

Minutes of Laceby Village Council Finance and Planning Meeting
Held at the Stanford Centre, Cooper Lane, Laceby on Tuesday 5th November 2024 at 7.30pm

- 13408 Present:** Chair – Cllr R Childs
Cllr S Greenbeck, Cllr P Schofield, Cllr M Hall, Cllr P Page, Cllr S Turner, Cllr B Metcalf, Cllr R Barford, Cllr D Johnson,
- In Attendance:** Nicola Ashton – Clerk & RFO
Ward Cllr D Hasthorpe
6 members of public
- Apologies:** Cllr R James

Cllr Childs opened the meeting, welcomed all present to the meeting. The statement regarding the Recording of Meetings was read out.

Apologies were received and accepted.

13409 Minutes from the 1st October 2024

The minutes from the Finance and Planning Meeting on the 1st October 2024 were proposed by Cllr Page and seconded by Cllr Turner as a true record, and agreed by all Councillors present.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as a true and accurate record of events.

13410 Declaration of Interests & Dispensations

a. Dispensations

No Dispensations recorded.

b. Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest recorded

13411 Public Forum

Members of the public may make representations, answer questions, and give evidence at a meeting to which they are entitled to attend in respect of the items on the agenda. The time designated for public participation will not exceed 15 minutes in total, and 3 minutes per person. As per standing orders 3e and 3f.

- Member of the public queried the Emergency Plan, asking if the Council had clear evacuation routes, a list of vulnerable people and whether the plan would be available on the website. The Chair advised that the Council does not hold a list of vulnerable people, however, NELC and associated services will hold this. The Emergency Plan is for Laceby Council use, identifies key organisations and the allocation of a safe space. It will be available on the Council website.
- Member of public asked if the Council will be working with Humberside Police – Waltham has recently held an engaging community session, and query as to whether Laceby would be holding one. The Chair advised that we can ask the Police if they will be doing this.

Public Forum closed 19.43.

13412 Matters Arising

• **Remembrance Sunday**

Timings for the day shared, with road closures around 10.20am, 11.50am and 12.30pm. We have 6 marshals, and the welcome use of some radios for safety. First Aid in place.

• **Grimsby Road**

Discussion regarding proposal to Cllr Swinburn regarding road safety, including extending double yellows. Member of public suggested removal of double yellows outside The Rookery. Cllrs noted that whatever action is taken, the problem will just move to other roads in the area.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to Cllr Swinburn with proposal.

13413 Police Matters

The Police newsletter was received, and details shared with those present (available on LVC website). Cllr Childs reiterated that all crimes should be reported to the police to enable them to build a picture of the issues in the village.

There were no further concerns to be raised directly with the policing team.

13414 Ward Councillors Report

Ward Councillor Hasthorpe advised that he had nothing to report, and was happy to help residents on matters.

13415 Planning Matters

DM/0882/24/FUL – Erect first floor extension to side, convert garage to living space with external alterations and erect detached timber car port in front of garden space; Poplar House, 55 Cemetery Road, Laceby.

No objections were raised by Councillors.

There were no further planning applications for consideration tonight.

13416 Finance Matters

To approve payment of accounts to 5th November 2024.

Wages x 3 members of staff - Month 8	£xxxx
HMRC – Tax and NI - Month 8	£382.25
NEST Pension – Month 8	£60.25
Chairs Allowance – Oct & Nov 2024	£40.00
Clerk Telephone/Broadband	£21.51
Clerk Petty Cash	£40.47
Clerk Mileage	£79.14
Stanford Centre Room Hire	£21.00
Cemetery Waste	£55.89
Hedge Cutting – Cemetery and St Francis Grove	£890.00
Newsletter Delivery Costs	£55.80
Gravedigger	£280.00
Skip Hire	£96.00

RESOLVED: All payments approved; proposed by Cllr Turner, seconded by Cllr Hall and all agreed.

Emergency Plan – Final copy

The Clerk advised that the changes to the Emergency Plan had been made, and this was final version. Cllr Metcalf proposed the policy, seconded by Cllr Hall and agreed by all present.

RESOLVED: Emergency Plan Approved.

Harassment and Sexual Harassment Policy

The new Worker Protection (amendment to Equality Act 2010) Act 2023, had come into law from the 26th October. Cllr Turner proposed policy and Cllr Greenbeck seconded it. All in agreement.

RESOLVED: Policy Approved.

Groundskeeper Vacancy

The Clerk has prepared an advert for the Groundskeeper vacancy, and has revised the Job Description. It was agreed by all that the advert closing date should be changed to January due to Christmas, and that the post does not start until March 2025.

RESOLVED: Vacancy to go out to advert.

Newsletter

The newsletter final draft was checked by all, and approved for printing. Proposed by Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Turner and all agreed. This will need to be distributed at end of November.

RESOLVED: Newsletter to be printed and distributed.

NJC Pay Agreement

It was noted the NJC pay agreement had been received, with Cllr Hall proposing to accept the agreement, and Cllr Turner seconding; all Councillors in Agreement.

RESOLVED: NJC Pay agreement approved.

13417 St Francis Grove Matters

Cllr Johnson has advised that the repairs to the soft pour had begun and Monday and were completed today. The play area is looking lovely, and the play area will be reopened tomorrow morning.

13418 Church and Cemetery Matters

Church

- **Church Wall**

The Council received two quotes from those organisations approached to tender for the work. Quote 1 £72,304.30, Quote 2 £150,686.39 (both exclude VAT). All other companies approached declined.

Cllr Metcalf advised that we have a choice, and that the estimates had been examined and checked against the planning application – the first one did not meet the requirements of the planning application (details provided), and did not include half of the work that needed to be done, and the second quote did not provide any detail except the price. In essence, neither quote met the requirements of the Council, and both would incur additional costs in excess of estimates.

Heated discussion followed, to consider options with best interest of residents, the Church and Council along with the Planning, Highways and Conservation concerns and planning permission.

It was noted that one of the companies asked to quote later refused to do so, due to the events and claims made at a previous meeting. The initial discussion with the company, had indicated that this work could be completed to meet the requirements of everyone and at a reasonable cost. Cllr Metcalf proposed that the Council went back to this person, apologised, and asked for them to reconsider providing an estimate.

It was noted that there was still no sign of the faculty – if the Council do not have this by the 18th November, we will lose £20k of funding for the wall. This would then put the cost back onto the residents to cover.

Member of public who had been supporting the Committee, explained the situation, asking the Council to reconsider the reinstatement of the Committee to enable the works to be completed.

The Clerk advised that the Council needed to draw a line under what had happened recently; that rehashing issues and accusations, was not helpful, and that the focus should be on what solutions we have, to move the Church Wall to completion. Cllr Childs reminded everyone to be respectful, and asked the Clerk to check the proposal was acceptable from a standards / legal aspect.

Cllr Metcalf proposal was seconded by Cllr Barford and agreed by all present.

Cllr Childs asked Mr Cross if he was willing to come back on board to help get this project completed. This was agreed, but Mr Cross advised without the committee it would not be easy to move it forwards.

RESOLVED: Two quotes received not fit for purpose, to seek third quote as agreed.

- **Christmas Tree Event**

Cllr Johnson advised the tree would arrive Monday 2/12/24, and that a resident would help site the tree and put on the lights. Cllr Childs advised he was happy to go up the ladders to plug everything in.

Cllr Greenbeck advised that if the Council want to request an external socket at lower level, it would need to do so via a faculty.

Cemetery

- **Ornaments on Graves**

Cllr Turner advised that there were still ornaments on the graves at the Cemetery. The Clerk and Cllr Turner to look and advise at next meeting.

13419 Stanford Centre

Cllr Metcalf advised that the new books, purchased with solar fund grant, were being unpacked. The Centre and Library continue to be busy with bookings.

13420 Correspondence

Hedges on High Street and Church Lane.

The Clerk advised she had received numerous complaints, and that this had been dealt with by NELC who will contact landowner.

Disabled access from new footpath to Allotments

The Clerk advised that the Council had received a complaint from users of the Allotments, that there was no dropped kerb to enable them to use the new footpath with their wheelchairs and mobility scooter. The Clerk has passed this onto NELC.

Rural Housing Leaflet

Cllr Childs advised that this is of interest and the Council agreed it supported the proposal, but that most builds are large builds rather than smaller 5-6 builds.

13421 Information Exchange

- Cllr Turner advised that residents on Daisy Drive were parking on the footpath, pedestrians had to walk on the road and there was oil on it. It was also noted that the soakaway was full as the outlet into the dyke was blocked, making it dangerous.

RESOLVED: Clerk to report to NELC

- Query raised re the land on Corner at Field Head Road where items being left / dumped. Cllr Hasthorpe advised it had been dealt with that day.
- There were no other items raised.

13422 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED: The exemption of the press and public for the remainder of the meeting under the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960, Section 1(2) on the grounds that the discussion of the following business is likely to disclose confidential information.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.34pm.

Signed:
Chair

Dated: