

Lound Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the meeting
Friday 12th May 2017 at LOUND VILLAGE HALL
Commencing at 7.30 p.m.

(Subject to amendment until signed by the Chairman at the next meeting)

1. Welcome and Apologies for absence

Welcome to two newly appointed County Councillors – both Conservative:

James Reeder and Keith Robinson

2. Confirm Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Friday 20th May 2016.

The minutes were agreed by all those present.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report 2017

I would like to start by thanking Parish Councillors and Parishioners for their support over the last year.

Village Appearance.

Since the last Parish Annual meeting a number of small projects to smarten up the village have been completed. The red phone box in Back Lane has been repainted, and the white rails along the front of The Mardle have also been painted. A picnic table has been installed on The Heath, and a new seating area has been created at the junction of The Street and Church Lane. The shrubs along the front of The Mardle have been cut back, and a litter pick was carried out throughout the village. Some new hedging has been planted along part of Back Lane to replace hedging which had died back.

All these tasks were carried out by volunteers, and help to maintain Lound as an attractive village which is a pleasant place to live. I would like to thank everyone who helped with any of these projects.

Neighbourhood Planning.

A year ago Lound Parish Council agreed to collaborate with Somerleyton Parish Council to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. This is a formal process which allows residents to have a say in local planning policies. Our Neighbourhood Plan must conform to National Planning Policy, which states that all plans must include the provision of appropriate housing development. This means the plan cannot try to block all development, and some new housing in the villages is inevitable over the next 20 years. However the process should allow us to influence how much new housing is allowed, and what type of new housing is built.

A17/2

We have joined with Somerleyton Parish Council to produce a joint plan covering both parishes. This does not mean that the parishes will be merged, just that we are cooperating on this project.

The Parish Councils have set up a steering group consisting of about 10 people, roughly half from Lound and half from Somerleyton. This group meets monthly, and with help from Waveney District Council, we are making steady progress on the Neighbourhood Plan. The minutes of the steering group meetings are available through the Parish Council website at: <http://lound.onesuffolk.net/parish-council>

The Neighbourhood Plan is intended to reflect the views of local residents, and an open consultation event was held in November 2016. This was well attended, and parishioners raised a number of issues. The steering group are now developing a questionnaire which will ask specific questions about the issues raised. The questionnaire will be delivered to all households in Lound and Somerleyton later this year (probably in July).

Please take the time to respond to the questionnaire as everyone's views are important. You will be able to send in your replies online or on paper, whichever you prefer.

When the responses to the questionnaire have been analysed, the steering group will write up and publish the Neighbourhood Plan, which then has to go through an independent review process. If the plan is approved it becomes a part of Waveney District Council's planning framework, and is used when determining future planning applications.

We have been working on the Neighbourhood Plan for a little over a year, and estimate that around another 12 months' work is required to complete it. A long and arduous process, but I believe it will be worthwhile in the long run.

5. Police Report

It is some time since Police reports have been available, even weekly area reports are no longer appearing in The Journal.

On interrogating the police database for March which is the latest record available and covers the whole of Suffolk, the following information was derived.

2017-03-suffolk-street - Lound

On or near Park/Open Space	Anti-social behaviour	Outcome
On or near Church Lane	Violence and sexual offences	Under investigation
On or near Church Lane	Violence and sexual offences	Awaiting court outcome
On or near Church Lane	Violence and sexual offences	Under investigation
On or near Dorking Road	Violence and sexual offences	Local resolution
On or near Church Lane	Violence and sexual offences	Awaiting court outcome
On or near Church Lane	Violence and sexual offences	Offender given a caution

John Burford - Clerk

Signed: Clerk: Date:

6. Lound Bowls Club
LOUND BOWLS CLUB

During the 2016 season the club had 20 members, of these 17 enjoyed playing in the Lothingland League against 12 other local clubs. At the end of the season we again finished 3rd, winning 14, losing 10. The league winners were Conservative Club with the Wellesley 2nd.

We also entered into the Bob Whitley Memorial Shield only to lose to Wellesley in the first round, and in the Dorothy Stringfellow Memorial Shield we lost out to Conservative Club in the 2nd round.

Members also competed in the Lothingland league's Triples, Pairs and Singles knock-out tournaments where we had losing finalists in the Ladies singles, mens singles and the open pairs, in the triples one of our blocks won the competition.

After the season closed we once again set too to improve the green scarifing, top dressing and reseeding, also cutting all the hedges. We are now looking forward to a summer of enjoyable games of bowls.

Mike Willeard
Chairman Lound Bowls Club

7. Village Hall and Village Green
Lound Village Hall

The village hall has had good year with income, again, exceeding expenditure. Although there has been a loss of some regular bookings, we continue to hire to a diverse range of clubs/activities during the week, from art and craft to fitness classes, as well as holding regular film screenings, to which several local residents attend one or more.

Last year saw the village hall host a large community event during the Lound Festival weekend, involving a scarecrow trail for the first time, alongside a fete/ fun day. This proved very successful, attracting many positive comments, with several different people either, making scarecrows, helping on the day or attending the event, despite the weather. Following this success, there is to be another event this year.

The Village Hall continues to receive excellent feedback from hirers regarding the facilities and cleanliness of the hall, for whom thanks should be given to our caretaker, Valerie Baker, as well as Peter and Lou for the maintenance of the grounds and village green.

Sally Popham
Lound Village Hall Committee

8. Lound Church - St John the Baptist

ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17 ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, LOUND

For presentation to Lound Parish Annual Village Meeting May 12th 2017

The past year has been a very mixed year with certain difficulties for the church. We knew Rev David Boddy was to leave. He took his last service at Easter 2016. This then meant we had to face yet another interregnum and produce a Group Profile to seek a new Priest in Charge to satisfy the six churches in the Benefice. Rev Boddy did take services for us including our Group Service at Candlemas on January 31st until he retired on April 30th but numbers in the congregation were down.

Again this year we had our regular Lent lunches ours took place on Friday February 2017. We must thank Hilary Baker for her lovely homemade soups and thank Val Baker and Enid Larcombe our regular helpers in the kitchen. We raised a good sum for the Diocesan Lent appeal.

Easter Monday March 28th saw the very heavy gale which resulted in the louver window on the south side of the tower being blown in. We were very that Ruth Brennan the architect responded immediately to a phone call and recommended R and J Hogg and he came promptly to see what was to be done but it was September until I could finally pin him down to do the work. Special thanks must go to Judith Hobbs who climbed the tower each time the four builders we involved and the Insurance companies came and had a blitz of cleaning up. R and J Hogg and Company of Bury St Edmunds has very good reputation for historic work. The work was done very quickly and efficiently and the bells can ring once more.

Ascension Day last May became a Lothingland Deanery service so Lound church was absolutely full but it was about that time we had the theft of the ciborium and the vacuum cleaner,

The Festival weekend became a Fete on the Saturday as we had a wedding on that Saturday so the church looked beautiful with white flowers but no visitors. But hopefully this year the Fete will have a Flower Festival in church its 27th together with a scarecrow at the church.

During July the War Memorial was cleaned about the time of the Queen's 90th birthday which was celebrated by the Group at Somerleyton Church. Also the Jackdaws were given notice to quit, the guttering was cleaned out. And we saw the arrival of two little barn owls in the nesting box.

The Group Harvest Supper was hosted by Lound on October 7th in our Village Hall we must thank Val and Alfie, Enid and Peter and Louis who got the room ready and \Mark for a very successful talk about his cartoons after a good spread provided by all the churches.

A17/5

Our Harvest Festival October 16th the last in the Group was taken by the Rural Dean Rev Jeremy Bishop. We had a good supply of produce which was distributed round the village and sent to Bond's Meadow for a disabled group

A great deal of time was spent on the Profile to be ready to go to print in September.

We were able to enjoy a Christmas of our usual services a Carol Service and on Christmas Eve at 10 pm. Thanks to Rev Leslie Hobbs we are absolutely indebted to him for all his help. We must also thank the number of clergy he asked to take our services for us during the interregnum.

We have a small group of regular church goers who work so hard to keep the church in good order but a decline in numbers is worrying. We have had three weddings, four funerals and four baptisms during the year with another wedding to come at the end of this month.

Last Saturday we had a visit from the Round Tower Church Society they visited the church in the morning with an interesting talk followed by a picnic lunch They held their AGM in the afternoon and then we provided tea for 36 of them with tea and cakes which they thoroughly enjoyed and were very generous with their contributions.

I thought about retiring last year as Churchwarden but said I would like to face yet another interregnum in the hope we could get the right new Priest this time and I believe and pray we have. Rev Glen Brooks will be inducted as Priest in Charge of our Group on July 6th after a career in the RAF.

So this time after 24 years as Church warden I do present a report for the first to the Parish Council on behalf of your church, I wish the church and the village every success as I hope and pray that the numbers in church will grow again as they use to be.

Anne Davis, Church warden
May 12th 2017

9. Lound Lakes

ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17 - FRIENDS OF LOUND LAKES/SUF FOLK WILDLIFE TRUST CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

(For presentation to Lound Parish Council annual village meeting 12th May 2017)

The Friends of Lound Lakes continue to hold a work party at the Essex & Suffolk Water Board site on the first Saturday of each month, in co-operation with and under the general instruction of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust warden, Carl Herrington. Some of the Friends also join him and the Suffolk Wildlife Trust Volunteer Group in the regular weekday work parties, which take place on the first and third Thursday of each month.

This year has been one of consolidation after the immense amount of work carried out on the site last year. The site is in good shape and the health of the various habitats continues to be monitored and improved.

A17/6

The new board walk across the water has been completed, and all the circular walks around the site are now open, signposted and in full use again. The current project is the construction of a live willow-screen, grown from willow cut on site, on the field adjacent to the carpark. In due course, when this has rooted and grown sufficiently, it will be cut and laid, to make a solid hedge. This will shelter bird watchers from the weather, and screen the watchers from the birds. A path is being laid from the carpark to the viewing points, with a geogrid base, so that it will be navigable by wheelchair users. There are two special bays for parking wheelchairs, which will have willow screens growing over them for additional shelter.

The wildflower garden and orchard, next to Fen Barn, are the special concern of the Friends Group, and this last year has been particularly lovely. At the height of the summer season, it was just ravishing and the best it has been since the Volunteers started work on it, now some 12 years ago, so much so that on one Saturday last June, we sat and enjoyed the wild flowers rather more than we worked!

The Fen Barn Field Centre continues to be used for educational purposes and there are a number of school visits each year. The children love these visits and always have a wonderful time; we hope they also learn about how the countryside works, and how we have to look after it.

There are still the inevitable problems with litter and dog-fouling, and with dogs not being kept on leads when they should be, especially at specific times, such as the ground-nesting season. We therefore still ask walkers and visitors who enjoy the privilege of using the site to behave responsibly, and to encourage others to do so. The lakes are a tremendous local asset and it is important that they remain open for all to enjoy. It would be a great pity, after all the years of hard work, and the huge improvements made to open up the site, if access was once again restricted because of the selfish behaviour of a small minority.

So we hope you will continue to visit and enjoy the lakes, and that you will all help us to look after the site so that this can continue for many years to come.

JH — Group Leader; Friends of Lound Lakes 12.05.17

10. Nomination of Parish Council, Village Hall representative

It does not have to be a member of the Parish Council

It was agreed that Peter Larcombe would continue to be the Hall representative.

11. Allotments and The Heath

Heath Report 2016 from Peter

Pathways were cut back twice. Dog fouling is still a problem.

The grass is cut around the garages. Horses are still going through the top of The Heath cutting up the path. In September, someone burnt some papers in an oak tree at the top of The Heath damaging the bark.

In October, Miles and I planted 10 fir trees in The Heath. Storm Doris caused 5 hawthorn trees to be blown down.

The snowdrops, primroses and bluebells were lovely again this year as were the daffodils. The picnic table is being used.
In March, Kelvin cut hedges down the track to The Heath.

12. Community Speed Watch

Report for Parish Annual Meetings – April 2017

The Community Speed Watch scheme has continued to operate in the parishes of Blundeston, Corton, Oulton, Somerleyton, Flixton, and Lound. It was set up in 2010, and has now been running for over seven years. Volunteers stand at the roadside wearing high visibility coats, and measure vehicle speeds in these villages using a hand-held radar gun.

During 2016 we carried out 106 speed watch surveys across the six villages, and reported a total of 454 speeding vehicles. Most drivers slow down when they see their speed is being monitored, which achieves the objective of making drivers think about their speed in our villages.

The work of Community Speed Watch is done by volunteers, but the scheme is organised and controlled by Suffolk Police. Vehicles exceeding the 30mph speed limit are reported to Suffolk Police who decide what action to take. Usually this results in a warning letter being sent to the registered keeper of the vehicle, but in the case of repeated offenders or speeds over 50mph a police officer may visit the driver to discuss their driving behaviour. This year the police have also been using the data from Community Speed Watch teams to target enforcement activity. Speed enforcement officers visit those places where the data shows there is a particular problem with speeding. These enforcement officers have the power to issue fixed penalty notices (a fine and points on their licence) to drivers exceeding the limit.

If you would like more information about Community Speed Watch or would like to join the team of volunteers please call Louis Smith on 01502 731605.

Louis Smith
Community Speed Watch co-ordinator

13. County Councillor Report

The new County Councillors were yet to be registered fully at County. They are attending meetings and listening initially. They intend to meet up with the previous County Councillors so that they can where appropriate continue their work.

14. District Councillor Report

Lound District Councillor Annual Report 2017

Lound has had a very quiet year this year although the it was a great pleasure to see them start on a Neighbourhood Planning Application in conjunction with Somerleyton Village.

A17/8

They were active in their responses to WDC call for sites consultation and we now await for the responses to be presented to Cabinet and the Full Council, however this will be delayed due to the changes taking place at Waveney and the General Election so we probably will not see the second consultation until July.

Like always it is a pleasure to represent the residents of Lound at Waveney and I will always do my best to ensure the continuation of Lound as a village community.

Paul Ashdown
Ward Councillor WDC.

15. Parish Council Financial Report

The Clerk gave out a copy of the financial statement that is sent to the external auditors explaining the different headings and pointing out that the seemingly high funding is because of the receipt of some locality budget which had been received but yet to be paid out.

16. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 8:40 pm.