (Chair), C Harrison (Vice-Chair), W Lewis, C Hardstaff, E Tunstall and L Gretton (Clerk).

Cllr's C Barnfather (NCC), S Bestwick (GBC), S Pickering (GBC).
Members of public: 1

1.0 Apologies for Absence

Cllr S Molsom – received and accepted

Cllr M Smith (GBC)

2.0 Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Cllr C Hardstaff – The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan

3.0 Approval of the minutes

The minutes of the November 2024 meeting were approved by the Parish Council and signed by the Chair D Ireland and Vice-Chair C Harrison

4.0 Matters arising

4.1 Carols around the Tree

Cllr Ireland reported on a successful event which raised £267.47 for the Wellbeing Café at St Michael's Church.

5.0 Open Forum

5.1 Renovation of 7 Main Street

Cllr Hardstaff raised an issue from a resident regarding the renovation of 7 Main Street. The Gedling Conservation Officer has denied planning permission which they feel is unacceptable. Cllr Ireland advised she has been out to the property and commented the home is in desperate need of renovation. She commented there is no consistency in the decisions made at GBC, it is entirely down to the interpretation of the Conservation Officer at the time. Cllr Bestwick agreed to follow up with the Conservation Officer. Cllr Hardstaff to forward details.

6.0 Councillor Vacancy

Mrs J Brothwell showed an interest in the position. The PC agreed they would be happy to co-opt Mrs Brothwell onto the Council. The Clerk to add to the February agenda.

7.0 Antisocial Behaviour in the Parish

Nothing new to report. Bikes/scooters are still active on the Linby Trail.

8.0 Traffic & Road Safety

8.1 Warning signs on crossing, Linby Lane layby

Cllr Barnfather advised he met onsite with the District Manager from Via who advised the sign is in the right position and meets the government criteria. No further action.

8.2 Puffin Crossing, Linby Village

The Crossing is scheduled to be installed on 27th January 2025.

8.3 Papplewick Traffic Calming Initiative

The Clerk reported Papplewick PC continue to look at improvements to the Cross Roads near the Griffin's Head pub including:

- Intermittent traffic signals – declined by Via as not suitable at the location due to space constraints
- 4 way stop - Via agreed to investigate
- Pedestrian crossing at Black Smiths Court - declined due to low pedestrian numbers and lack of proper footpaths
- 20's Plenty Campaign – PPC making enquiries to reduce the speed limit to 20mph.

9.0 Potholes, Waterloo Island – update

Paula Johnson confirmed resurfacing in March 2025.

10.0 Flooding in the Parish/Culverts Inspection – update

Cllr Ireland advised she forwarded the DICE report to Gedling Borough Council and Cllr Barnfather. Cllr Barnfather advised he has forwarded a copy of the report to Gary Wood, who is the interface between NCC and the strategic side of planning and Via and has agreed to meet with the PC to come up with a future plan and allocate funding.

11.0 CIL Projects & Funding Update

CIL account stands at £15,399.27. Further instalments expected around March.

12.0 Local Communities Fund Application to restore the footpath

No updates

13.0 PC to Adopt the Health & Safety Policy and agree H&S Training

The Clerk circulated the Health & Safety Policy prior to the meeting. The PC resolved to adopt the policy. Cllr Harrison was appointed Health & Safety Representative. The Clerk advised that NALC have an online H&S Training course; the PC agreed, Clerk to arrange.

14.0 Lengthsman Scheme & Green Spaces Maintenance incl. Weed spraying

Cllr Lewis reported he's requested the Lengthsman to clear the overgrown weeds on all roads leading to the island.

The Scheme will continue in 2025/26. Cllr Barnfather advised he has contacted the Head of Via to consider an increase to the budget since it hasn't changed in 14 years.

Cllr Lewis reported weed spraying should continue in the Spring. Cllr Lewis to forward company contact details to the Clerk to keep on file.

15.0 Heritage Centre

No updates on Business rates; the Valuation Office Agency confirm they have received the application will be in touch if they require any further information.

Bluebells have now been planted and the bench still needs to be installed.

16.0 Website Maintenance

Cllr Harrison advised the PC should consider employing a specialist to provide ongoing maintenance and support for the website. In recent years her husband has provided this support but can no longer offer his help due to time constraints. The Clerk advised she has recently attended a webinar on moving to a .gov.uk website (on behalf of Papplewick PC) and will forward information and costings to the PC for consideration.

17.0 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Ireland reported they have been successful in applying for a £10,000 grant to update the NP which should be received this week. As Linby is classed as a high growth area, there is the potential for a further £8,000 along with technical packages run by AECOM. One of these looks at the Design Codes. She advised she met with AECOM, along with Hannah Barter, Cllr Harrison and Cllr Molsom to discuss this. AECOM have asked them to complete a questionnaire about Linby, what they'd like to see, what they don't like, special features etc. The PC agreed to hold a zoom meeting to run through the questionnaire.

Mrs Brothwell enquired whether there would be an opportunity for consultation between the school, church and Brooke Farm. Cllr Ireland commented they were at the initial stage and at the moment they are looking to set up a steering group. Once the grant has been received, the PC will discuss with Hannah Barter what the next steps are.

Cllr Ireland advised the PC want to work with Gedling Borough Council and the landowners of the safeguarded land to ensure the site is attractive and not just a blot on the landscape. She advised Hannah Barter is in communication with Jo Gray and Alison Gibson who are the Strategic Planning Officers at GBC.

18.0 Parish Conference – update on event

The Clerk circulated slides from the conference prior to the meeting. She couldn't take part in the round table networking as all Clerks were asked to go into another room with the NALC Officer. It was highlighted that many of the PC policies need updating which will be a lengthy process. The Clerk to pursue.

19.0 Clerk Expertise Training – update

The Clerk advised the training was basic.

20.0 Top Wighay – Allocated land

Nothing to report

21.0 Correspondence received

All correspondence was circulated to the PC prior to the meeting

- Police Beat Surgery – Monday 27th January, 1pm – 4pm at the Papplewick & Linby Village Hall. Everyone welcome. Come along and meet your local beat team and take the opportunity to raise any concerns you may have and to find out more about policing in the area.
- The Clerk reported to the PC that the Co-operative Bank has been purchased by Coventry Building Society

22.0 Planning Matters

22.1 Article 4 Directive Update

Cllr Bestwick advised there is insufficient evidence to process article 4 based on the survey work that has been carried out. Cllr Ireland commented she was very disappointed in the decision. Cllr Bestwick agreed to view the report and update the PC re: whether they can follow up on it.

22.2 Planning Applications

- 2023/0233 Hayden Lane – Appeal Approved
- 2024/0772 12 Main Street – PC objections submitted
- Church Lane Appeal – PC objections submitted
- Proposed Puffin Crossing, Main Street, Initial Consultation – No comment from PC

22.3 Other

Cllr Island confirmed the Inspector has put Ashfield District Council's plan on hold. Cllr Ireland was due to meet on 21st January to discuss their objections regarding the Kennels site. She advised due to the revision of the NPPF, as it stands, their plan would not be sound.

23.0 Funding Update

a) Bank Balances

Current: £18,474.98 CIL: £15,399.27 Savings: £21,023.15

b) Finance Report

Payments:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
26/11/24	DICE Consulting Eng. Drainage survey report	£1,290.00
26/11/24	Nottingham Printing – Drainage plans & report	£33.00
26/11/24	GBC Road Sweep (Oct)	£48.00
26/11/24	Joe Walker Haulage – Tree delivery	£90.00
01/12/24	E Gretton – Nov wages, expenses and backpay	£738.48
01/12/24	HMRC – Tax & Employers NI	£42.30
01/12/24	NCC Pension Fund – Nov (incl backpay)	£212.67
03/12/24	ICO – Data Protection Certificate	£35.00
05/12/24	NALC – Clerking Expertise training 9/12	£22.50
05/12/24	Reuben Shaw – Christmas tree	£540.00
12/12/24	W Lewis – Reimburse refreshments for Carols event	£80.14
19/12/24	Hucknall & Linby Brass Band – Carols event	£275.00
01/01/25	E Gretton – Dec wages & exp	£605.18
01/01/25	HMRC – Tax	£4.60
01/01/25	NCC Pension Fund – Dec	£165.56
	Total	£4,182.43

Receipts:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
26/11/24	GBC – Cllr's donation towards Carols event	£150.00
12/12/24	HMRC – VAT Reclaim	£1,469.04
13/01/25	Papplewick Village Hall – Bonfire Profit (incl £1k deposit)	£3,770.07
	Total	£5,389.11

Payments awaiting authorisation

J Brothwell – Reimburse for refreshments for Carols event £126.39

Howard Marshall Engineering – Repairs to Mower (Oct) £186.00

c) Update Ear Marked Reserves

The PC agreed to include the £500.00 Pension Deficit within the Ear Marked Reserves. The Bonfire Reserve was also updated to include the £2,770.00 profit received from last year's event. The total reserve stands at £14,270.00.

24.0 PC to approve updated Budget due to increase in Employers N.I from Apr 2025

The Clerk circulated the updated budget prior to the meeting. The PC resolved to accept the updated budget.

25.0 PC to approve updated Precept due to increase in Employers N.I from Apr 2025

The PC agreed to update the Precept to £29,532.00.

26.0 Precept Form C to sign

The Chair, D Ireland and Cllr's Harrison and Tunstall signed Precept form C. The Clerk to forward to Gedling Borough Council.

27.0 Councillor's Reports

27.1 Fly Tipping

Cllr Ireland reported there has been a lot of fly tipping on Ash Lane, before the Pumping Station. Cllr Bestwick agreed to pursue.

27.2 Linby Parish Council Noticeboards

Cllr Ireland agreed to seek a quote for replacing the two noticeboards. She suggested approaching the Gray Trust for funding. Cllr Hardstaff agreed to pursue.

27.3 VE Day Celebrations

Cllr Hardstaff advised she has arranged a barn dance at Hall Farm on Saturday 10th May, 7pm. The PC agreed the cost will be £20.00 per person and includes food and entertainment. Cllr Harrison agreed to look into the Health & Safety requirements. Cllr Hardstaff advised the PC will not need to contact their insurers as it will be covered under their own insurance.

27.4 Bonfire Event 2025

Cllr Ireland reported Papplewick Parish Council have voted against being involved in the bonfire this year. The Village Hall has also said they do not wish to be involved. The PC agreed not to be involved.

Cllr Lewis commented he has been approached by a resident who advised they would like to organise the Bonfire event. The resident advised the money raised from the event would be donated back to the community. Cllr Lewis advised he and Cllr Hesketh at Papplewick PC have spoken to the resident about what is required and have passed on all the information and documents, so he can go away and think whether it's something he would be willing to take on, given the huge amount of time, commitment and responsibility involved. Cllr Lewis asked whether the PC would consider putting some money upfront. The PC commented they would not be prepared to make an upfront payment and as a Parish Council they agree not to be involved.

27.5 Christmas lights purchase

Cllr Lewis advised 2 sets of icicle lights were damaged and need replacing. The PC agreed.

27.6 Local Government Re-organisation – update from Cllr Barnfather

Cllr Barnfather advised the government has produced a white paper stating they want every area to create a unitary authority with a mayor for every region across the country. Currently Nottingham City is a unitary authority which deals with all services. County Council have an upper and lower tier, so the County is the upper tier which is responsible for adult and children social care, highways, education etc and there is a lower tier which is made up of the 7 district councils which have much more limited responsibilities. It is the government's intention in their term of office that every area has a unitary authority. He advised the government has requested they receive initial proposals from Councils by this March. He advised County have already had a meeting with the City Council and have recently met with the 7 district council leaders to discuss proposals. These proposals include extending the City boundary, however the City is in special measures, run by commissioners and heavily in debt and most districts would not want to join them. Cllr Barnfather advised County are saying there needs to be a criteria and a set of principles that say the services shouldn't be worse by the reorganisation and should not cost residents more. The proposal needs to be economically sustainable and viable. Cllr Barnfather advised they need to quickly come up with some proposals that all authorities can agree on, whether that is to extend the City or County to create one unitary or two by dividing the North and South. He added it will be a Member of Parliament who will have the ultimate say.

28.0 Date of next full Council meeting

The date of the next full council meeting is Monday 10th February 2025, 7.30pm at Brooke Farm, Main Street, Linby.

29.0 Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan Update

Cllr Barnfather reported that Gedling Borough Council have withdrawn from the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan today. He has not been given any further information or reason why.

The meeting ended at 21:35

Signed
Chair of the Parish Council

Signed
Vice-Chair of the Parish Council