

# **LURGASHALL PARISH COUNCIL**

## **DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2018**

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

In Attendance: County Councillor Janet Dunton  
District Councillor Nick Thomas  
Mrs H E Cruikshank (Clerk)

There were sixteen members of the public present.

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

### 68/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Ray Cooper

### 69/18 CODE OF CONDUCT

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

### 70/18 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Mr Bonnett asked for his name be added under item 49/18 in the first sentence instead of a member of the public. Mr Sharp said he would like it stated under the same item in the last paragraph that he did not agree the letter sent by Mr Bonnett was unpleasant. These amendments were made and the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were then approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### 7118 MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk formally acknowledged the letter received from Andrew and Sue Lambot on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June expressing their deep concern and disappointment at the lack of support from the Parish Council for the LRA's MUGA planning application. Over the following two days, she received several emails formally registering their support of the letter from Simon & Hollie Monheimus, Anthony Crandon and Erica and Stephen Meyer. There had been some confusion at that time that the Jubilee Field MUGA was to be discussed at a planning meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June which was not the case. On the matter, also raising concerns, she had received an email from John Clark with questions relating to the MUGA application and emails from Barbara and John Kinnear and Jacqui Lawson. Copies of all these letters and emails had been given to all members of the Parish Council.

The Chairman reported that the Parish Council had met to discuss how it could better engage with the community following comments made at the Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council AGM. There were two outcomes which were to publish a short summary in the Parish News monthly and to organise a community wide meeting in the autumn where all parish organisations would be invited along to speak if they wished.

### 72/18 OPEN FORUM

The Chairman described the sequence of events in the Planning Application for a MUGA on the Jubilee Field.

A member of public said he felt there was a conflict of interest with the Parish Council Chairman also being Chairman of the Planning Committee and a District Councillor. He added that Dr Wilding was the only member of the Parish Council not to be a member of the L.R.A. He thought the relationship between the Parish Council and the parish was broken. 80 out of the 150 L.R.A members wanted to see some sort of development at the Jubilee Field which is a large percentage of the population. Mr Jowett replied that he thought the comments were unnecessarily pointed at Dr Wilding whom he thought always acted honourably. The Parish Council did write a letter with comments but did not object to the proposal and since CDC's decision no-one from the L.R.A has been to see CDC for the de-briefing which Dr Wilding had organised. A second application can be put in with careful advice from CDC's planning advisors so the opportunity is not lost. Lurgashall is a rural and tranquil village and sensitivity to the area is vital. Mr Bonnett added that four directors of the L.R.A had resigned due to the Parish Council's letter. Many felt the L.R.A should have been consulted before the letter was sent. Similarly any representative of the L.R.A could have attended the planning meeting or approached the planning committee but they did not.

A lively discussion ensued which repeated many of the statements previously made at the Annual Parish Meeting and AGM about the Parish Council that it is seen as a barrier and its attitude is a problem. Many Councillors thought this most unfair as it felt it does many good things in the parish.

The debate carried on and finally, all in attendance agreed the village must now look forward as there was no benefit continuing with the abuse and aggression. The village had become a very sad and unhappy place and it needed to learn and move on. Better communication between all organisations is essential.

#### 73/18 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

District Councillor Nick Thomas reported all was fairly quiet over the summer months. CDC have published their full analysis of the past year. Generally very effective in keeping over 80 public services in very good order and within budgets. He praised Mrs Janet Duncton on her 50 years as a District Councillor.

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

County Councillor Janet Duncton reported that there is a proposal for the Fire Station at Horsham to be relocated to a site alongside the Police and Ambulance service. West Sussex is one of the few counties where libraries haven't closed but libraries now need to be used for other things too. In Findon the library also houses the family centre. County are taking a fresh look at how they offer services to the community, including the library, children and family centre and registration services.

Any issues of a County nature then please do not hesitate to contact Janet Duncton on [janet.duncton@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:janet.duncton@westsussex.gov.uk) or 01798 342528.

#### 74/18 FINANCE

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

- a) A statement of the position of the Council's bank accounts as at 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2018.
- b) Budget Monitoring sheet as at 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2018

The Council's current financial position at £22,567, bank account and budget monitoring sheet were noted.

#### 75/18 PLANNING

Clerk had previously distributed Appendix 3. Dr Wilding commented upon the following applications;

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS DISCUSSED SINCE THE LAST PC MEETING

SDNP/18/02461/LIS and SDNP/18/02460/HOUS

Location: Bishops Cottage 164 High Hampstead Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET

Proposal: Proposed replacement of existing conservatory. New rear porch, and replacement front and rear doors.

SDNP/18/01332/LDP

Location: Park Farm, Dial Green Lane, Lurgashall GU28 9EU

Proposal: Mobile unit on existing hardcore parking area.

SDNP/18/02482/FUL

Location: Courts Yard Jobsons Lane Windfall Wood Common West Sussex GU27 3BX

Proposal: Erection of 4 no. dwellings following the cessation of the current use and demolition and removal of all existing buildings and hard standings.

SDNP/18/03201/LIS

Location: Aldworth Farm Jobsons Lane Lurgashall GU27 3BY

Proposal: Partial two storey and single storey rear extension to northern wing. Internal alterations. Reinstatement of first floor, replacement fenestration to south west extended section and north east extended section (Amendments to listed building consent SDNP/16/03567/LIS)

SDNP/18/03367/HOUS

Location: Leverton Fernden Lane Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BS

Proposal: Proposed demolition of outbuilding with a replacement building to accommodate existing plant and garden machinery store. Proposed gazebo and external walling.

DECISIONS RECEIVED FROM CDC/SDNPA SINCE MAY'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

SDNP/18/01914/TCA

Location: *Glebe House Blind Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET*

Proposal: *Notification of intention to fell 1 no. Ash tree (T1) and 2 no. Oak trees (T2 and T3).*

Decision: *Raise no objection*

SDNP/18/01918/TCA

Location: *Glebe House Blind Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET*

Proposal: *Notification of intention to fell 3 no. Silver Birch trees (G1), approx. 10 no. Leyland Cypress trees (G2), 2 no. Golden Lawson Cypress trees (G3) and 1 no. Western Red Cedar tree (T1). Reduce down to 2.5m (above ground level) 1 no. Western Red Cedar tree (T2). Reduce down to 2m (above ground level) 1 no.*

*Photinia (T3) Reduce height by 2.5m and reduce the south-east radial spread back to the flower border on 1 no. Cherry Laurel (T4) and 1 no. Portuguese Laurel (T5).*

Decision: *Raise no objection*

SDNP/18/00700/FUL

Location: *Playing Field East of Jubilee Cottage High Hamstead Lane Lurgashall West Sussex*

Proposal: *Construction of a multi-use games area (MUGA) with coloured porous macadam playing surface and 3.0m high rigid mesh fencing. |*

Decision: *Refused*

SDNP/17/00901/HOUS and SDNP/17/00902/LIS

Location: *1 The Quell Cottages Quell Lane Lurgashall GU27 3BW*

Proposal: *New porch and conservatory on south east elevation.*

Case *withdrawn*

SDNP/18/02321/TCA

*Location: St Laurence's Church Dial Green Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET*

*Proposal: Notification of intention to reduce the radial spread on the south-east sector by 4-5m on 2 no. Ash trees (quoted as G1 on the submitted plan).*

*Raise no objection*

SDNP/18/01870/HOUS and SDNP/18/01871/LIS

*Location: Bishops Cottage 164 High Hampstead Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET*

*Proposal: Roof maintenance on North Elevation.*

*Decision: Approved*

SDNP/18/01031/LDE

*Location: The Quell Quell Lane Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BW*

*Proposal: Use of land as a dwelling house and associated garden land incidental to the enjoyment of the property known as 'The Quell'.*

*Decision: Approved*

SDNP/17/00020/LIS

*Location: 1 The Quell Cottages Quell Lane Lurgashall GU27 3BW*

*Proposal: Construction of porch, reroofing and replacement tile hanging, reinstatement of missing infill panels, interior finishes and repair and replacement of windows and doors. Repairs to timber frame including structural supports, insertion of limecrete floor and insulation.*

*Decision: Approved*

Mr Bonnett said that the Parish Council needs to address the lack of affordable housing in the parish. He handed out a print out of an article on rural housing and community land trusts and asked whether the planning committee had considered whether the Courts Yard site could be suitable for low cost housing units. Dr Wilding said Courts Yard is a privately owned site and Community Land Trusts are usually on donated land. It was agreed to put the subject on the agenda at September's meeting for discussion.

76/18 HIGHWAYS INCLUDING VILLAGE GREEN, OPERATION WATERSHED AND WINTER MANAGEMENT

Mr Hellett confirmed he would be taking over Highway's responsibility from Mr Cooper. Concern was raised to the proximity of the enormous bollards by the winery to the road. Dr Wilding said he would speak to the owners directly. Mr Sharp very kindly offered to trim the hedge round the pond and to get a quote for the refurbishment of the bus shelter as the Clerk had not heard back from Mr Stemp despite several phone calls and letters. Clerk suggested the Highways working party meet to discuss and action the list of jobs which needed doing in the village.

77/18 VILLAGE HALL FREEHOLD (this was discussed earlier in the meeting before item 75/18)

*Mr Hellett declared an interest in this item as members of the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC).*

The VHMC wishes to investigate whether the freehold of the Village Hall might be transferred to ownership within the village. The VHMC had previously circulated an email asking for the Parish Council's consent in principle to give up the lease of the village hall in favour of the Parochial Church Council who it was hoped, may be able to take the freehold of the village hall. At present the Chichester Diocese holds the freehold under a trust. The aim is to bring ownership of the village hall into the village. At this stage, the VHMC is merely requesting whether the Parish Council would consider contributing to the cost of getting legal advice to find out whether it would be proper and in the interest of the Parish Council to give up the lease. The Parish Council agreed the issue needed to be moved forward and is content for the VHMC to proceed with getting a quotation from lawyers. The Chairman would follow up with confirmation on the proposed wording to the letter of

instruction Question 3: 'Is it necessary, is it in the interest of the Parish Council and is it proper for the Parish Council to surrender the lease given that the lease is an asset which has value?'

#### 78/18 CRICKET CLUB

An email was sent to the Chairman on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2018 asking for the Parish Council's support to continue cricket on the Village Green. Following Lurgashall's withdraw from the league, there are, many other local teams who use the facilities and are keen to do so in 2019. Financially the club believes that cricket can be sustainable this way, but this will require the continued support from the Parish Council for the two payments made each year: firstly the contribution for looking after the green, and secondly the PC's contribution to the sinking fund for the next mower.

The Parish Council supported the continuation of the current arrangement with the Cricket Club for a further year. It was agreed that it should be reviewed annually.

#### 79/18 PLAYGROUND

The Clerk stated the Annual ROSPA inspection had been carried out and the report received. Mr Cooper was kindly taking a look at this and would feed back any issues and discussed at the next meeting.

#### 80/18 ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk had received an enquiry to whether bees may be kept at the allotments. Members agreed this was acceptable as long as the beekeeper was a member of the British Beekeeping Association with the relevant insurance and this was carried out on a plot away from others. Mr Sharp said the grass needed cutting urgently and the hedge cutting back. Clerk to contact the contractor to action this.

#### 81/18 RIGHTS OF WAYS

Clerk to report the broken stile on FP 2034 where the footpath crosses the churchyard into the adjacent field. Mrs Martin-Jenkins said the rangers had been working hard in the parish, carrying out much clearing and strimming.

#### 82/18 L.R.A

Dr Tate reported the L.R.A had held its AGM and there were four vacancies for directors for which no-one came forward. There is due to be a meeting on Tuesday where people may be co-opted.

#### 83/18 APCAG RESPONSE

Mr Bonnett said he had attended a Northchapel Parish Council meeting where Mr Ian Hare from APCAG (Association of Parish Councils Aviation Group) and Mr Atoll Forbes from PAGNE (People Against Gatwick Noise and Emissions) had spoken about the proposed night trials in the area for 2019 and the effect it may have on the parish. The Parish Council discussed its level of involvement. It was agreed to become an associate member which entitles members to attend the APCAG PC forum and able to submit views with no associated cost.

#### 84/18 MOBILE SKIP

Clerk reported she had spoken to several local companies who are unfortunately unable to provide a managed service however she had more positive news from Goss Skips but was awaiting confirmation of what they could actually offer.

***Update since meeting: A managed mobile skip provision will be in the Village Hall Car Park on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September from 10am- midday.***

85/18 VELO SOUTH (this was discussed before item 74/18 so that the County Councillor was in attendance)

The Velo South event is a 100-mile cycle ride through West Sussex planned for Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September involving 15,000 participants which includes lots of local road closures. There had been no consultation with the community or Parish Council. Dr Tate attended an engagement evening run by the event organisers at the Leconfield Hall on 26<sup>th</sup> July to put forward the parish views on the event's potential to cause inconvenience, disruption and delays to Lurgashall parishioners. There are currently only two crossing points; one at Rogate and the other at Cowfold. The participants are riding for charities however Velo South is a profit-making company. County Councillor Duncton said WSCC are only responsible for the road closures. Emergency services will be let through. Dr Tate said he was concerned for the parish, lots of local charity events have had to be cancelled and public houses located in the middle will certainly lose trade. He encouraged parishioners to write to the organisers and WSCC with their concerns and to implore that no future events like this take place. A Lurgashall parishioner has already sent in a letter of complaint. Roads on the route need to be cleared by midnight and any cars left parked on the cycling route may need to be removed for safety reasons. Full details of the event and all the road closures can be found on the Velo South website [www.velosouth.com](http://www.velosouth.com) and the parish website <http://www.lurgashall.org/>

86/18 CORRESPONDENCE

Concern had been raised to the Clerk about the amount of ragwort growing in two parish fields and its effect on neighbouring farmland. Clerk to contact the landowner.

87/18 TO CONSIDER URGENT MATTERS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

There were no urgent matters.

88/18 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Rural affordable housing/Community Land Trust

Review of Standing Orders

Parish Tidy-up/litter collection

Please let the Clerk know of any additional items by Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018

89/18 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

**The next meeting is on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018** (this is a change to the previously advertised date of 13<sup>th</sup> September)

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