

# LOUND PARISH COUNCIL

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Lound Village Hall  
on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 7.30 pm

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

Present: Paul Ashdown, Carl Ashpole, Judith Hobbs, Peter Larcombe, Louis Smith,  
Miles Thomas and Gayle Welsh.

John Burford – Clerk

2 members of the public.

The Chair welcomed those present and introduced the meeting by reminding those present of the location of the Fire exits.

**1. Welcome & Apologies**

Apologies received from Len Jacklin, Bertie Poole and PCSO Sue Kershaw

**2. Declaration of Interest**

*Declaration of any pecuniary or other interest with regard to items on the agenda*

There were no declarations made.

**3. Minutes Of The Last Meeting and Matters Arising - To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

Peter proposed and Gayle seconded acceptance of the minutes which was agreed by all.

**4. Police Report and Speedwatch**

Police report for the parish of Lound for the month of October 2015, dated 09.11.15.

There were no recorded crimes for the parish.

Police report for the parish of Lound for the month of November 2015.

There were no recorded crimes for the parish.

***CRIME PREVENTION.***

As the busy Christmas shopping period gets underway police are urging shoppers to be alert.

In Lowestoft there were several reports recently of handbag snatches. A man has been charged in connection with one of these incidents and is currently going through the court process.

Police step up patrols around this time of year as crowds flock to do their festive shopping but sometimes criminals take advantage of this busy period and it is always advisable to be aware of your surroundings.

Keep your purse out of sight and don't walk around with your wallet in a back pocket where it could be taken. If you have a shoulder bag wear it across the front of your body and zip it up or keep it closed. Don't leave your bag unattended or on a shopping trolley or pushchair – hold onto it – and if people push or bump into you check your bag straight away.

If you suspect you may have been targeted or see anyone acting suspiciously please alert police immediately using 999 if believe a crime is in progress.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a crime free Christmas with a healthy and peaceful New Year.

Kind regards,

Sue  
PSCO 3080 SUE KERSHAW.  
SNT NORTH LOWESTOFT

**5. Public Forum**

The members of the public had nothing to raise.

**6. Updates:**

**Repaint the Mardle railings and the phone box in Back Lane**

The probation service has been reorganised and if we want the repainting of the Mardle railings to be a community payback project we will have to start again from scratch. Parish Councillors agreed that we would do the painting ourselves when the weather is suitable.

**Proposed 20mph speed limit - Back Lane**

The Parish Council has been asked for comments about the proposed 20mph speed limit in Back Lane. Drawings showing the proposed scheme were circulated. Councillors agreed the scheme was worthwhile, and that the Parish Council would support it. The chairman agreed to communicate this decision to Suffolk County Council.

**Road Signs**

Keith Sampson and Louis looked at the finger post opposite the junction of Church Lane and The Street. As one of the pointing fingers is damaged he was not happy just to repaint the existing fingers, but will instead get quotes to put new fingers onto the existing post.

**Proposed picket fences at village entrances**

Louis had a meeting with Keith Sampson, who came to agree the positions for the proposed picket fences. He was happy with the places suggested, and measured the width of the verges and distances from the junctions. He will now do a services search to check for buried cables etc and draw up the design in order to get quotes. We can expect to hear from him again in the New Year.

**onesuffolk website** - <http://lound.onesuffolk.net>

Louis will continue to update the web site when he can.

**7. Councillor Vacancy**

There is still a vacancy on the Parish Council. All councillors agreed to encourage anyone who may be interested to put themselves forward for co-option.

**8. Training for Parish Councillors**

Somerleyton Parish Council has arranged a training session aimed at new councillors on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 7.15pm in Somerleyton Village Hall. They have invited other local parish councils to take up spare places, and to contribute to the cost of the course. After discussion it was agreed that 4 councillors would attend. Louis proposed the expenditure of around £30. This was seconded by Carl, and agreed by all councillors.

**9. Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service IRMP Consultation**

The Parish Council has been asked to comment on a proposed reduction in the number of fire engines stationed at Lowestoft, which is the Suffolk Fire Service’s proposal to deal with a reduction in their budget. Councillors noted that Norfolk Fire Service have similar plans to reduce the number of full-size engines. Parish Councillors recognised that some reduction in the level of fire cover was inevitable given the squeeze on budgets and a reduction in demand, but suggested that savings could perhaps be made by sharing facilities with the police or other emergency services. The clerk to respond to the consultation.

**10. Report from District and County Councillors**

Both county councillors are on holiday and have sent apologies. The District Councillor advised that devolution is happening faster than anticipated, and the responsibilities of County, District, and Parishes will change. Parishes are encouraged to draw up a Neighbourhood Plan, which will help to set the development framework for the local area. (Contact Julie Fox at Waveney District Council). Chairman to explore the possibility of Lound drawing up a joint neighbourhood plan with Somerleyton.

**11. Northern Parishes Report**

The Chairman and clerk attended a Northern Parishes meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> November. The reduction in the frequency of the bus service through Blundeston and Lound was discussed. Parish Councillors agreed to ask Lound bus users if the new timetable provided a satisfactory service.

**12. Correspondence**

Correspondence was made available to Councillors; most had been copied around by email.

**13. Future Scheduled Meetings**

1<sup>st</sup> February, 4<sup>th</sup> April, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 1<sup>st</sup> August, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup> December.

**14. Accounts**

Auditors Report should have read Precept for 2015/16 – if we chose to stay with the present precept of £1,700, then based on the review of the Council’s tax base for the coming year it is anticipated that the tax base for Lound Parish Council will be 113.43 Band D equivalent properties.

This means that if the precept requirement was to be the same as for the current year 2015/16 (i.e. £1,700.00), this would result in a charge of £14.99 for a Band D property and this charge will show as 0.60% change on the 2016/17 Council Tax bills against the Parish element.

After a discussion it was decided to leave the precept figure as £1,700 per annum – proposed by Louis, seconded by Miles and agreed by all present.

Business Bonus Account	As at 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2015	£4,201.05
Community Account	As at 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2015	£ 921.32

Cheques:

Clerk’s Salary (Oct’ – Nov’)		£260.00
HM Revenue & Customs 120PD00315869 1509		£ 60.00
Ladywell Accountancy		£ 31.00

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Louis, seconded by Judith and agreed by all present.

**15. Councillors Forum**

*To request items to be placed on the Agenda for the next Parish Council meeting*

A resident of Dorking Road had complained that the hedges around Back Lane and Jay Lane were being cut too severely, and that this was leading to gaps in the hedgerows. The maintenance of countryside hedgerows is the responsibility of the landowners and their tenants. The chairman agreed to speak to the relevant people to encourage a more sympathetic hedge cutting regime.

It was asked if 30mph roundels could be painted on the road surface in Jay Lane to make the start of the 30mph limit more conspicuous. The clerk to ask Suffolk Highways whether this is possible.

Some sycamore saplings need to be removed from The Heath. This was done previously by Daniel Goldsmith. To be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed ..... Chairman, ..... Clerk, Date.....