

## MINUTES OF THE LURGASHALL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016

**From the Parish Council:** Mr R Cooper (Chairman), Mr J Bonnett, Mr J Harden, Mrs A Martin-Jenkins, Mr G Sharp, Dr A Tate, Dr P Wilding and Mrs R Wood

**Also present:** One member of the Public

The Chairman of the Parish Council opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone. He reminded everyone that this is not a Parish Council meeting but a Parish meeting.

### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr Neil Jowett

PCSO Heidi Hay

### MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes from the last Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

### PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Parish Council has met 6 times in the last year and councillors' attendance was at a high 96% with the attendance of the County and District councillors at 75%. The Planning Committee which niw considered 31 applications in 2015/16 and commented on some further applications in the parish of Northchapel which were felt relevant to Lurgashall.

The Playground had its annual ROSPA inspection and was once again rated as Medium Risk. The Allotments unfortunately have seen a decline, with numbers down. The Finance Committee met once in November to set the budget for the coming year and after presenting their recommendations to the Full Council in January it was agreed that an increase of £1,000 should be made in the Precept bringing it to £14,500 for the year, a 7.5% increase.

Much work has been done in the parish over the past 12 months including the refurbishment of the telephone kiosk, the notice board and bus shelter. Planning was sought and finally received for the proposed new fingerpost on the NW corner of the green, Funding from Operation watershed has meant seven bad flooding areas in the parish have since improved. Several meetings with Steve Hodd, the WSCC Highways officer over the year has meant potholes have been repaired and other highways issues addressed promptly. The skip continues to come to the Village Hall car park twice during the year and is due to return on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April, 10am-12pm,

Finally thank you to all the members of the council for their contributions over the last year especially the Chairpersons of the various Committees; Anthea (Finance), Jeremy (Highways) and Peter (Planning). Thanks also to Gary for all his work in the village and of course to the Clerk.

As this is a Parish meeting, the Chair contacted the other clubs in the village for their reports on the past year.

The Village Hall has a full programme of events; film nights, teas, music and talks. Michael Nicholson is talking about his 40 year career as an ITN war correspondent on Saturday 21st May at 7.30pm. Tickets available now and on the door. Planning permission for an extension to the hall has been given; fundraising for this is now underway. Lighting outside of the hall has been improved and the inside lighting it to be looked at. Thanks to Andy Tate for his work setting up the projector.

The Lurgashall Recreation Association (L.R.A) field has been used as additional parking for the Church and cricket matches over the year. There are two newly installed seats one at each end of the field. To date one fundraising event has been held, the Canine Capers, a fun dog show which was a great success and it is hoped another will follow this year.

Congratulations were passed to the Church for the greatly improved parking area. A memorial plaque crafted by a parishioner for those lost in 1914-18 has been erected.

The Horticultural Society now has 61 members. They had a successful show and evening at Parham Park. Lurgashall Open Gardens was a success and raised lots of money for the charities.

The Cricket Club had a successful 2015 season in division 2 with more local interest and 4 villagers playing including two 15 year olds. Lots of work is required on the Pavilion with much fundraising required. The green is looking good and the 2016 season starts on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

Northchapel Primary School has 94 children attending with 12 from Lurgashall. It is the school's centenary year and events are taking place to celebrate this 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> May. The school is doing £150,000 of renovations to improve the school block of classrooms. Results from SATS in 2015 were very positive with a 100% pass rate and 8<sup>th</sup> best school result in West Sussex. The Chair gave thanks to Anthea and Andy for their work as governors.

#### PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES

The financial year 2015/16 started with an opening balance of £28,519. During the year, the Parish Council received an income of £21,149. This consisted of the precept at £13,500, allotment rents, an additional grant from Operation Watershed of £4,980 for the joint venture with Lodsworth Parish Council for a survey to be done at The Lickfold Bridge to establish why it floods and the VAT return.

The Parish Council has spent £28,081 during the past financial year. In addition to its normal costs of maintaining the Allotments, the Play Area and the Village Green, Clerk's Salary, General Admin and grants and donations for the year, £2,888 was spent on refurbishing the BT kiosk (of which £1,750 of funding was received from CDC and the Village Fete) and £10,425 was spent on Highways with a full grant from the WSCC Operation watershed funding. The Village Green parking extension to date has cost £1,150.

This leaves a closing balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 of £21,587 which still includes £4,980, the 2015 Operation watershed monies which has yet to be paid out. Excluding this, it leaves the Parish Council accounts in a healthy not excessive state at year end which should keep both the internal and external auditors happy. The internal auditor, Mr James Tree is due to look at the accounts in the next week or so and then the figures together with the annual return will be completed and returned to the external auditors, PKF Littlejohn by 13<sup>th</sup> June. All documents which need to be published in line with the 2015 transparency code will be available to view on the website from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016.

<b>LURGASHALL PARISH COUNCIL 2015/16</b>		
<b>2014/15</b>	<b>INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2015/16</b>
£		£
<b>12,574</b>	<b>FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	<b>28,519</b>
£	<b>INCOME</b>	£
13,250	PRECEPT	13,500
7	CDC TAX GRANT	0
3	BANK INTEREST	7
312	ALLOTMENTS	110
12,370	GRANTS	4,980
133	VAT RECOVERED	2,546
255	MISCELLANEOUS	5
<b>26,330</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>21,149</b>
<b>38,904</b>		<b>49,668</b>
	GRANTS RECEIVED 2015/16	
	<i>Operation Watershed funding £4,980</i>	
<b>2014/15</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2015/16</b>
£		£
4,783	GENERAL ADMIN * (Note 2)	5,182
230	NEWSLETTER	380
290	CHAIRMANS ALLOWANCE	300
0	LITTER BIN EMPTYING	155
928	VILLAGE GREEN AND SURROUNDINGS * (Note 3)	5,084
613	ALLOTMENTS	507
1,064	PLAYGROUND	798
135	HIGHWAYS inc OPERATION WATERSHED	10,425
2,166	GRANTS AND DONATIONS * (Note 1)	2,385
177	VAT PAID	2,688
0	ELECTION COSTS	177
<b>10,385</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>28,081</b>
<b>28,519</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT YEAR END</b>	<b>21,587</b>
Note 1:	<b>GRANTS AND DONATIONS</b>	£
	VILLAGE HALL	1000
	PCC	375
	CRICKET CLUB	560
	L.R.A	250
	<u>S137</u>	
	CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (WAVERLEY)	50
	CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (ARUN & CHICHESTER)	50
	SUSSEX AIR AMBULANCE	50
	CHICHESTER DISTRICT FOODBANK (PETWORTH)	50
	<b>TOTAL GRANTS AND DONATIONS</b>	<b>2,385</b>
Note 2:	<b>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	£
	CLERKS SALARY	3,491
	WEST SUSSEX ALC LTD (ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION)	171
	INSURANCE	628
	AUDIT	250
	GENERAL EXPENSES	488
	TRAINING	50
	MISCELLENEOUS	103
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,182</b>
Note 3:	<b>VILLAGE GREEN AND SURROUNDS</b>	
	<u>BT KIOSK REFURBISHMENT</u>	£
	UNICORN RESTORATION LTD (PAINT)	344
	BLASTAWAY	700
	T RALPH (LABOUR)	1,821
	MR A TATE (ADDITIONAL PARTS)	23
		2,888
	VILLAGE GREEN PARKING EXTENSION	1,150
	GRASS CUTTING	1,046
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,084</b>

## DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

District Councillor Nick Thomas reported that the District Council had maintained 100% of local services over the past year. The proposed A27 improvement scheme was a major issue in 2015/16, together with the parish consultation for the proposed Boundary revision. A £250 grant from CDC for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations is available for all-inclusive parish events.

## COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Janet Duncton said she covered 10 parishes, totalling 10,000 residents as a County and District Councillor and she tried to attend as many of the parish meetings as she could. She sits on various panels and committees and is always available for advice and support. Mrs Duncton said there had been much improvement to Highways over the past year and reported that the successful Operation Watershed project was returning for 2016/17 with £500,000 in the pot. She said there was much co-operation and a good rapport between the Parish Council and the County Council and she strives her very best to do the best for the community. She gave thanks to Anthea for her commitment and support to the school.

The Chair thanked both the County and District Councillors for their reports and their support over the last year.

## POLICE REPORT

Please see below for the crime figures for the past 12 months (1st April 2015-31<sup>st</sup> March 2016) for Lurgashall Parish. There has been a total of 15 reported crimes, down 6 (28.6%) on the previous 12 month period.

Auto Theft		Burglary Dwelling		Burglary Other		Crim Damage		Fraud & Forgery		Other Offences		Other Theft & Handling	
Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-
0	-3	1	1	6	-6	2	1	0	0	1	0	5	3

Possession of Cannabis		Poss of Drugs (excluding cannabis)		Robbery		Sexual Offences		Trafficking in Controlled Drugs		Vehicle Interference		Violence Against the Person	
Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-	Crime	+/-
0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1

Total Crime	15
Change	-6

It was thought these numbers were very low due to people's reluctance to report crime. It is important that parishioners are encouraged to report any crime so it is logged on the Police system. Concern was raised that the Police generally just aren't interested in small crime in rural areas. County Councillor Duncton said she would write to them regarding this. It was recommended that reporting online had become much easier.

## PARISHIONERS FORUM

A member of the public asked if she could rent an allotment plot. Parish Clerk to liaise and organise.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8pm.

**CPR/Defibrillator training by Haslemere First Responders – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April**

**Lurgashall Parish Council AGM is on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7.30pm**