

LOWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the AGM meeting held on Thursday 19 May 2022 held at Lowick Community Hall.

Present Cllr J Edmondson, Cllr L Ingham, Cllr C Roblin and Cllr G Sanderson

Chairman's Report for 2021/22

As I said at the last AGM I will be resigning as Chairman tonight and not standing for a fourth term.

During my previous terms the road wasn't smooth. After the death of Irene who's 40 plus years as Clerk had established an easy routine for us, we had to face change and try build better working methods using technology and modern ideas.

Mike Child took over as Clerk and worked diligently to implement many of these changes whilst weeding through Irene's unique filing systems. All this was during the COVID pandemic which made personal meeting and simple communication virtually impossible. It was extremely difficult for Mike to find his feet in his new role.

I would like to reiterate the thanks and good wishes that we minuted when Mike died suddenly, shortly after he had resigned.

Fortunately, Christine Adams, who is extremely experienced, has now joined our team and has adapted well to us making the Chairmans role as simple as it used to be.

My main disappoint as a councillor has been the non-action to our complaints and suggestions regarding Highways issues. The Sat Nav sign issue at Lane End has been documented for over 4 years and the flooding at Woodgate, though historical, has now been documented for 3 years. I would dearly like to see these issues resolved soon and not left to fester for another year.

We archived the production of a Parish Plan; I would like to thank Les Ingham for his stoic attitude whilst championing this complex project. We now have objectives, set by our parishioners, to focus on and other suggestions which we hope to involve and empower others to complete.

Simon Bailey Championed our attempt to roll out Gigabit broadband using the B4RN infrastructure. Unfortunately, the government pulled the scheme just as we were getting close to the required customers needed.

In November and December, we experienced Storm Arwen followed by Storm Franklin. These Storms proved how poor our resilience plan was as we had neglected to update it. However this has given us the impetus and clarity about how to rework our plans, hopefully this work will soon start.

Nigel Lord bequeathed a sum of money to the council plus another amount due when his estate is settled. I can advise that his house sale has been completed so hopefully we will receive the balance during our next term.

AGM Minutes

001/22 Election of Chairman for the year 2022/23.

Cllr J Edmondson was nominated and seconded for chairman for the year 2022/2023.

002/22 Cllr J Edmondson signed the declaration of office forms for the chair.

003/22 Election of Vice Chairman for 2022/23

Cllr G Sanderson was nominated and seconded to be vice chairman for the 2022/23

Ordinary Meeting

032/22 Apologies

Resolved to accept apologies from Cllr J Townsend, reason noted with the clerk.

033/22 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17 March 2022 be signed by the chair as a true record.

034/22 Declaration of Interests

Resolved to accept there are no declarations of interests.

035/22 Public Participation

- a) County Cllr was in attendance and reported that he has chased the request to move the sat nav sign with Highways and there has been a works order raised for it.
Some patching has been done on the fell road but he will chase the parts that have not been done. He will also ask P Hosking to take a look on his way to visit Duddon Parish.
He is trying to get a meeting with B4RN.
He also advised that Lowick will not be in his area when the Unitary Authority takes over from Cumbria County Council next April.
He advised that there are lots of funding opportunities for road safety. SIDs need to go through Highways as they need to go through the Crash meetings with the police but they do not need an RTO. He also suggested asking Colton and ENMO if they would like to join the group.
Another suggestion was to request Highways to put the data tubes out.
- b) District Cllr was not in attendance and had sent his apologies
- c) Residents were in attendance and advised that there will be an event on the Green on the 3rd June 2022 to celebrate the Queens Jubilee.
He also advised that 2 cherry trees have been planted. Wildflower seeds have also been planted. He provided a list of other items also purchased which he has paid for himself.
The clerk advised that the £165 provided from District Cllr has not yet been spent, she will speak with the District Cllr to check it is OK to put this money towards the costs already spent. She will also send an application form for the Cumbria County Council Community Grants to the Greening Committee,

036/22 Progress Updates

- a) Lowick Community Hall – no update this month but it was noted the heating still is not fixed.
- b) Lowick Green Management Committee – Covered in Public Participation.

037/22 Road Safety

Mainly covered in Public Participation with the County Cllr. The Next meeting of the Road Safety Group meeting is on 29 May 2022.

038/22 Community Resilience plan

There was a discussion around having a community resilience plan and Cllr Ingham would like to look into this further with the District Cllr. The clerk will send the templates to Cllr Ingham.

039/22 Parish Lengths Man

Resolved that the lengths man will be asked to check the bus stops and to see if any signs need cleaning in the parish.

040/22 Planning Applications

No planning applications were on the agenda for discussion.

041/22 Correspondence

An email was noted regarding concern about Cllrs having their say on second homes when they may not be permanent residents.

Resolved that the clerk will respond to the email advising that at every meeting the Cllrs have the opportunity to declare an interest on any item on the agenda where appropriate.

042/22 Training

Consideration was given to training requirements for the Cllrs and the clerk.

Resolved that Cllr C Roblin can attend the Effective Cllr course run by CALC on 1ST June and the clerk can attend the SLCC training on 7 July subject to the other parishes she clerks for agreeing to split the cost.

043/22 Finance and Clerk's report

To authorise the following:

CALC subscription	£127.30
BHIB (Insurance)	£305.90
Salary	£242.56
Cloud Next	£8.38
Lowick Community Hall	£200.00
Greening Committee	£360.00

Receipts

Precept £4,100,00

044/22 Annual Governance Statement

To consider the approval of the Annual Governance Statement (section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return)

Resolved to Approve the Annual Governance Statement for the financial year April 2021 to March 2022.

045/22 Accounting Statements

To consider the approval of the Accounting Statements (section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return)

Resolved to Approve the Accounting Statements for the financial year April 2021 to March 2022.

046/22 Certificate of Exemption

To consider the approval of the Certificate of Exemption - AGAR 2020/21 Part 2

Resolved to Approve the Certificate of Exemption.

047/22 Date of next meeting

To note the date of the next ordinary meeting will be Thursday 21st July 2022 at 7.30pm
23rd June 2022 is penciled in provisionally should any planning applications need to be discussed.