

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 21st June 2016 at 7.30pm in the Parish Room

Present: Councillors Andy Sheppard (Chairman), Stewart Braybrook, Barbara Campbell, Jeremy Coomber, Matt Foster and Chris White.

Attending: Rvd Judith Sweetman, Dave Crimmin (Clerk) and 4 members of public.

16/062 Apologies for Absence

Cllr T Sheppard (work commitment) sent his apologies.

16/063 Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

No interests were declared and no requests for dispensation had been received.

16/064 Minutes of Meeting held on 17th May 2016

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

16/065 Public Forum

A resident raised his concern over the benefits of a designated conservation area for the village when it had not, in his opinion, ensured that a like for like wall replacement had been built on the development in Church Road. Judith Sweetman raised the PCC's points on Item 16/066a that the application should have shown the PCC as owner of the land not LWPC and that whilst LWPC maintained the closed churchyard and Babergh had to agree any work on the trees covered by the TPO, the PCC as owners of the land had to confirm their acceptance of any planned work on the trees. A member of public put forward the amenity value of the lime trees in the closed churchyard.

16/066 Planning

- a. The councillors reviewed **Planning Application B/16/00724 St Laurences Church, Church Road** - To reduce the crown by 25% on T1 & T3 Lime trees. To fell to ground level on T2 & T4 Lime trees. Tree Preservation Order WS 230/G8. As the planning application had been raised by LWPC the councillors did not wish to make a formal response to Babergh on the application. However, in light of the points raised by the PCC the councillors recapped, for the benefit of Judith Sweetman and residents, on the background to the application.

As part of LWPC's Risk Assessment the lime trees had been inspected by Suffolk Tree Services (STS) two years after their last inspection. The report from STS was attached to the planning application submitted by STS on LWPC's behalf and the councillors agreed that the wrong owner had been indicated on the application. The councillors confirmed that the STS report presented LWPC with safety works on 4 of the 6 lime trees which included two options for trees 2 and 4. With trees 2 and 4 the councillors had requested their removal:

- i. due to the lack of amenity that both these trees served, particularly with replacement trees likely to be a condition of any removal
- ii. to minimise the impact of tree 2 on the neighbouring property
- iii. to minimise the costs of the maintenance of the trees in the closed churchyard, that had to be borne by all members of the community.

The councillors highlighted that the costs of these works, if approved, would be £2,500. This would follow a cost of £1,150 incurred by LWPC on the lime trees in 2014. The councillors also raised their concerns to the PCC over any delay that PCC approval could cause to the safety works being undertaken by STS. The councillors felt that the responsibility for any claim, should an insurable event occur before delayed PCC approval was received, would pass from LWPC to the PCC / Church.

- b. The councillors reviewed **Planning Application B/15/01556 Bell House, Humble Green** - Erection of 3 No holiday lodges. Revised site layout plan received 2nd June 2016 and resolved that they had no comments.
- c. No further planning application had been received since the agenda was posted.

Signed _____ Date _____

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16/067 Questions to the Chair

The Clerk was asked to raise concerns with SCC Highways that hedgerow growth is covering 30mph signs in the village.

16/068 Next Meeting

The date of the next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday 19th July 2016.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed _____ Date _____