

Minutes of Laceby Village Council Finance and Planning Meeting
Held at the Stanford Centre, Cooper Lane, Laceby on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 7.30pm

13229 Present: Chair – Cllr D Hasthorpe
Cllr B Metcalf, Cllr S Turner, Cllr S Greenbeck, Cllr D Johnson, Cllr R Childs,
Cllr B Barford, Cllr P Page

Also present: Clerk – Nicola Ashton
0 member of public

Apologies: Cllr R James, Cllr P Schofield, Cllr H Hudson

Cllr Hasthorpe opened the meeting, welcoming everyone present to the first meeting of 2024 of Laceby Village Council, and wished everyone a happy new year. Apologies were received and accepted.

13230 Minutes from the 5th December 2023

Minutes from the Finance and Planning Meeting on the 5th December 2023 were put forwards for approval. The minutes were agreed to be a true record of the meeting, and proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Greenbeck. 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.

13231 Declaration of Interests & Dispensations

Cllr Metcalf requested that a declaration of interest be recorded for them in regards to expenses incurred.

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.

13232 Public Forum

No public present for this meeting

13233 Matters Arising

• **Village Newsletter**

The Clerk shared the draft copy of the first newsletter for all to look at; this will also be shared via email when final copy is ready.

We have 2 quotes for printing

- quote 1 is for printing of 2000 A5 booklets 130gsm paper in full colour - £380 plus VAT
- quote 2 is for printing of 1500 A5 booklets 130gsm paper in full colour - £495 plus VAT

All agreed with show of hands to go with quote 1. Clerk to finalise the newsletter and hopefully it will be out for March 2024.

Cllr Hasthorpe asked what we would do about distribution; all agreed to take a share of the leaflets and deliver them ourselves for the first newsletter.

Cllr Barford advised he would speak to the LCC to see if they did want to contribute to the first one.

13234 Police Matters

The Wolds Police Newsletter was shared and it was noted that there had been 14 crimes reported across the Wolds, with the following occurring in Laceby:

- Theft from insecure domestic garage on Lauridson Close;
- 1 reported shop theft;
- 1 reported ASB related to youths banging on windows in Longmeadows Drive.

Cllr Barford advised that there was still a problem on Butt Lane with illegal motorbikes; Clerk to advise our policing team, and advised that each occurrence should be reported on 101.

Cllr Hasthorpe advised he would be meeting the new inspector in the coming weeks, and would feedback to the Council after.

13235 Ward Councillors Report

Cllr Hasthorpe advised he had no update to give, however, reminded everyone of the devolution consultation.

13236 Planning Matters

There were no planning applications received to be reviewed.

13237 Finance Matters

Payments for authorisation

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

Salaries x 3 members of staff for January 2024	£1,613.56
HMRC – Salaries January 2024	£483.86
Pensions – January 2024	£98.13
Cemetery Waste – Dec/Jan 2024	£52.22
Clerk Phone & Broadband – Dec/Jan 2024	£20.29
Clerk Petty Cash	£43.09
Allotments Rent	£425.25
Payroll costs	£324.00
NELC – IT Licence for Stanford Centre	£1,480.73
B Metcalf – Christmas Tree Event	£36.88
Website Licence and Management Fees	£204.00
Total Payments	£4,782.01

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

LVC Budget Plan 2024/25

The Clerk explained that having spoken with NELC they had now confirmed that:

'Whilst the number of band D properties in Laceby has fallen, the band D equivalent has risen due to there being more properties overall now. Therefore, if the precept remains the same, the average cost per household will fall as the cost is spread over more properties.... Lower bands will see a smaller reduction and higher band properties a larger reduction.'

The Budget Plan has now been reviewed by all Councillors. Budget items for consideration were:

- Cllr Metcalf advised that the wetpour at St Francis Grove may need some repairs doing to it during 2024/25 and will also need cleaning; this is included within the budget figures. Cllr Johnson reported that the wetpour gaps have closed and it was agreed to monitor this, however it will need cleaning.
- Cllr Metcalf queried whether the funds allocated in the budget for the Church wall were likely to be needed; it was agreed to leave these funds there for the time being.
- Cllr Hasthorpe advised that the Clerk's laptop & printer will be due for replacement; the clerk advised that at present the laptop is functioning fine, however the printer has given up. It was agreed to purchase a new printer now within this current financial year. Cllr Hasthorpe advised that a new laptop could be applied for under the Wolds Councillors Funding.
- Discussion was held regarding the precept. The precept has remained at £41,631 for around 10 years, and consideration was given as to whether to have a small increase considering the work and costs involved in the Church Wall and CCTV etc. After discussion, and in mind of the current reserves the Village Council hold, it was agreed it would not be appropriate to increase the precept at this time. This was proposed by Cllr Childs and seconded by Cllr Page; all Councillors in agreement. The precept will be reviewed when setting next year's budget where we may have to consider increasing the precept.

The Clerk advised that the accounts had been balanced at the end of December, and left LVC with £100,290.87 in its accounts; of which £73k was held in reserves for projects. The accounts reconciliation was signed by Cllr Hasthorpe.

13238 St Francis Grove Matters

The Clerk advised that she had received an email from a resident who was concerned that there was no bin at the St Francis Grove play area, and he had advised he had been litter picking and had cleared, rubbish as well as bricks. Cllr Metcalf advised that the play area bin will be going back into the play area soon now that the litter picker was back at work and we were able to empty it.

13239 Church and Cemetery Matters **Cemetery**

The Clerk advised that there was a lot of water sitting in the cemetery, even at the top and the water hadn't drained away. It was noted that there had been a lot of rain and currently the water table was high. There were no concerns at present that needed acting on as the water had since drained at the bottom.

13240 Stanford Centre

Cllr Metcalf advised there was nothing to update, but explained the Stanford Group were appreciative the IT licence invoice had been paid by the Village Council.

13241 Correspondence

The Clerk advised that she had been receiving correspondence from residents along Grimsby Road, and across the village regarding the parking on Grimsby Road. Cllr Hasthorpe advised he had also had communications with residents, and when the double lines were put in, he had requested a time limit on parking along there. Unfortunately, NELC did not put this in place, and it would take a further 42 weeks for a TRO for this to be done. The Clerk advised the NELC had enforcement officers in the village every week, however, if residents have cars parked across their drives, they are to report via 313131 or the portal and enforcement will come.

13242 Information Exchange

Cllr Turner advised that a concern had been raised with her about residents on George Butler throwing food over the fence onto the path along the Beck, which was encouraging rats. She has advised him he needs to contact NELC.

Cllr Turner asked whether there had been any update on the Caistor Road turning, as the volume of cars coming through the village is increasing. Cllr Hasthorpe advised that this would need a full investigation, and that he had asked for this. At present there was no update from NELC.

The Chair confirmed the next meeting dates as:

- Full Council & Planning Meeting – Tuesday 6th February 2024 at 7.30pm
- Full Council & Planning Meeting – Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 7.30pm
- Full Council & Planning Meeting – Tuesday 2nd April 2024 at 7.30pm

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.22pm.

Signed:

Chair

Dated: