

# LOUND PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of Lingham Lakes Sub Committee AGM held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

## Present

Councillor Alan Jones, Jerry Kershaw, Steve Wilkinson and Pat Kirby.

## Apologies for Absence

Judith Nicholson and Peter Phillipson.

## Residents Present :

7 (Seven)

## Declarations of Interest and Confidentiality.

None Declared.

## Minutes of Last Meeting.

These were read out by Jerry Kershaw and were proposed by Gee White and seconded by Jenny Lane as being an accurate record.

## **Committee Structure.**

**Chair:** Jerry Kershaw, **Treasurer** Councillor Alan Jones and **Members** Steve Wilkinson, Pat Kirby, Peter Phillipson and Judith Nicholson.

It was highlighted by Jerry Kershaw that as Judith Nicholson was no longer on the PC, that it was necessary for the PC to provide another Councillor to serve on the Sub Committee. The committee has to consist of 6 Parishioners, two of which have to be serving Parish Councillors.

Please note that Judith Nicholson has expressed a wish to continue to help the sub-committee with its future work parties.

Councillor Maureen Holgate confirmed that this would be discussed at the next PC Meeting, **NB following the meeting Maureen Holgate confirmed that Councillor Janet Wilkinson will fulfil that roll.**

## Works Completed 2016/2017.

Jerry Kershaw reported that Holmes Groundcare have been experiencing a shortage of labour this year which had resulted in delays to the cutting of the meadows and lake edges. Jerry further reported that other companies had been contacted but despite meeting and identifying the work with them, he had received no response.

1. Holmes Groundcare have carried out two footpath cuts.

2. Fencing damaged by quad bikers has been repaired.
3. A drainage ditch has been dug inside the fence line on the north boundary, as a quad bike deterrent.
4. Two fallen trees have been removed.
5. The middle gate on Neatholme Lane has been repaired.
6. Brambles and low branches have been cut back on a number of occasions throughout the year.
7. The footbridge at the north end of the South Lake has been repaired.

### **Objectives for 2017/2018.**

- It was agreed by the sub-committee that a rota would drawn up for a once a monthly health and safety inspection to be carried out by members, to check and report on the overall conditions around the lakes, as well as seating, gates, fencing, stiles, fallen trees etc. **Action:** Jerry Kershaw to prepare and circulate for approval.
- To increase the cutting of footpaths to 3 times a year and where possible increase the width of the cut by between 50-100%..
- To cut back the main area of gorse on the west side of the South Lake (This has been discussed with Fred Walter and will be carried out before the end of the year).
- To cut all meadow areas and clear lake edges (This was discussed with Holmes Groundcare earlier this week and will be carried out towards the end of November). Should the weather create excessive growing conditions (as has happened this year), then a second meadow cut will be carried out.
- Continue pruning of oak trees to encourage vertical growth. **Action:** Work Party to be arranged and put in the Cryer, on the Website and on Social Media.
- To construct permanent steps to path around area on west side of the North Lake, where winter flooding occurs. In conjunction with the steps, a more permanent alternative path will also require forming. **Action:** Work Party to be arranged and put in the Cryer, on the Website and on Social Media.
- Following a long discussion by all in attendance, it was agreed that despite the problems of low interest rates, funding restrictions, the continuing battle with nature, it was the best option to seek out additional professional help to deal with the ever encroaching brambles and the increasing gorse growth, especially in less accessible locations. In this way we would avoid any Health and Safety issues. Maureen Holgate, Jenny Lane and Martin Bingham all offered to make contact with various organisations and contacts they knew and report back to the sub-committee, so that further action could be taken.
- To create an updated Annual Management Plan, to reflect the revised maintenance works discussed. **Action:** Jerry Kershaw to prepare and circulate for approval.
- It was reported that branches from a fallen tree on the west side of the South Lake were obstructing the footpath, **Action:** Jerry Kershaw to cut back.

### **Finance Report 2016/2017.**

- Expenditure: **£602.12.** (less than normal due to late cutting of meadows and lake edges).

- Total Cash Reserves: **£107,983.64.**
- Whilst it appears that the cash reserves are currently healthy, this sum of money is for the long term future of Linghurst Lakes and as a result the committee must take into account for inflation, increasing maintenance costs and unforeseen events etc., to ensure reserves are kept at a sufficient level.
- A suggestion was made that we could perhaps organise some events to raise money to bolster the Linghurst funds (ie car boot sale). The committee will discuss and consider this suggestion.

### **Health and Safety.**

Nothing to report but keep out eye for fallen trees and trees likely to fall in strong winds.

### **Open Forum:**

- Jerry Kershaw reported that following a request through a parishioner and approval from the PC, a Bat Group has carried out their first harp trapping in Linghurst to monitor and record bat species and have reported that they successfully trapped two species (Nathusis Pipistralle and Daubentons). Future visits will be made by the group and reported to the sub-committee.
- It was discussed and agreed that we should contact the group that also carry out surveys on the moth population in Linghurst, to obtain the data they have.
- In the same discussion, Gemma Paulson, suggested that we should make greater use of social media to notify parishioners of events, including publishing the results of these surveys and perhaps we could add a survey and register wild flower species around the Lakes. Tessa Hart to be contacted to see if she and perhaps Gee White would undertake this task.
- If it was suggested that as the older members of the sub-committee were not social media 'savvy', that perhaps if she wanted Gemma could be put in touch with Sarah Austin who is already working on developing Facebook and other social media systems, to help promote Linghurst Lakes with the younger generations in the Village.
- The committee were thanked for their continuing commitment to maintaining Linghurst Lakes and Woods.

**Date of Next Meeting:** TBA Sept/Oct 2018 in the Village Hall

Jerry Kershaw  
5<sup>th</sup> October 2017

**Circulation:** All committee members Parish Councillors, Website, Notice Board, File.