

LURGASHALL PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 14TH JULY 2016

Councillors Present: Mr R E J Cooper, Mrs A Martin-Jenkins, Mr G Sharp and Dr P J H Wilding

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

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

66/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr J Bonnett, Mr N Jowett, Mr J Harden and Dr A Tate. The Chairman announced the sad resignation of Mrs Rita Wood due to ill health. He gave thanks to Mrs Wood for her 7 years of service on the Parish Council. Clerk has put up the obligatory notice of vacancy and informed CDC. Mr Cooper kindly offered to take over as the Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Management Committee.

67/16 CODE OF CONDUCT

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

68/16 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting (AGM) held on Thursday 12th May 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

69/16 MATTERS ARISING

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

70/16 OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

71/16 COUNCILLORS REPORT

District Councillor Nick Thomas said with everything happening in Westminster, District is very quiet. Any questions of a District nature, please feel free to contact Mr Thomas 01730 810837 or email nthomas@chichester.gov.uk)

County Councillor Janet Duncton said she is now the County's SDNPA representative. She had attended a long meeting which was most useful and is keen to get the best out of the Park. The SDNP local plan has been delayed by 10 months due to staff shortages, now expected to be published in 2017. She spoke of several grant opportunities for villages available from the SDNPA. Mr Cooper said potentially this could be used for funding for the Village Hall extension. Mrs Duncton reported that superfast broadband was available to 95% of the properties in the County. Dr Wilding said that the Parish Council had been contacted by West Sussex County Council and Lurgashall village has been surveyed by BT and they are hoping to site a broadband cabinet on the green with implementation within 6 months.

Please contact Mrs Duncton regarding any County issues on 01798 342528 or email janet.duncton@westsussex.gov.uk

72/16 FINANCE

Clerk had previously distributed Appendix 2 which included:

- a) A statement of the position of the Council's bank accounts as at 8th July 2016 incorporating details of cheques which needed to be issued, and which approval was sought.
- b) Budget Monitoring sheet as at 8th July 2016

The Council's current financial position at £25,610, bank account and budget monitoring sheet were noted.

The members duly approved the payments for E C Simpson Plant Hire Ltd (Further works to extend parking on the side of the green) @ £1440, The Leconfield Estates (Allotment Water) @ £36 and Mrs Helen Cruikshank (Clerk's May & June Salary & Exps) @ £671. The Clerk added that she had received the Play Area Inspection invoice today from Playsafety Ltd for £80 which was also approved for payment.

The Clerk reported that Mrs Martin-Jenkins is due to carry out a systems audit.

53/16 PLANNING

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

PLANNING APPLICATIONS DISCUSSED SINCE THE LAST PC MEETING

SDNP/16/02975/LIS

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

Proposal: Internal alterations, new entrance door to replace existing window and new window to replace door.

SDNP 16/02056/LDE

Location: Old Hearne Farm Jays Lane Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BL

Proposal: Use of land as commercial equestrian.

SDNP/16/02085/TCA

Location: Well House High Hampstead Lane Lurgashall Petworth West Sussex GU28 9ET

Proposal: Notification of intention to crown reduce by 30% (height and widths) on 1 no. Hawthorn tree.

SDNP/16/02801/TCA

Location: Green Cottage High Hampstead Lane Lurgashall Petworth West Sussex GU28 9ET

Proposal: Notification of intention to crown lift to main crown break at about 6m (above ground level), crown thin by approx. 15-20%, crown reduce height by approx. 1.5-2m (to leave a final height of 9-10m) and reduce by approx. 4.5-5m (to leave a final crown spread of approx. 4.5-5m) on 1 no. Yew (T1).

SDNP/16/03065/HOUS

Location: Home Farm Fernden Lane Lurgashall GU27 3BU

Proposal: Demolition of conservatory and utility room, erection of orangery, 3 no. dormer windows, insertion of ribbon lantern, rebuilding of chimney, infill valley, glazed walkway, installation of lift and associated internal alterations.

DECISIONS RECEIVED FROM CDC/SDNPA SINCE LAST MEETING

SDNP/15/06312/FUL

Old Hearne Farm, Jays Lane, Lurgashall, West Sussex, GU27 3BL

Retention of east barn and its immediate surroundings for mixed agriculture and equestrian purposes and the erection of a stock building.

Decision: Refused

SDNP/15/04369/FUL

Little Brockhurst Farm, Dial Green Lane, Lurgashall, Petworth, West Sussex, GU28 9HA

Replacement house and barns to include garaging, staff accommodation, swimming pools, pool building with associated landscaping works.

Decision: Approved. Dr Wilding reported that this was on the basis that the two external barns were to remain as heritage assets.

SDNP/15/06009/HOUS

Home Farm, Fernden Lane, Lurgashall, Haslemere, West Sussex, GU27 3BU

Single storey side extension to west facing elevation with balcony above, extension of dormer window to the west and alterations to south facing window to create veranda

Decision: Approved

SDNP/16/01289/HOUS

Well House, Lurgashall, Petworth, GU28 9ET

Demolition of outbuilding, proposed single storey rear extension to include flue, first floor east facing window, removal of bay tree

Decision: Approved

SDNP/16/02085/TCA

Well House, High Hampstead Lane, Lurgashall, Petworth, West Sussex,

Notification of intention to crown reduce by 30% (height and widths) on 1 no. Hawthorn tree.

Decision: Raise no objection

Dr Wilding added that the original planning application for Beards Cottage (now Aldworth Farm) had been withdrawn although there was a revision coming back through the system. Clerk added that there was a notice of planning appeal against the refusal to grant planning consent for two houses at Courts Yard. The hearing is to be held on 2nd August at CDC offices in Chichester. Orchard Park Farm has been informed by CDC that any commercial event venture being held at the property must cease and a planning application submitted for such activities.

74/16 HIGHWAYS INCLUDING VILLAGE GREEN, OPERATION WATERSHED AND WINTER MANAGEMENT

Mr Cooper reported that the work had now been finished to improve the parking at the bottom of the green. The bank had been seeded and the grass grown which has had the desired effect to stop people parking on the corner. Concern was raised with regard to the overgrown hedges and grass at the junction of Northchapel and Lurgashall. Clerk to report the sightline danger to WSCC Highways.

The Clerk reported that she was waiting to hear back from J K Engineering with an update on the new parish fingerboard. She spoke of the Community Winter Plan 2016/17 including completion of the salt/grit bin audit which needs to be submitted by September 14th to WSCC. Mr Cooper, Dr Wilding and Mr Sharp agreed between them they would look at the state of the existing grit bins.

With regard to the survey at the Lickfold Bridge, the Clerk reported that CBEC have finalised:

- The construction of the 3D DEM surface of the entire survey area;
- A hydrological study of the Lickfold area. This internal document was used for the model calibration and its findings will be incorporated into the final report
- The hydraulic model of the catchment has been built. This is currently been manipulated to investigate the effects of changes in wood in the channel over the flooding issues.

Also, the head modeller is coming back from holiday next week and is tasked with investigating the possibility of extending the model to the downstream extent of the Mill pond. CBEC were very lucky when doing the topographic survey as the pond was very low and allowed them to take some sample point in the silt deposits. As soon as the modelling results are available they will progress the reporting to finalise the deliverables that will provide the characterisation of the flooding issues discussed during the tender.

WSCC Highways had written to the owners of Dial House asking them to move the newly erected white posts as they are a hazard and on Highways land.

75/16 SUPER FAST BROADBAND PROJECT

The Parish Council had received an email from West Sussex Better Connected saying BT have plans to extend the coverage of the superfast broadband in the village. They propose to locate a cabinet discretely on the edge of the village green behind the newly constructed raised bank. A retaining wall is proposed to stop the earth bank collapsing. The Parish Council agreed it was happy with the proposal in order for the village to benefit from superfast broadband. BT will also contact The Leconfield Estates as the land owners. Mrs Martin-Jenkins enquired whether other parts of the village would get an improved service too. Dr Wilding said he would investigate. He has established that the service will be provided to: GU28 9ER, GU28 9ES, GU28 9ET, GU28 9EU, GU28 9HA and GU28 9HB.

76/16 LITTER COLLECTION

In the absence of Mr Jowett who had requested this as an agenda item, it was agreed to postpone this discussion until the next meeting. It was noted that previous parish clean up days had been carried out with different people being responsible for various areas throughout the parish. Mrs Martin-Jenkins said Jobsons Lane was dangerous for any tidy team and Hi-Viz clothing would be essential. Dr Wilding said he already clears up to Gospel Green three times a year collecting three bags each time.

77/16 VILLAGE HALL FREEHOLD

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

The Diocese of Chichester had responded to the letter which the Parish Council had sent requesting interest in acquiring the freehold of the Village Hall. The Diocese had said they would be reluctant to dispose of its freehold interest in the land and suggested that they grant a new lease to the Parish Council instead. Mr Cooper reported that the VHMC thinks this should be pursued again and points regarding the freehold clarified. Mr John Clark is happy to draft another letter. The Parish Council agreed this and thanked Mr Clark for his kind offer.

78/16 CRICKET PAVILION

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

Mr Cooper said the Cricket Club had received an estimate of £6,300 for the repairs to the pavilion woodwork and shutters. They are striving to get repair quotes rather than full replacement ones. Concerning the roof, the back of the pavilion is not in too bad a state, it is mainly the front of the roof which needs repairs from the barrage of

cricket balls! The Cricket Club has prioritised the work to be done with the roof (including the guttering) and woodwork to be repaired this autumn. It is hoped they will be successful in obtaining a grant from the fete to pay for some of this with the whole project being finished by the end of next year. Mrs Martin-Jenkins said it would be good if there were some visible improvements soon to reassure parishioners that progress is being made.

79/16 PLAYGROUND

Following the resignation of Mrs Wood, Mr Cooper said he would take on responsibility for the play area and carry out the weekly inspections. He reported that the Annual Inspection report had been received and as usual the play area had been identified as medium risk. No equipment is marked lower than two years ago which is good news as it means there is no deterioration. Clerk to email report to all Councillors.

80/16 ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk said she had received a phone call from Garden Escapes who mow the allotments, most concerned that they could not mow the allotments to their best ability. They had specifically hired a mower for the job and something which normally takes 2hrs, took 5 hrs as it was somewhat hampered by a rough area where rubbish has been chucked and a bonfire built. It could not have been cut anymore thoroughly, given the conditions.

Mr Sharp said there needs to be a blitz at the allotments; hedges and edges need to be cut, rubbish burnt and every allotment needs marking out, weed-killing where necessary in order for the paths to then be mowed and clearly defined. There is still a problem with non-allotment holders dumping rubbish. Clerk to submit notice into the newsletter once again. Mrs Martin-Jenkins said perhaps the Parish Council should consider renting a smaller piece of land from Leconfield given the lack of people wanting allotments and the additional cost of work associated with empty plots. This was discussed and as there would be costs both ways, it was agreed to continue as it is for now. Mr Sharp and Dr Wilding said they would get together and make a start on the work. It was agreed that Garden Escapes should be paid for the extra hours worked.

81/16 RIGHTS OF WAYS

It was noted that the parish footpaths and rights of way were overgrown, not helped with the reduced maintenance inspections now on 15 month cycles. Clerk to report broken stiles on the footpath leading to Diddlesfold Farm.

82/16 L.R.A

In Dr Tate's absence, Mrs Martin-Jenkins said there was going to be a meeting in September to discuss what sporting activities could take place in the Jubilee field and what people would like to see it used for. Mr Cooper reported that the L.R.A had been approached by Midhurst & Easebourne Football Club asking whether one of their junior teams could use the pitch from September.

83/16 MEETING FORMAT

Dr Wilding suggested that he spend some of his Chairman's allowance on refreshments after the Annual Parish Meeting in April and for something nearer to Christmas too. It was agreed this was a good idea but Mrs Martin-Jenkins said that the Parish Council should pay. All agreed this.

84/16 CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk said she was awaiting to hear whether the skip would return in the autumn. As soon as she does, she will put the date up on the notice board, in the newsletter and on the website.

A letter had been received from Highways England informing the parish of the A27 Chichester Bypass improvement scheme consultation which runs from 14th July – 22th September.

www.highways.gov.uk/a27chichester

The Parish Council had received a call from the Head Forester of the Leconfield Estate, Neil Humphries. He has done a quick check on the trees on the Green. He said that there is a Wild Service tree on the South side of the Green planted quite recently which is doing well. He recommended we should avoid strimming too close to

it, because it can damage the bark and allow fungus to get in. Mr Sharp said he strimmed this end of the green and was aware of the tree.

Clerk to update Lurgashall's Community Facilities Audit and send to CDC.

85/16 TO CONSIDER URGENT MATTERS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

There were no urgent matters.

86/16 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Litter collection

87/16 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was agreed to change September's Council meeting to Thursday 15th September.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm.