

# **LURGASHALL PARISH COUNCIL**

## **DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LURGASHALL VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021 AT 7.30PM**

Councillors Present: Mrs B Burkhart, Mr R Cooper, Mrs J Landstrom, Mrs A Martin-Jenkins (Chairman), Dr A Tate and Mr P Wilding (also in attendance as District Councillor)

In Attendance: Mrs H E Cruikshank (Clerk)  
County Councillor Janet Duncton

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm and welcomed all to the meeting. There was one member of the public in attendance.

### **PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS**

#### **58/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Mr Neil Jowett and parishioners, Vanessa Semmens and Mark Jones.

#### **59/21 CODE OF CONDUCT**

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

#### **60/21 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR/(S)**

There was no co-option.

#### **61/21 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

#### **62/21 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising which were not on the agenda this evening.

#### **63/21 COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

County Councillor Janet Duncton gave a few updates on what's going on in Local Government. Firstly, West Sussex County Council. She wants to assure all her parishes that as fast as she finds or receives road issues (many of which are of course pothole related but not all), she passes them on through a dedicated Member's site which is faster than via Love West Sussex. Frustratingly potholes that get marked with a white line are only done in a 28-day period not immediately and often the markings get washed away. Gullies have also been blocked with this awful weather. She has not been too pleased with the way some of the poor repairs at some sites and she has reported this back. She knows there are strict rules on how and when but what a waste of everyone's time and money when a job is not done up to standard. Be assured that at County Mrs Duncton does have some long conversations with the Highways department. Things have got to improve. There is a new machine which does a better repair but she has not seen it in action in this area yet.

On the upside if all goes to plan, she has had some successes with regards to the state of the roads and sometimes the local Highways Ranger has passed the work forward to the department in charge of bigger road works that are required. One notable one on the sharp Tillington corner which she is hopeful will be properly re-surfaced as it is a mess at the moment.

All the County's schools have done very well in exceptional circumstances with keeping pupils in education. It is a lot of work and effort on behalf of every school staff member and indeed the pupils but during this difficult, nearly 2 years, they have done whatever has been asked of them. What a time we have lived through and not all over yet.

This continuing wet weather and the warm earth has made everything grown extensively. Now many want the verges left for insects, bees etc. but verges must be kept clear so that visibility is maintained especially when entering a main road from a side road.

A quick word on the Children's Services. Progress is in the right direction. The Fire & Rescue service was behind with its community service which is basically going out to people's homes and talking to them and advising where necessary on safety issues in the home. This is now caught up and instead of the 2,000 visits that were outstanding they now have none just dealing with requests as they arrive. Internal issues have also been resolved.

On occasions Household Waste & Re-cycling sites have been closed for short times because of Covid. It's usually only for a few days but has to be done. If you are visiting a site, it's wise to check first and make sure they are not closed.

As you all know it was County elections in May and Mrs Duncton thanked electors for returning her as the Petworth division member. Training and workshops are being held on a regular basis and she has attended her first face to face meeting, Planning & Rights of Way in the last 18 months. Workshops for the 22/23 budget are about to start. Keep safe everyone. Contact Mrs Duncton if you need some help with issues on either, [janet.duncton@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:janet.duncton@westsussex.gov.uk), [jduncton@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:jduncton@chichester.gov.uk) or mobile 07979152898

District Councillor Peter Wilding reported on the following:

1. The Council has put a huge amount of effort into dealing with the pandemic over the last year. As well as working with its partners on the emergency response, it created four recovery groups last year. These groups identified the actions that are needed to take to support our communities and housing; the local economy; planning, health and environmental protection; and our own organisation. The majority of actions identified have been already been delivered. The list of achievements is considerable. Over the past year we have issued well over £70 million of grants to businesses, community groups and those residents who are struggling financially.
2. The Council has worked tirelessly with rough sleepers and due to the hard work of our outreach team the number of rough sleepers in the city has reduced from 32 in 2019 to 1 at the end of June 2021. During the pandemic, we have also been moving ahead with the development of our short stay accommodation, Freeland Close for households who find themselves homeless. This is needed more than ever and is due to open next year.
3. Supporting local businesses has been, and continues to be, a key priority for the Council. As well as issuing millions of pounds in grants and support, we have been supporting our high streets and local businesses in many other ways. Training, retail support grants, support for the self-employed and micro businesses, and working with the Observer series on a campaign to support local, are just a few of the actions we have taken.
4. Financially, the pandemic has hit councils hard too. We've completed the first round of an efficiency review and are currently on track to achieve approximately £1 million of savings in 2021-22. Our target is to save £2 million across the next three years, but things are changing all of the time, and this may well need to be increased.
5. Recently, the Council Leader, along with our MP, met with the Minister for Housing to discuss the complex issues we are facing within our Local Plan and to request that we are treated as an exceptional case. Unfortunately, our request was not agreed. It was made clear by the Minister that if we believe that the evidence, we collect shows that we cannot meet our full housing requirements, then the Local Plan may be submitted for examination on that basis. The key limitations on the number of houses that can be built are: (i) inadequate road transport infrastructure, (ii) lack of sewer capacity south of Chichester.

On Monday 21 June, CDC reopened the Customer Service reception at its offices at East Pallant House with a number of new improvements. The Customer Service Officers now meet and greet customers, to make sure that they quickly access the services that they need. As part of this, they are also offering to help people if they wish to self-serve online at one of the dedicated computer terminals. It is hoped that this extra support will give customers the confidence to access council services online in the future, at a place and time that is most convenient to them. If a face-to-face appointment is needed to see an officer, they will also arrange this for the customer. Any queries of a District nature, please do not hesitate to contact Peter Wilding on [pwilding@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:pwilding@chichester.gov.uk)

#### 64/21 FINANCE

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

- a) A statement of the position of the Council's bank accounts as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 incorporating details of cheques which needed to be issued, and for which approval was sought.
- b) Budget Monitoring sheet as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021

The Council's current financial position at £32,440, bank account and budget monitoring sheet were noted.

The members duly approved the payments for Mrs H E Cruikshank (Clerk's May & June 2021 Salary & Expenses) @ £769, The Leconfield Estates (Additional allotment rent) @ £15 and Mrs Jane Landstrom (Allotment Exps) @ £50

#### 65/21 PLANNING

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

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

##### SDNP/21/02298/HOUS

Hazards, High Hampstead Lane, Lurgashall

Two-storey extension to the south elevation of the property a single-storey extension on the north elevation

##### SDNP/21/02601/CND

The Quell, Quell Lane, Lurgashall GU27 3BW

Change of layout and amendment to roofing materials to the approved plans SDNP/20/01974/HOUS

##### SDNP/21/02550/FUL

Blackdown Distillery Tappers Barn Jobsons Lane Windfall Wood Common (formerly the Lurgashall Winery) Redevelopment of commercial site at the Winery and the erection of replacement buildings to be used ancillary to Windfall House and 1 no. unit of holiday accommodation with associated parking and landscaping following removal of all commercial building and storage outbuildings.

#### DECISIONS RECEIVED FROM CDC/SDNPA SINCE THE LAST PC MEETING

##### SDNP/21/02639/DCOND

Sybs Farm Jobsons Lane Windfall Wood Common Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BX

Discharge of condition 3 of planning permission SDNP/20/05214/FUL

Decision: Approved

##### SDNP/21/02409/DCOND

1 The Quell Cottages Quell Lane Lurgashall GU27 3BW

Discharge of Conditions, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 9 of householder permission SDNP/20/02972/HOUS

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/01626/LDP

Smugglers Cottage Jobsons Lane Windfall Wood Common Lurgashall GU28 9HA

Single storey rear extension and porch

Decision: Approved

SDNP/20/01666/LIS and SDNP/20/01665/FUL

Dickhurst Farm Petworth Road Lurgashall GU27 3BG

Change of use of redundant agricultural barn to residential use and demolition of modern agricultural farm buildings.

SDNP/21/02298/HOUS

Hazards High Hamstead Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET

Erection of two storey and single storey extensions.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/01695/LIS

The Malt House High Hamstead Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET

Detached garage.

Application Withdrawn

SDNP/21/01694/HOUS

The Malt House High Hamstead Lane Lurgashall GU28 9ET

Detached garage

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/01474/FUL

Crossways Hillgrove Lane Lurgashall GU28 9EP

Retention of single garage.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/01373/LIS

Barfold Farm Tennysons Lane Lurgashall GU27 3BN

Internal alterations.

Decision: Approved

The Clerk to chase for updates on the enforcement issues at Smugglers Cottage, Woodcraft Park Farm and Land to the North of Blind Lane.

66/21 HIGHWAYS INCLUDING VILLAGE GREEN (PARKING ISSUE UPDATE) AND WINTER MANAGEMENT

Mr Cooper reported that the drains on Jobsons Lane had been pumped and flushed by WSCC Highways. The Clerk to report one missed outside Jobsons Cottage. The Village Green is looking good with the new mower. Garden Escapes will be visiting imminently to carry out its mowing schedule. There is a problem with dog fouling on the Green. **How can you help?** If you spot a dog owner failing to clean up after their pet, you can report them to CDC's Enforcement Officers. If you can provide details of the time/day, location, a description of the owners and the dog, and if relevant, a car registration number, the Enforcement Officers will be able to investigate. Just email [environmentalprotect@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:environmentalprotect@chichester.gov.uk) or call 01243 785166. The Clerk to put a notice into the newsletter.

It seems parking on the Village Green has eased since the initial re-opening of the pub in May.

Dr Tate reported that the Jubilee Field is used as a car park for cricket matches and weddings at weekends but has a limit of 30 cars on 28 days a year (increased to 56 this year due to Covid). There are lots of cricket matches and weddings this year but the L.R.A has also agreed to open up the car park for a charity event being held at the pub to help with parking.

Mr Cooper said he would complete the salt/grit audit and send to the Clerk to submit to WSCC Active Communities.

#### 67/21 PLAYGROUND

Mr Cooper reported that Warren Green has started the re-painting of the playground. Following the recent ROPSA report, it was agreed that he should also do the small repair jobs identified after the annual inspection. Mr Cooper added that the playground was still well-used which was good.

#### 68/21 ALLOTMENTS

Mrs Landstrom had previously distributed the allotment update to all members. It was agreed the allotment wooden gate would be replaced by a 5ft metal one due to a timber shortage and high cost. The allotments are completely full and there is one person from Fernhurst on the waiting list. All plot holders have paid their rents. Mrs Landstrom said it has been agreed not to rent out the old bonfire plot. A near plot holder is going to keep it maintained on the understanding they can use some of it and we can use it for bonfires as and when hedges are cut back. Rather than laying the boundary hedge on the right-hand side as you walk down the path, Mrs Landstrom has gained agreement from the owners of the adjacent field, that a tractor will come in and cut the top and field side. She will get quotes from local farmers. The Lurgashall Horticulture Club's Annual Show is to be held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August in the Village Hall.

#### 69/21 RIGHTS OF WAYS

The Clerk reported the summer surface vegetation cut is due to take place in the parish over the next few weeks by WSCC. Landowners are responsible for keeping paths clear and accessible. However, Mrs Duncton said many parishes are now doing works themselves.

#### 70/21 L.R.A

Dr Tate reported that the L.R.A had held a successful charity cricket match, raising £600 to help with the upkeep of the Jubilee field. The L.R.A has not had any Covid hand-outs from the government however the Cricket Club has kindly donated some money. Mrs Martin-Jenkins said it had been a hard for the L.R.A as they had not been receiving funds without a fete for 2 years. Dr Tate said the fete storage containers had arrived and would be clad with vegetation surrounds. The wild flower area will be planted towards the autumn time.

#### 71/21 LURGASHALL LINK

Mrs Landstrom reported there had been no requests of late but the Facebook page was thriving with 130 members.

#### 72/21 NOISE FROM EVENTS

Mrs Martin-Jenkins reported she had received several complaints from residents living on and around the Village Green regarding loud music and parties going on into the early hours of the morning. Having discussed, it is hoped these were one-off events. Any complaints should be reported to Chichester District Council [www.chichester.gov.uk/nuisance](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/nuisance)

### 73/21 MOBILE SKIP

The Parish Council agreed that the mobile skip should return in September. The Clerk to organise one for a Saturday morning.

### 74/21 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk had forwarded June's Police report from PCSO Neil Billingham to all members as follows:

#### Introduction.

Unfortunately, although I am not able to go into much detail, I must start this month's update with news that Jess has left Sussex Police. I will continue as the local Officer for the time being and will provide updates on any changes in the future. Hopefully, if things continue as they are, we will see the end of "Lockdown" from 19<sup>th</sup> July, with further announcements in August. I am happy to say, the vast majority of the population in this area have stuck to the rules/guidelines through out, so my thanks to all of you.

#### Incidents of Note.

We continue to have reports of fraud related phone calls, so please keep vigilant. No legitimate organisation will cold call and ask for any personal or bank details. If you are not expecting a call, even regarding fraudulent activity on an account, hang up and speak to your local branch in person as soon as you are able. Never give account details or allow remote access to anyone.

The only incident of note this month was a youth using an air rifle, with the pellets going into neighbouring properties. Please can I advise that this type of weapon does have restrictions on its use. Please ask or research before use, especially by minors.

#### PCSO Activity over the next month.

Hopefully, we will see an improvement in the weather as the school holidays approach. With that in mind, please be aware that, although we do often see a rise in reports of noisy groups during the summer months, children playing is not in itself a Police matter. We do, of course need to know about any threat, harm or risk involving children, but any noise complaints need to be directed to the Environmental Health Officers at Chichester District Council in the first instance.

**DON'T LET THEM MAKE YOU A VICTIM OF CRIME. IF YOU SEE IT, REPORT IT - 101!**

### 75/21 TO CONSIDER URGENT MATTERS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

Mrs Martin Jenkins reported that the Lurgashall Village Hall Management Committee had decided to waive all hiring fees for the rest of the year to residents and for village functions. They had been generously supported with Covid grants. Mrs Landstrom said she would like to set up a table tennis group.

### 76/21 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Co-option

Please let the Clerk know of any additional items by Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

### 77/21 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.30pm

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm