

LURGASHALL PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 19TH JANUARY 2017

Councillors Present: Mr J Bonnett, Mr R Cooper, Mr J Harden, Mr S Hellett, Mrs A Martin-Jenkins, Mr G Sharp, Dr A Tate and Dr P Wilding (Chairman)

In Attendance: Mrs H E Cruikshank (Clerk)
County Councillor Janet Duncton
There were no members of the public present.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm and welcomed all to the meeting.

1/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr N Jowett and District Councillor Nick Thomas.

2/17 CODE OF CONDUCT

The Chairman reminded members of their responsibilities under the Code of Conduct.

3/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 10th November 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4/17 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising which were not covered on tonight's agenda.

5/17 OPEN FORUM

There were no questions.

6/17 COUNCILLORS REPORT

In the District Councillor's absence, Clerk read out a short report. Following a recent cabinet meeting attended by Mr Thomas, he commended Tony Dignum, the leader of CDC for managing a well-run and highly focussed team. Despite the cuts, all services had been kept. He added the County Council elections were in May and he fully supported Janet Duncton with her continued commitment going forward. Finally he reported that there was a lot going on with regard to the re-consultation for the A27 proposals.

Any queries of a District nature, please do not hesitate to contact Nick Thomas nthomas@chichester.gov.uk or 01730 810837.

County Councillor Duncton reported a lot of work is going on with the A27 plus County are currently going through their budget for 2017/18 and it is thought there will be a small increase of 2% in Council Tax. The number of children in care in the County fluctuates at around 680. County try their best to make sure that those in care get the same advantages as any other young person. You can never be 100% successful but that's what again you aim for. No child should be excluded from the chance to have a bright future.

There is an ongoing battle to try and get our Schools properly funded. All parties, Councillors, the Schools themselves and our M.P's are all trying to get funding for our Schools closer to the funding of Schools in other areas. We are near the bottom when it comes to funding and how we manage to keep such a high standard in our West Sussex Schools is amazing and probably very much down to the way the teachers and head teachers deal with the situation. On the broader picture the bid for Devolution in a group of West and East Sussex and Surrey has stalled. However whatever happens, all Counties will continue to work together closely, and co-operation not devolution may be the way forward. West Sussex Fire & Rescue teams are now all being trained as first responders too, they are also talking to retained fire fighters to get the extra training required. Firemen these days spend more time educating in schools/colleges and dealing with traffic accidents rather than fires.

Mr Harden thanked her for the excellent 2016 report which all Councillors had received by email. Please contact Mrs Janet Duncton directly regarding any County issues on 01798 342528 or email janet.duncton@westsussex.gov.uk

7/17 FINANCE

Clerk had previously distributed Appendix 2a and 2b which included:

- a) A statement of the position of the Council's bank accounts as at 4th January 2017 incorporating details of cheques which needed to be issued, and which approval was sought.
- b) Budget Monitoring sheet as at 4th January 2017

The Council's current financial position at £30,616, bank account and budget monitoring sheet were noted.

The Clerk reported that a payment for £240 had been made since the last meeting to Melvyn C Littlewhite for digger hire and works to the allotments and village green. The members duly approved the payments for Mrs Helen Cruikshank (Clerk's November & December Salary & Exps) @ £734 and The Leconfield Estates (Allotment Water) @ £14

8/17 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2017/18

Mrs Martin-Jenkins declared an interest as the head of Governors at Northchapel Primary School.

As Chairman for the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Mrs Martin-Jenkins presented the draft budget for the coming year 2017/18 as part of the report of a meeting held on 23rd November 2016. Members had previously been sent this report as Appendix 3. She thanked all the members of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for their good contributions at November's meeting. She said there was a proposed figure of £500 for an annual mobile skip provision (WSCC had previously provided this as part of their recycling service but this had now been stopped as part of its cost cutting measures) and £1,000 for Northchapel Primary School. It was strongly felt that the school should be supported regularly as it was the local school for Lurgashall children and it had not been given any money for a long time.

Mrs Martin-Jenkins proposed that the budget figures 2016/17 be accepted as presented and this was approved unanimously. As part of her budget presentation, Mrs Martin-Jenkins reported that the Finance and General Purposes Committee recommend that the precept be increased from £14,500 to £16,000, an increase of just over 10%. It was agreed this was a reasonable increase in the precept, worked out as 13p per household per week. The extra money would provide a yearly mobile skip for the parish and a donation to Northchapel Primary School. Mr Jeremy Bonnett proposed this, Dr Tate seconded and this was approved unanimously. Clerk to inform CDC of the decision.

9/17 RISK ASSESSMENT

Dr Wilding presented the report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee dated 23rd November 2016 which members had previously been sent as Appendix 4. He said there were no changes to last year's document apart from the slight change to the Waste Skip as it would now be the responsibility of Councillors to supervise

not WSCC employees. Clerk will prepare a risk assessment for the mobile skip when the time comes. Members approved the report.

10/17 PLANNING

Clerk had previously distributed Appendix 5. Dr Wilding commented upon the following applications;

PLANNING APPLICATIONS DISCUSSED SINCE THE LAST PC MEETING

SDNP/16/05198/LDE

Location: Old Hearne Farm Jays Lane Lurgashall GU27 3BL

Proposal: Existing mixed agricultural and commercial equestrian use of the land edged red.

SDNP/16/05452/LDE

Location: Barfold Farm Tennysons Lane Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BN

Proposal: Existing lawful development - engineering operations to construct two ponds.

SDNP/16/05551/LIS AND SDNP/16/05550/HOUS

Location: The Malt House High Hampstead Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET

Proposal: Change of use of outbuilding to provide ancillary accommodation to the main dwelling.

SDNP/16/05553/HOUS

Location: The Malt House High Hampstead Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET

Proposal: Erection of a greenhouse.

SDNP/16/05552/HOUS

Location: The Malt House High Hampstead Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET

Proposal: Proposed swimming pool.

SDNP/16/04220/LIS and SDNP/16/04219/FUL

Location: High Hampstead High Hampstead Lane Lurgashall GU28 9EX

Proposal: Change of use from holiday lets to residential to include: provision of enclosed covered corridor/walkway link within existing courtyard, definition of existing access track, internal additions to barn to form mezzanine floor area, insertion of two additional windows and retention of existing ceiling treatment to barn.

SDNP/16/05609/LIS and SDNP/16/05608/HOUS

Location: Gospel Green Cottage Petworth Road Lurgashall GU27 3BH

Proposal: Retrospective application for replacement outbuilding to be used for ancillary domestic purposes.

SDNP/16/06069/FUL

Location: Pheasant Hill Hillgrove Lane Lurgashall GU28 9EP

Proposal: New stable block and extension of existing access track.

DECISIONS RECEIVED FROM CDC/SDNPA SINCE LAST MEETING

SDNP/16/04559/FUL

Old Hearne Barn - East Barn

Retention of the East barn and its immediate surroundings for mixed agricultural and equestrian purposes

Decision: Refused

SDNP/16/04592/DCOND

The Malt House High Hampstead Lane Lurgashall Petworth West Sussex GU28 9ET

Discharge of conditions 5 and 6 from planning permission SDNP/16/02975/LIS

Decision: Approved

SDNP/16/05452/LDE

Barfold Farm Tennysons Lane Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BN

Existing lawful development - engineering operations to construct two ponds

Decision: Approved

SDNP/16/00625/FUL

Quellhurst Quell Lane Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BW

Replacement dwelling and integrated landscape and garden design

Decision: Approved

Dr Wilding said he had already received two further applications in the parish for Quellhurst and Well Cottage. He added that the owners of 1, Quell Cottage had been ordered to make repairs to the building so an application would be coming through for this too. These would be discussed at next month's planning meeting along with any other applications received over the next few weeks. Mr Bonnett enquired after the status of Courts Yard. Dr Wilding confirmed that permission had been given to build two 5 bed houses instead of all the industrial units. There is a 3yr statutory time limit on the development starting. It was noted that Beards Cottage had had a break-in and stone had been stolen, it is a sadly necessary reminder to keep vigilant at all times.

11/17 HIGHWAYS INCLUDING VILLAGE GREEN, OPERATION WATERSHED AND WINTER MANAGEMENT

Mr Cooper said that many of the lids of the Parish grit bins had frozen solid. The grit bin at High Hampstead has been knocked over twice now and had been moved back again. Mr Bonnett reported that he had been unable to get an update from J K Engineering regarding the fingerboard. Last time he spoke with them, the lettering was being prepared so it is hoped the installation of the boards is imminent. No monies have yet been paid for the job. Clerk stated that the fingerpost at the A283 junction is due to be repaired by Ralph Restorations on behalf of Northchapel Parish Council.

Mr Bonnett said more funding was available through the Operation Watershed Scheme. The Parish Council had on previous years received money from this scheme for repairing the culverts in the parish and the survey at Lickfold Bridge but he was not aware of any particular projects which currently need addressing. Clerk said CBEC the company who carried out the Lickfold Bridge survey had sent through the survey outputs and raw data which Councillors from both Lurgashall and Lodsworth had found rather complicated to understand. A simplified brief had been requested by Lodsworth Parish Council as they were the ones paying for the first instalment of the project. The modelling and reporting side would follow and payment for this lies with Lurgashall Parish Council.

Mrs Martin Jenkins said that the hedge around the pond needs to be reduced in height, Mr Sharp suggested cutting it to the ground. It was agreed to cut to 0.5m, Dr Wilding and Mr Sharp to action.

12/17 BT KIOSK AT GOSPEL GREEN

Clerk had received an email from Chichester District Council (CDC) informing the Parish Council that BT are wanting to remove 48 boxes in the district including the kiosk at Gospel Green. Given the very tight deadline for responses, Clerk had fed back comments provided by Councillors and CDC have agreed to object to the removal.

13/17 VILLAGE HALL FREEHOLD

Mr Cooper declared an interest in this item as a member of the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC).

Dr Wilding said there was nothing new to report on this over the last couple of weeks. Following the last meeting, he had sent letters to both Mr Clark and Mr Mohl but had received no further exchange. Dr Wilding said he would write to Mr Clark to get the ball rolling once again and ask him to initiate contact with Mr Mohl, Clerk to find the ACRE Village Hall information sheet 17 on Trustees Roles and Responsibilities and send to Mr Clark.

14/17 CRICKET PAVILION

Mr Cooper declared an interest in this item as Chairman of the Cricket Club.

Mr Cooper reported that there had been some progress with the repairs to the Pavilion. Work was slow as it is being done at a beneficial rate; the shutters are due to go up shortly and all the initial works should be done before the start of the cricket season. Mrs Martin-Jenkins and Dr Wilding both said this was excellent news.

15/17 PLAYGROUND

Mr Cooper reported there were no problems at the playground.

16/17 ALLOTMENTS

Mr Sharp reported that the allotments were looking a lot tidier although there was a problem with the fir trees which back onto the shop. It has been requested that these are trimmed. All agreed the trees should be brought down to a sensible height which were then easy to manage and maintain. Mr Sharp had received a quote of £250 to do this which was approved by the Parish Council. Mr Sharp and Dr Wilding had spent time levelling and clearing the allotments, there had been an issue with the dumping of garden waste at the allotments but the culprits had been spoken to. Mr Harden offered to put up warning signs at the allotments to prevent this happening again.

17/17 RIGHTS OF WAYS

There was nothing to report.

18/17 L.R.A

Dr Tate reported that the L.R.A has approached CDC for advice regarding planning permission for an all-weather court for tennis, basketball and netball. It needs village groups to get together and support the idea. It has been decided to make more of an event of Canine Capers this year. There will be a Quiz Night held in the Village Hall on Saturday 4th March with tables of eight as a fundraiser.

19/17 LURGASHALL TRANSPORT

Mr Harden reported that the Compass Bus Route 96 which runs through the parish twice weekly to Midhurst was under threat. He urged parishioners to support the local bus service to avoid the reduction to once a week. The decision on this would be made in April. He had identified further transport possibilities to date for Lurgashall:

- Hoppa Community Bus which is run on behalf of Surrey County Council from Northchapel to Haslemere, twice weekly which he would like to see re-routed to include Lurgashall.
- Yellow Bus Service which currently stops in Lodsworth once a week going to Midhurst. This would be willing to pick up in Lurgashall if parishioners required.

- Petworth Community Bus which is available to hire but you need to provide a driver and escort. Could be utilised with other villages to go to concerts or events?
- Lurgashall could buy its own mini bus and run it and set up a local care initiative as the villages of Tillington and Lodsworth do already.

Dr Wilding thanked Mr Harden for all his work on this and suggested that he recommend a way forward. Mr Harden said his initial aim was for saving the Compass Bus Route 96 and to get the Hoppa to divert via Lurgashall. He would put an article in the newsletter, notice boards and website.

20/17 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2017

A date was proposed of Thursday 25th April. It was suggested that Katy Bourne be invited to this year's meeting. Dr Wilding to action and confirm date.

21/17 CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk spoke of meetings being held over the next couple of months:

North Chichester CLC meeting – Thursday 16th March at 7pm. Venue tbc

All Parishes Meeting – Wednesday 5th April at 7pm at East Pallant House

22/17 TO CONSIDER URGENT MATTERS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

Dr Wilding had received an email from a parishioner who was keen to get Lurgashall's war memorial listed following Historic England initiative to increase the number of war memorials that are listed. The general view was that the War Memorial was not under any immediate threat and had a measure of protection by being in the Churchyard and that it did not necessitate listing. However if the parishioner wanted to proceed in his own name then there would be no objection. Dr Wilding to contact the parishioner and the parishioner who currently maintains and looks after the war memorial.

Dr Wilding added that he was attending the A27 meeting tomorrow to discuss whether the consultation for the A27 by-pass should be re-opened. The Councillors had mixed views on this and no consensus was reached.

23/17 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Please let the Clerk know of any items by Wednesday 1st March

24/17 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is on Thursday 9th March 2017.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm.