



Loxwood Parish Council

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Parish Council of Loxwood to be held on Monday 5th October 2020 started late at 8.10pm.

20/170 Attendance and Apologies for absence – Parish Councillors: Rick Kelsey (Chair); Chris Agar; Simon Bates; Annette Gardner; Tony Colling (left the meeting during 20/170 and returned during 20/175) and Roger Newman(left the meeting during 20/181). CDC Gareth Evans. CDC & WSCC Janet Duncton (arrived during 20/176 and left the meeting at and left the meeting after 20/177). Jane Bromley, Clerk. members of the public.

Apologies for absence: None

20/171 Declaration of Members' Interests – Cllr Gardner declared a pecuniary interest in the Neighbourhood plan by virtue of having responded to Call for Sites.

20/172 Minutes of the Last Meetings – The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 7th September 2020, the Planning Committee Minutes of the 7th September 2020 and the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting minutes of 14th and 22nd September 2020 are accurate records of those meetings.

20/173 Co Option for three Councillor Vacancies. No interest as of yet.

20/174 APPENDIX 1 ACTION POINT LIST: The Parish Council updated the list of Action Points.

20/175 Public Participation – Resident to speak under Flood issues item 20/181 c).

20/176 Report from Chichester District Councillor – Cllr. Gareth Evans.

- 1) The Covid-19 District Councillor hotline remains open should residents report any concerns in the community to the Parish Council. It seems likely that additional measures will be put in place over the coming days which will be communicated by the Government. I will update you accordingly as CDC adapt their plans to these changes
- 2) Two Conservative Councillors have resigned from the Conservative Party at CDC and have formed an independent group. This means that the Council has gone back into no overall control.
- 3) Government consultations on changes to the planning system The Government has published two documents for public consultation. The first, Changes to the Current Planning System, proposes changes to the current planning system, including short-medium term measures to assist economic recovery following Covid-19. The second, the Planning White Paper: Planning for the Future proposes a wider range of measures to “radically reform” the planning system in the longer term. Changes proposed to show housing need is calculated would see a significant increase in the calculation of need for the District. Other proposals include the promotion of First Homes and potential changes to affordable housing requirements for a period of 18 months to assist small-medium sized developers. The response was considered by DPIP on 17 September and a further meeting of DPIP was held on 24 September to finalise the response before it is

submitted by the deadline of 1 October The Council is currently preparing its response to the White Paper. The proposals seek to streamline the planning process whilst promoting design and sustainability, reform developer contributions and ensure more land is available for development where it is needed. The proposals have implications for plan-making, development management and the delivery of infrastructure through developer contributions. The responses to the White Paper consultation will be considered at DPIP on 15 October.

4) Update on COVID Grants - The Covid Recovery Grants scheme was launched on 20 August. CDC have received so far a total of 39 applications for the large business grant. They have checked a total of 22 applications which are now in the second stage of checks. If all successful there will be a total grant spend of £70,397.02. They have received a total of 56 applications for the small business grant. A total of 12 businesses have already received their small grant which totals to £9,817.96.

5) Hardship Fund and Discretionary Housing Payments All working-age recipients of the Council's Council Tax Reduction (CTR) scheme have been awarded up to £150 in accordance with the Hardship Fund. This is in relation to Covid-19 as the Council has been given £699k to help support residents suffering financial hardship due to Covid-19. Cabinet approved the extension of the scheme as follows: • Working age CTR recipients that have already received £150 automatically can claim up to an additional £100 in support. • All other CTR recipients i.e. those of pension age can claim up to £150 in support. • All other Council Tax payers financially vulnerable as a consequence of Covid-19 can claim up to £150 in support.

6) Loxwood Claypit application – I am working with a group opposed to this proposed application which is due to go into WSCC at the end of the year (with CDC acting as consultees). The applicant is also organising a series of webinars so residents can find out more and ask questions. The next one is 27th October at 5pm and you can sign up via this link if you want to attend Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EALLvwJISASgGqIj5FJk5g

7) Online Surgeries – I continue to conduct meetings with residents via Zoom, Google Hangout, Skype, Video Call or WhatsApp. Contact me at gbevans@chichester.gov.uk / 07958 918 056. Cllr Agar queried whether the Government would take into account National Parks for CDCs housing numbers calculation. Cllr Duncton replied and she didn't think so at this time. Cllr Colling asked if there had been any further updates with regard to the timing of the Emerging Revised Local Plan.

20/177 Report from West Sussex County Councillor – Cllr. Janet Duncton. Community Group grant application extended to 23rd October. Applications now open for school attendance from Sept 2021. First full Council meeting held 18th September to deal with motions such as more support for veterans. Gold standard achieved for looking after the forces. Waste recycling sites open 9am to 4pm until 31st March. Pop up cycle lanes in Worthing and Chichester have received mixed reception. Ongoing matter to see how they do. Woodlands Mead near East Grinstead has received funding for a rebuild. Desperate need for fostering support especially refugee children. County Council elections in May 2021 Group has been looking as to how to support people to stand for election. 21st Oct virtual meeting on this subject.

Cllr Colling asked whether Cllr Duncton was familiar with the Clay Pits issue. Michael Elkington Head of Planning at County Council has been asked about this issue. Cllr Colling stressed how important this area was to residents for recreational purposes.

20/178 Clerk's Report. Incident regarding a bramble where a resident had been cut badly and this had been reported on the Love West Sussex.

20/179 New Homes Bonus Scheme Award £6630- Agreement for authorisation of Clerk signature. APPENDIX 2.

- Football Club Grounds machinery £3750
- Sports Club Squash Court Renovations £2880.

The Parish Council having reviewed the agreement note in particular paragraph 2.1.4 of the agreement that any changes to the projects reported to the District Council must immediately be reported. The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the agreement may be signed by the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council.

20/180 Accounts for payment- The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve payments of £7801.49 for October.

20/181 Updates and items for discussion: -

a) Highway/Roads and Traffic Calming.

West Sussex wide speed watch event. Four sessions over 4 days a joint effort across the county. 250 cars noted as speeding. Wisborough Green and other nearby Parishes taken an initiative regarding noise caused by motor bikes in the early hours and the police are reacting to this pressure by employing noise meters. It has been suggested a Group be formed in Loxwood. Cllr Kelsey enquired if there had been any prosecutions. Police short of man hours and that is why the Groups are needed.

The Parish Council were in favour of supporting such a Group and Cllr Agar to contact those operating such a Group in Wisborough Green. **ACTION Cllr Agar.**

b) Nursery Site. Planning application for the shop is progressing through the planning process at CDC. The item can be taken of the agenda as a standing item now. **ACTION Clerk.**

c) Drainage/Flooding: N Simmonds updated:

Payment for weather station has been made and it has been set up and is operating. A link is available to get the data back. Open site looked for on which to mount a post for the weather station. Cllr Newman asked for details of this. **ACTION NS**

Stream condition survey has been completed and individual reports will be available for all Riparian owners in the next couple of weeks.

A bank has recently collapsed along the Loxwood stream which shows the importance of maintenance work. No action will be taken in the case of a resident who does not wish to comply.

Water Environment (WE) report mitigation measures has been discussed with residents. Oak Grove residents will be clearing the blocked culvert shortly.

A Flood Forum meeting is to be held on 19th October and Phase One works will be discussed then.

WE have recommended further Measurement of the Loxwood Stream the cost of this will be established and reported to the Parish Council for consideration.

Cllr Kelsey thanked NS for all the work he had completed on this.

- d) North Hall. North Hall trustees monitoring the Covid situation and what is required at North Hall. Work on the car park has started and will be ongoing for the next couple of weeks. A new member has been appointed on the NH Management Committee John Seymour.
- e) Farm Close. Cllr Colling has established contact with the developer who has the intention to build out the site. Working with a new group of architects who will meet with the Parish Council once they have discussed the plans with CDC.
- f) School. Preschool have submitted a grant application that will be considered at the next Parish Council meeting.
- g) Neighbourhood Plan. Regulation 14 has been advertised and hard copies of the Plan are printed and distributed to shops.
Need to include the Water Environment Report on the evidence base on the website but this will require redaction first. **ACTION Cllr Colling/Clerk**

- Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Report update required by 31 October 2020. Cllr Colling to review last year's report. **ACTION Cllr Colling.**

Cllr Agar had attended the Loxwood Farm Place Planning Committee hearing and the outline application had been Permitted subject to a s106 agreement. Access is an issue WSCC Highways had carried out a desk top study and had not objected. Traffic Calming measures are to be discussed and the Parish Council will need to approve a site for this.

20/182 E- Bulletin and Newsletter articles. Regulation 14 process. Advertise new Councillors. Clay Pits Action Group website.

20/183 Parish Matters. Some works being carried out at the pumping station and Southern Water to be asked at the flood Forum meeting about this.

20/184 Date of the next scheduled meeting: Parish Council Meeting Monday 2nd November 2020.

20/185 Meeting closed to the public.

20/186 Staff Matters Clerk's overtime claim three months to 30th September 2020 APPENDIX 3 and discussion regarding the Clerk's request to increase her hours from 10 hours a week to 20 hours a week for a period of 6 months from 1st October 2020 to be reviewed.

The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the Clerks overtime.

The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve to increase the Clerks hours to 20 hours a week to be reviewed after three months at the January meeting of the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm