

LURGASHALL PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LURGASHALL VILLAGE HALL
ON THURSDAY 21ST JULY 2022 AT 7.30PM

Councillors Present: Mrs B Burkhart, Mr R Cooper, Mrs J Landstrom, Mrs A Martin-Jenkins (Chairman), Mr N Jowett and Dr A Tate

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

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm and welcomed all to the meeting.
There were five members of the public in attendance.

Public Question time

Councillor Jowett declared an interest as a property owner adjacent to the land being discussed.

A member of the public spoke of 40 acres of land at Goffs Copse at Dial Green which is currently being sold off in parcels by Barnard Marcus and Barney Estates. The auction is set for Thursday week with 35 plots of .75 acre each (originally the land had been split into just 3 plots). Similar sales of local parcels of land have occurred in Fernhurst, Northchapel and Lodsworth. Neighbouring residents to Goffs Copse have applied for a DMMO (Definitive Map Modification Order) for a footpath within the site which has been used for over 20 years in Ancient Woodland. It usually takes 4 weeks to be recorded and the application was sent in 18 weeks ago. This needs to be expedited within the WSCC legal team. An Article 4 direction has also been applied for but was refused.

District Councillor Peter Wilding stated the original Article 4 had been rejected when the land had been split into just 3 plots as the link officer at CDC had not felt it was justified. However now it is being sold off in 35 small parcels, he is sure it will happen. He is dealing with this and liaising with Shona Archer at CDC. Once the Article 4 order is issued, signs will go up. An Article 4 direction limits the work that can be carried out without needing planning permission from the District Council.

Mrs Martin-Jenkins said the Parish Council is fully supportive of the Article 4 direction and thanked everyone for their work in getting this achieved.

The five members of the public left the meeting at 8pm.

PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS

44/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Vanessa Semmens and Andrew Loughan.

45/22 ADOPTION OF NEW CODE OF CONDUCT

Members agreed to adopt the new Code of Conduct as at Appendix 1 to reflect the latest version and in line with the one also adopted by Chichester District Council. The Chairman reminded members of their responsibilities under the Code of Conduct.

46/22 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

There was no co-option.

47/22 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 12th May 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

48/22 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

49/22 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

District Councillor Peter Wilding reported on the following:

Cost of Living: Many people within our district are struggling with the rise in the cost of living. CDC will shortly be launching a campaign in partnership with the Observer Series to highlight the range of support that is available. The campaign will cover tips on how to save money, including energy efficiency measures; help with finances; health and wellbeing; help with housing; and supporting local businesses. The ‘Supporting You’ leaflets that we produced earlier this year, highlighting some of the support that is available, are still in high demand.

Levelling Up funding: CDC have been busy preparing our Levelling Up funding bid, following Council’s decision to submit a bid to government. The Bid was finalised on 4 July and has a number of proposals for improving the public realm around the District. The Government will announce who has been successful in the Autumn.

£150 energy bills rebate: Payments for eligible residents who pay by direct debit commenced on 11 April 2022. So far, over £4.3 million has been paid out to 28,860 residents. This equates to 80% of all payments being made as of 13 June 2022. CDC are writing to residents who do not pay their Council Tax by direct debit so that we can ask for their bank details so that we can make the payment. Officers continue to work extremely hard to ensure eligible residents receive their payments as quickly as possible. Residents who pay their Council Tax by direct debit will receive their £150 Energy Payment quicker. The Discretionary Scheme has been operating since 1 May 2022. To date, a total of 249 discretionary payments have been made. Until recently, take up has been low, but this is picking up. We would be grateful if you could promote this scheme to eligible residents. You can find out the full details on the CDC website.

Chichester District Council Local Plan Review Progress: Officers are working hard to finalise the Local Plan Review. There are a number of key strands of strategic work that CDC are seeking to complete in the coming months, to enable further progression and then submission for examination. Firstly, we are working closely with National Highways and West Sussex County Council to establish the effect of the current Development Strategy on the A27 and local road network. The issues surrounding the A27 are complex, but our consultants have made significant progress on advancing the modelled impact, which we will discuss with the Highway Authorities over the next month. Given the constraints of the A27 on development in the south of the district, the council will be under significant pressure at examination to demonstrate that it has looked at the potential for further development in the north-east as carefully as possible. There is an ongoing piece of work commissioned by our council, Horsham and Crawley, to look at ways of overcoming the water neutrality issues in this area. Once complete, it will inform what development can be achieved in the north-east of the plan area.

Any queries of a District nature, please do not hesitate to contact Peter Wilding on pwilding@chichester.gov.uk

The Chairman thanked him for all his efforts regarding the Article 4 direction at Goffs Copse.

Peter Wilding left the meeting at 8.05pm.

County Councillor Janet Duncton reported on:

- County have received a Grant of over £800.000 which will be distributed through the District and Borough Councils in West Sussex for Household Support funding to support residents experiencing hardship. There is also a fund continuing to support young people 4- 16 years, through School holidays etc. known as the Holiday Activity & Food Programmes. You need to go to the web page HAF and to find out if they are eligible the web page UK child community hub is still operating from 9am to 5pm 7 days a week. The phone number for this is 03302227980. If you can please pass this on to any in your communities that may need help.
- We have heard a lot about mental health issues and for young people there is a web page Your Mind Matters. Again, if you know of anyone that you think this would be helpful for, please pass it on.
- You will know that with the dry weather that we have there is a high risk of fires. Everyone is warned to be aware and for instance do not throw out cigarette stubs should you smoke and BBQ's also need to be put out properly as there have been many instances of this not happening and fires starting from say a spark. I am sure we all know this but it doesn't hurt to remind everyone.
- The South Downs National Park has provided a list on their web site of some activities. These include places to picnic and 14 accessible trails in the countryside suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs. The South Downs National Park also has a new Chairman this year, Vanessa Rowlands.
- The Trading Standards have had a busy time and have prosecuted traders for illicit tobacco.
- We have extended the contract we have with YMCA for 'Blended Counselling' for an extra 2 years. This has been a well-used service.
- The contract we have for Carers short breaks is going to be renewed. It is so important for carers of any age to be able to take a short break. A recent Carers week with all sorts of activities provided for registered carers was a huge success. Sadly of course although we have many carers that we know about there are a large number of carers that we don't have registered with us so if you know any that you think would like a break, they need to get in touch with the department at County Council.
- The street sweeping contract is also about to be re-let and over the last few years the re-cycling of street sweepings has saved the County 2.6 million pounds. While on the subject of Streets, Councillors recently had a very informative and interesting day at the Drayton Highways Depot where we saw demonstrations and many new innovations for tackling Highway issues. I've mentioned this before but it's worth saying again. When it can be used in suitable sites the new virtual pothole repair machines are brilliant. We watched them doing quite a large area in the depot and the average time they took to do a first-class job on the potholes was 7 minutes. Let's all hope that the 2 machines we have which may be the only 2 in the Country actually make a huge improvement to West Sussex roads. There was also a lot of re-cycling taking place like the re-using of grit etc. and lots of information about how Highways are doing their bit for the environment. All very encouraging.
- I am still trying to get to all 6 of the schools in my division and I have visited some. What fantastic Schools we've got. I know those I haven't yet got to this term are also good Schools so I think we can be proud of them. Of course, one of the problems with them is that they are so good that with parents' choice our Schools get so many pupils that do not live in the village. Parents have a choice of which School they want to enrol their children and I think they have 3 choices. Although it's great that so many want to attend our village Schools you do have to worry that there must be places for those who actually live in the catchment area can get in to their local School. Of course, numbers change continually especially with all the new build and residents coming and going from the parishes.

Any queries of a County nature, please do not hesitate to contact Janet Duncton on janet.duncton@westsussex.gov.uk or mobile 07979152898

Janet Duncton left the meeting at 8.10pm.

/22 FINANCE

The Clerk had previously distributed Appendix 3a and b which included:

- a) A statement of the position of the Council's bank accounts as at 15th July 2022 incorporating details of payments which needed to be made, and for which approval was sought.
- b) Budget Monitoring sheet as at 15th July 2022

The Council's current financial position at £33,717, bank account and budget monitoring sheet were noted.

The members duly approved the payments for Mrs H E Cruikshank (Clerk's May & June 2022 Salary & Expenses) @ £769, Mr Ray Cooper (Reimbursement for Jubilee bench teak oil) @ £13, Mr Antony Ward (Reimbursement for posts for Village Green) @ £57 and Playsafety Ltd (Annual Play Inspection) @ £84.

51/22 PLANNING

The Clerk had previously distributed Appendix 4.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS DISCUSSED SINCE THE LAST PC MEETING

SDNP/22/02394/HOUS

Bridge Cottage, Jobsons Lane, Lurgashall GU27 3BY

Internal/External alterations to an existing ancillary building to create residential annexe

SDNP/22/02798/CND

Dial Green House, Dial Green Lane, Lurgashall GU28 9HA

Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and construction of replacement two storey dwelling (Variation of condition 2 of permission SDNP/19/02988/FUL – alterations to the proposed plans)

SDNP/22/02329/HOUS

Blackdown House, Fernden Lane, Lurgashall GU287 3DR

Single storey pool house

SDNP/22/02996/LIS

Dickhurst Hall, Petworth Road, Lurgashall GU27 3BG

Change use of loft space to habitable accommodation including the insertion of dormer window and rooflights.
Installation of new timber staircase at first floor

SDNP/22/02422/FUL

Castle Copse, Fernden Lane, Lurgashall GU27 3BS

Construction of new secondary access

DECISIONS RECEIVED FROM CDC/SDNPA SINCE THE LAST PC MEETING

SDNP/22/00857/DCOND

Dickhurst Farm Petworth Road Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BG

Discharge of conditions 3, 4 and 6 of permission SDNP/20/01666/LIS

Decision: Approved

SDNP/22/00857/DCOND

Dickhurst Farm Petworth Road Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BG

Discharge of conditions 3, 4 and 6 of permission SDNP/20/01666/LIS

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/05427/HOUS

Upper Barn House Dial Green Lane Lurgashall GU28 9EU

Proposed single storey rear extension with crown roof. Brick quoins and stonework to match.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/22/02435/APNB

Old Hearne Farm Jays Lane Lurgashall West Sussex GU27 3BL

Erection of 1 no. barn.

Decision: Raise no objection

SDNP/22/01576/HOUS

Smugglers Cottage Jobsons Lane Windfall Wood Common Lurgashall West Sussex GU28 9HA

Alterations to rear fenestration with addition of 2 no. French doors and 1 no. window, and conversion of the void beneath the terrace to habitable accommodation

Decision: Refused

SDNP/22/00098/FUL

Land to The North of Blind Lane Blind Lane Lurgashall West Sussex

Retrospective planning permission on 1 no. part-built barn (west of field) and 1 no. new barn (north east of field).

Decision: Refused

SDNP/21/06422/HOUS

Windfall Wood House Jobsons Lane Windfall Wood Common Lurgashall GU28 9HA

Proposed side extension including 2 no. additional dormers to west elevation, associated roof works and alteration to fenestration.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/05034/HOUS

Dickhurst Farm Cottage Petworth Road Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BG

Proposed swimming pool pond and single storey pool house, with toilet facilities and plant room.

Decision: Refused

There will be a planning meeting on Tuesday 2nd August to discuss the following planning applications:

SDNP/22/03058/FUL

Location: Tappers Barn Jobsons Lane Windfall Wood Common Lurgashall West Sussex GU28 9HA

Proposal: Change of use of disused winery to holiday lets with replacement single storey side extension and demolition of outbuildings

SDNP/22/03059/LDE

Location: The Granary Boxalland Farm Petworth Road Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex

Proposal: Existing lawful development for use of building as a single dwelling (Use class C3)

52/22 HIGHWAYS INCLUDING VILLAGE GREEN AND WINTER MANAGEMENT

Mr Cooper reported he would be carrying out the grit bin audit and updating the winter salt stocks for the winter to WSCC Active Communities team. The Village Green is looking very brown and definitely not green due to the hot weather and no rain!

Mrs Martin-Jenkins had been contacted by a Lodsworth parishioner relating to the state of the road from the A272 to Gospel Green. He stated the residents of the parishes of Lodsworth & Lurgashall have suffered for many years from the poor condition of the road leading from the villages towards Gospel Green, principally due to the weight and size of the many vehicles who use this unclassified lane. While the Parish Councils have tried over the years without much success to address the situation, it is considered that if both Parish Councils jointly approach the County Council with the backing of the SDNPA who are known to be considering the issue, then the situation might be addressed at the appropriate level. There are three principal contributing factors:

1. The size, weight and speed of the vehicles using the road.
2. The road surface, particularly North of Lurgashall and approximately ½ mile South of Gospel Green. where repairs seem to have made little permanent difference.
3. The narrowness of the road which in many parts, particularly in Lodsworth village, requires traffic to reverse because passing places do not exist.

It was agreed that working alongside Lodsworth Parish Council was a good idea and that representatives from both Parish Councils should discuss the issues raised with County Councillor Tom Richardson (who is also a Lodsworth Parish Councillor).

53/22 PLAYGROUND

The ROSPA inspection took place in June and the report has now been received from Playsafety Ltd. Mrs Semmens and Mr Cooper to go through the report and identify what needs to be done. There are still issues with the gate closing and Mrs Semmen's husband has kindly offered to look at this and repair. Members agreed that the equipment will need to start being replaced. The Clerk to look into what playground grants are currently available.

54/22 ALLOTMENTS

Mrs Landstrom reported there are two new tenants so the allotments are full again. Given the lack of rain, she would keep an eye on the water bill. The hedges will be cut in September and there will be a general tidy up then too.

55/22 RIGHTS OF WAYS

The Clerk to ask County Councillor Janet Duncton to help chase and progress the DMMO application for Goffs Copse.

56/22 L.R.A

Dr Tate said he had nothing to report. Mrs Landstrom said the mini football pitch is proving very popular.

57/22 WAR MEMORIAL

Mrs Martin-Jenkins reported that Mike Oakland had contacted her regarding the war memorial requesting a grant for half the cost of repairs matched with the PCC. The war memorial has significant cracks in it which need attention by a professional. Shepherd and Grantham stonemasons Ltd have submitted a report dated 1st June 2022 and a quotation for the work amounting to £595 + VAT. As it is a community memorial, members agreed that the Parish Council should fund the entire cost of the work. Mrs Martin Jenkins to check that any potential funding from the War Graves Commission has been looked into.

58/22 NEW LITTER BIN

The Clerk is awaiting quotes for the new litter bin.

59/22 MOBILE SKIP

It was agreed to book the next visit from the skip for Saturday 24th September at 10am.

/22 CORRESPONDENCE

The next All Parishes Meeting is on Monday 19th September 2022 at 5.30pm via Zoom – two representatives per Council. Please send any suggested topics for consideration.

PCSO Neil Billingham moved on from his PCSO post. There has been no update on who will be covering him to date. Please continue to be vigilant and **DON'T LET THEM MAKE YOU A VICTIM OF CRIME. IF YOU SEE IT, REPORT IT! 101 or 999 (Emergencies only please)**

61/22 TO CONSIDER URGENT MATTERS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

There were no urgent matters.

It was agreed that a director of the Lurgashall Village Shop should be invited to the next meeting to give an update on the status of the shop. The Clerk to action.

62/22 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Lurgashall Village Shop

Southern Water works in Greengates – The Clerk to contact Southern Water for an update.

Please let the Clerk know of any additional items by Thursday 1st September 2022

63/22 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is on Thursday 8th September

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm