

**Minutes of Laceby Village Council Finance and Planning Meeting
Held at the Stanford Centre, Cooper Lane, Laceby on Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 7.30pm**

13199 Present: Chair – Cllr D Hasthorpe
Cllr R James, Cllr B Metcalf, Cllr S Turner, Cllr S Greenbeck, Cllr D Johnson,
Cllr R Childs Cllr P Schofield, Cllr B Barford

Also present: Clerk – Nicola Ashton
3 members of public

Apologies: Wold Cllr Henry Hudson

Cllr Hasthorpe opened the meeting, welcoming everyone present to the first meeting of Laceby Village Council. Apologies were received and accepted.

13200 Minutes from the 3rd October 2023

Minutes from the Finance and Planning Meeting on the 3rd October 2023 were put forwards for approval. The minutes were agreed to be a true record of the meeting, and proposed by Cllr Metcalf and seconded by Cllr Turner. Cllr Hasthorpe ensured all Councillors agreed that the minutes were a true and accurate record of events and, with a show of full hands, the minutes were approved.

13201 Declaration of Interests & Dispensations

Cllr Johnson asked that a declaration of interest be recorded for him in regards to expenses incurred in repairing the flagpole and postage.

Cllr Hasthorpe requested the following statement be recorded.

"I am a member of North East Lincolnshire Borough Council's Planning Committee and I am present here in my role as Village Councillor and not as member of North East Lincolnshire Council's Planning Committee. I am able to participate as the proposal before us does not substantially affect the well-being or financial standing of the Village Council, and must make it clear that my views and vote are expressed on the limited information before me. I must reserve judgement and the independence to make up my own mind on each separate proposal, based on my overriding duty to the whole of North East Lincolnshire, not just to the people in the village, as and when I hear all the relevant information when it comes before me at Planning Committee.

I will not in any way commit myself as to how I or others may vote, or what may be said, when the proposal comes before Planning Committee. I will declare a personal interest in relation to my being a member of the Village Council when the item is before Planning Committee."

The declarations of interest were accepted. There were no dispensations recorded.

13202 Public Forum

Cllr Hasthorpe opened the public forum welcoming the public to the meeting, and asked whether there were any items for discussion this evening.

Mrs F asked whether her emails to the Village Council were kept confidential, and not shown to family members and people outside of the Council. Both Cllr Hasthorpe and the Clerk confirmed that confidentiality was high priority and her emails were not shared with family members.

Mrs F continued to explain that she understood the council was now Laceby Village Council, and that whilst she liked the change of name, she was a bit confused about the agenda stating Laceby Parish Council in the text. Cllr Hasthorpe advised that it was a new change that we all had to get used to and documents updated, and it had been picked up that the agenda did still have a reference to the Parish Council in it.

Mrs F advised that she had emailed the Council in early October, and been advised by the Clerk on the 10th October that the Council would respond, however, no one has and it is not on the agenda. She raised an issue with the noticeboard not being updated, and that the Council did not publish draft minutes. Explaining that if the Council is applying for the quality award, then publishing draft minutes is part of this.

Cllr Hasthorpe advised that the Council had not met since the email had come in to provide a response, and that the Council is querying with ERNLLCA the query regarding draft minutes again. He advised the quality award had not progressed and was in abeyance as the Clerk had been ill advising those present that there were 20 minutes for them to speak.

Mrs F then explained that on the asset register, it was recorded that the Tommy statues cost £1500, however in the minutes it said £1050. Cllr Hasthorpe advised this could be a typing error, the Clerk will look and advise.

Cllr Hasthorpe asked if there were any other items for the public forum? With no further discussion to be held, Cllr Hasthorpe closed the public forum.

13203 Matters Arising

- **Co-option of Village Councillor**

Cllr Hasthorpe welcomed Mrs Page to the meeting, and asked if she would like to share some information with the Council about her and why she would like to be a Village Councillor. Mrs Page advised that she had sat on committees before and that now she is retired she has the time for a new challenge, and a lot of knowledge and skills that she can fetch to the benefit of the Council and the residents of Laceby. All Councillors were in agreement to welcome Mrs Page to the Village Council, and a full show of hands confirmed this. Cllr Page joined the table.

- **Village Newsletter**

The Clerk shared a draft mock up of what the newsletter could look like, and suggested content for the first edition. At present it was only 4 pages, but this could be expanded as the newsletter grows. The second edition is also underway with written contributions from other organisations now coming in.

Cllr Hasthorpe advised that the print costs are by page, so by keeping the first one brief whilst we look for companies who will advertise in the newsletter. Cllr Johnson advised he was willing to help canvas for advertisers, and enquired after costs. The Clerk has looked at Healing's newsletter and will email some ideas for costs over to the Councillors, however didn't want to do this until we looked at how often the newsletter could go out.

Cllr Barford enquired about the distribution, and Cllr Hasthorpe advised that in Healing there is a queue of young people willing to distribute the newsletter and that Cllr Childs had offered to distribute the first one across the village, with help. Cllr Barford said that the LCC would assist with distribution when they send their flyers out for the summer social.

The Clerk advised that she would be looking at printing and costs for this during November. Cllr Hasthorpe advised we would be looking at 1500 copies, and perhaps do the first editions in March, June, September, and December.

Cllr Hasthorpe referred to the Village Council website and email address advising that there would be a cost to updating these, the Clerk added that she will speak to the contractor who could assist with this and see how easy it is to sort and what sort of costs we are looking at.

13204 Police Matters

The Wolds Police Newsletter was shared and it was noted that there had been 39 crimes reported across the Wolds, with the following occurring in Laceby:

- 1 reported attempted theft, with damage to building;
- 1 reported theft of electrical equipment and tools;
- 1 reported damage to a wall following car hitting it;
- 1 reported attempted theft of a vehicle;
- 1 report of criminal damage;
- 2 reports of assault;
- 2 reports of harassment;
- 3 reports of minor public order offences.

It was noted there was nothing to feedback to the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Cllr Hasthorpe advised that he had recently met with the new Inspector, and advised that they are keen to ensure police officers attend wherever possible. 2 officers have now left, along with 2 PCSO's; one has since been replaced and is in training, and a second is being advertised for.

13205 Ward Councillors Report

Cllr Hasthorpe advised that there was nothing to report at present. There were no queries or questions for Cllr Hasthorpe.

13206 Planning Matters

- **DM/0861/23/FUL – siting of additional 53 holiday lodges and static caravans (84 in total) with associated infrastructure, lighting, and landscaping; The Willows, Barton Street, Laceby.**

Cllr Hasthorpe confirmed that everyone had looked at the plans regarding this application, and this was confirmed. It was noted there had not been any objections raised at present. Cllr Schofield advised that the plans show a main sewer up the road on the Barton Street, but noted that there wasn't one as it is currently under consideration. Cllr Schofield continued to explain that it was presumed the sewer would run into the Oaklands and that this would significantly affect the capacity at Caistor Road, which is already under immense pressure and overloaded. This was confirmed by Mr C (member of public). Cllr Hasthorpe advised there will need to be a full drainage plan, but acknowledged the concern.

Cllr Barford advised that the access road sits alongside a PROW (Public Right of Way), adding that there will need to be signs regarding the PROW and a 10mph speed limit applied.

Cllr Hasthorpe asked if there were any further comments; as this was a negative, all voted to raise the concerns with NELC regarding this planning application.

- **DM/0821/23/FULA - demolish existing side extensions to house and annexe, erect single storey extensions to house and annexe, erect single storey extension with roof lights to link house to annexe, and associate internal and external works; 26 Cemetery Road, Laceby.**

The application and plans were examined and discussed by all Cllrs present. Cllr Hasthorpe advised that there were no objections on the planning portal, and the plans had already identified the requirement to keep the road clear during building works. No objections were recorded.

- **DM/1017/23/POW - Application under S37 of Electricity Act 1989 for replacement of overhead powerlines and poles, including connection of new generators, upgrade to conductors, including any ancillary development thereto and associated construction work all as described; The Willows, Barton Street, Laceby.**

No concerns were raised with regards to this application.

13207 Finance Matters

Payments for authorisation

The following items required approval for payment, all were Bacs payments:

Salaries x 3 members of staff for November 2023	£1714.62
HMRC – Salaries November 2023	£343.73
Pensions – November 2023	£56.22
Cemetery Waste – Oct/Nov 2023	£52.22
Clerk Phone & Broadband – Oct/Nov 2023	£15.49
Clerk Petty Cash & mileage	£75.74
Groundskeeper Petty Cash	£48.01
Room Hire	£10.50
Laceyby RBL – Remembrance Sunday Donation	£100.00
St Margaret’s Church – grounds maintenance	£500.00
Repair to Church Flood Lights	£124.20
Stationery	£3.55
Hedge Cutting – St Margaret’s Church, Cemetery & St Francis Grove Play Area	£1180.00
Reimbursement D Johnson	£65.91
Anglian Water – Cemetery	£11.66
Removal of unsafe Cemetery Bench	£80.00
Gravedigger Fees	£140.00
Total Payments	£4,521.85

Cllr Greenbeck proposed the payments, and this was seconded by Cllr Metcalf; all Councillors agreed the payments be authorised with full show of hands.

13208 St Francis Grove Matters

H&S Concern

The Clerk advised that when the contractor had carried out the twice-yearly hedge cutting at St Francis Grove this year, he had come across feminine hygiene products, sharp implements, gas valves, hose, underwear, and metal rods wedged in the hedge. Discussion took place regarding what action can be taken to remove the risks to the contractor when undertaking work here. Whilst there is no evidence as to where / who this rubbish is coming from, it was agreed that the concerns be logged with NELC ASB team, and also the EHO team as this is where there is a children’s play area. Cllr Johnson suggested that we check the hedges before the next hedge cut and remove any

items there? Cllr Hasthorpe advised that appropriate PPE should be worn if we are to do this, and no risks to be taken by anyone.

Cllr Hasthorpe asked the Clerk to let the contractor know what action we have taken.

13209 Church and Cemetery Matters Remembrance Sunday

We have our two Marshals who have agreed to cover the temporary road closures during the parade at The Teapot. Cllr Barford advised he will cover the road closure at Hawerby Road (diverting traffic around Harneis Crescent and back down the Aylesby Road for those who do not want to wait. Cllr Johnson will cover the road closure at Cooper Lane, and Cllr Childs advised he would cover the closure at Cemetery Lane.

Cllrs Johnson and Barford will get the Remembrance flags up and the female soldiers sited. It was noted that some of the flags will need to be replaced before next year, and that there was equipment and items at various locations. Agreed for Councillors to let the Clerk know what equipment they have so we know where it is for the future.

Christmas Tree Event

The Christmas tree is being delivered on the 28/11, and will be sited in by the supplier. Cllr Johnson will let Cllr Childs know details regarding delivery so the tree can be decorated ready for the event on the Saturday.

Cemetery

Cllr Greenbeck advised that the groundskeeper had alerted her to grass growing through the tarmac around the war memorial circle, and that it was likely the tarmac was put down cold. The Clerk advised she would go and get some pictures and contact the contractor.

Cllr Greenbeck also advised that when the hedges were cut behind the New Garden of Rest, the leylandii is dying back and needs to come out, and there is also a tree that needs to come out. Clerk to contact the contractor for quotes.

13210 Stanford Centre

Cllr Metcalf explained that the Stanford Centre roof was again causing issues and that the group was frustrated with NELC and their lack of enthusiasm to solve the issue. It has again leaked in the hall and more tiles have come down, and it has leaked above the memorial in the entrance and near to the stairs. The water ingress in the hall has meant that the newly installed lighting has had to be turned off.

It was reported and NELC were going to send a surveyor on the 13th October, but since then we have no idea if anyone came or what is happening with the roof, and although they did clear the leaves, more leaves have accumulated since. The roof is leaking, so there must be a hole in it. NELC have a full and repairing lease on the building, so should be repairing the roof.

Cllr Metcalf asked if the Village Council could do anything to assist as the Stanford Centre Group have put a great deal of time, energy, and funds into the centre; the solar fund have provided £56k in grants over the last 8 years, and without that money, the centre wouldn't be open. If this doesn't get sorted, we may have to look at closing the centre.

Mr C also advised that the front doors can no longer be repaired and this needs urgently replacing as well.

Cllr Hasthorpe asked the Clerk to put this into a letter to Jack Fox at NELC and cc him into the letter.

13211 Correspondence

Cllr Turner shared an email she had received from a resident regarding Grimsby Road and the parking now the new double yellow lines are down around Spring Lane, and that most of the parking is because of Marshall's BMW employees parking there. Cllr Turner added that people keep moving the cones for the temporary bus stop so they can park there, and that parking along Grimsby Road is horrendous. Cllr Schofield added that the yellow lines has made the road worse, and that he thought the yellow lines were coming all the way up?

Cllr Hasthorpe explained that we knew when the double yellows went in that the problem would move, rather than be eradicated. The initial request was for time restrictions to be put in, but this has not been done; and people had asked for no parking between 9am and 5pm each day. Cllr Hasthorpe said he would address with NELC.

Cllr Childs asked if a letter to Marshalls to ask them to be more mindful of the parking / to provide parking onsite would work. Cllr Hasthorpe advised that Marshall's are not interested, and that this has been tried, for years, with them. Unfortunately, people are not parking illegally, and enforcement are in the village at least twice a week.

Clerk to write to NELC and include Cllr Hasthorpe.

Co-op site visit

The Co-op have asked if any Village Councillors would like to have a site visit to understand the progress that is being made on the Co-op. Cllr's Metcalf and Schofield talk to the site manager most days, however, Cllr Childs, Barford and Turner all expressed an interest in a site visit. Clerk to liaise.

The issues regarding building works and times, should be reported to NELC planning team.

13212 Information Exchange

Cllr Turner advised that the roadside/gutters were full of weeds and requested a road sweeper to clear them.

Cllr Childs asked about the feasibility of having a village Bonfire Night event and work with LCC (Laceby Community Collective) to put it in? Discussion took place, however, it was noted that whilst it is a great idea, this would be an enormous task with a high risk attached to it.

Cllr Barford asked if the Litter Picker was back at work, noting that you can tell he isn't there to keep the village clean. This will be discussed in closed session.

Cllr Barford asked if there was any further news on the new PROW from Butt Lane to Aircrobs. The Clerk advised their either had to be no objections or the planning inspectorate had to approve the PROW for the path to be opened-up, and we are still waiting on this. The Clerk confirmed that NELC would then be responsible for keeping the path clear and cut back.

Cllr Greenbeck advised that as she sits on the solar fund, she had received the agenda for the next fund review meeting to see that Laceby Village Council had put in an application for £20k of funding towards the Church Wall, and she didn't know about it.

Cllr Hasthorpe advised that his understanding was we had asked if it was a possibility, with Cllr Johnson advising he had put in a formal application. Discussion arose regarding the application.

Cllr Barford advised that the Full Council had agreed that the Church Wall Sub-Committee were responsible for moving the Church Wall on, and as such they had the power to act on behalf of the whole Council, and they would feed back to us. Cllr Hasthorpe confirmed that the sub-committee does have delegated powers. Cllr Barford added that we can always pull the application if we don't need the funds, and we have lost nothing if we don't get the funding. If everything that was

discussed at sub-committee was then discussed at full council, there was no need to have a sub-committee.

Cllr Johnson added the application had been submitted as a capital funding project and with the best interests of the village at the core; he added that it had been previously agreed.

All agreed to leave the application in.

The Chair confirmed the next meeting dates as:

- Full Council & Planning Meeting – Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 7.30pm
- Full Council & Planning Meeting – Tuesday 2nd January 2024 at 7.30pm
- Full Council & Planning Meeting – Tuesday 6th February 2024 at 7.30pm

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.48pm.

Signed:

Chair

Dated: