



# Loxwood Parish Council

## Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council of Loxwood held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 at 8pm in the main hall North Hall.

149/2021 ATTENDANCE Parish Councillors: Rick Kelsey (Chair); Tony Colling; Roger Newman; Annette Gardner; Simon Bates; Charles Todhunter. CDC Gareth Evans, WSCC and CDC Janet Duncton (left the meeting at 155/2021).

3 members of the public.

Jane Bromley, Clerk.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Parish Councillors Chris Agar and Hannah Carey.

150/2021 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: None.

151/2021 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – the Parish Council Resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings on 4th October 2021, and the Planning Committee Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021 are accurate accounts of those meetings.

152/2021 APPENDIX 1 ACTION POINT LIST: The Parish Council updated the list of Actions.

153/2021 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – No speakers.

154/2021 REPORT FROM WSCC JANET DUNCTON-You will know that the A285 at Duncton, just outside of Seaford College entrance is closed and will be for some weeks to come although work has now started after a lot of investigation on how to hopefully sort out this situation.

It is very complex and divers and Cameras have been used to see what is going on and how to correct it. Hopefully they now have a way forward.

If you need to go to Chichester there is either via the A286 and Midhurst or the A29 Pulborough and over Bury Hill to Chichester. This is the one I choose. A little bit further but much quicker road. The choice is yours.

As I have said before we are working hard on getting a balanced budget and I think were wining with another workshop later this week. It isn't easy and some people will probably not be happy about different parts of it but the times are seriously hard and I will try and give a better update on this next month.

I don't know yet but I am hoping that the Loxwood Clay Pit application will come to the late November meeting at County. The 9<sup>th</sup> November meeting is cancelled.

Our Trading Standards have been very busy with rouge traders. Some so called builders who were scamming people for poor work and much more money than a proper builder would charge were caught and charged and have received 3 years sentence.

A lot of discussion over cut or no cut verges. This can be contentious because many want the plants to grow and thrive for the Bees etc and some like the look as well. On the other hand, we have to keep people safe and the verges, especially in bad weather when the growth is tall can be an obstruction for pedestrians, wheelchairs, buggies etc. Trying to get it right isn't straight forward but we are trying.

Our other Services are going forward as normal with continued improvement in Children's Services. One of the most difficult challenges at the moment is adult care. We are still waiting for the white paper from Government on this. As you can imagine this can all be very costly so it's watch this space.

Gareth will give you a fuller Chichester District Council report but just to say the Local Plan is still taking our time. You all know the situation with the Hardham water site and its effect on development in the northern part of the District. There are updates on the CDC website. I don't think there is much I can say about the A27 which is of course making so many of the difficulties south of the Downs. I don't see this being solved soon but can assure you that there are continuous discussions taking place.

A notification had been received re a couple of footpaths that were still being looked at to be joined to make a circular walk.

A205 is undergoing repair after collapsing.

Cllr Kelsey asked if JD would support the Parish Council regarding traffic calming proposals to be made in the future. JD confirmed she would be happy to be involved.

155/2021 REPORT FROM CDC GARETH EVANS- See attached report.

Cllr Evans had contacted planning regarding the Willets Way application as many residents had commented on the proximity to planning. No response as of yet.

Cllr Colling advised with regard to the Clay Pits Application that WSCC does not automatically allow the Parish Council to speak. Clerk to write to the Chair of Planning Committee Richard Burrett and Janet Duncton to support this wish to speak. **ACTION Clerk.**

156/2021 QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE- Discussion regarding progress with this item.

156.1 Evening celebration at the fete- Cllr Colling suggested a sub- Committee with members from the Fete Committee and the Parish Council organising the event. A marquee would cost £1196. Cllr Todhunter and Cllr Gardiner would form the Parish Council side of the sub-committee. A budget would be included in the precept requirement once details of costs were known.

156.2 Planting of the tree and a bench with a plaque- A tree has yet to be sourced. The money for the bench has been received from CDC. The bench will be purchased shortly.

156.3 Heritage Trail- A Loxwood historian had already prepared a walk around Loxwood which would be suitable. Starting at the Onslow Arms or North Hall a plaque describing the walk. A small marker on some of the lamp posts to follow the trail. The historian also has some artifacts for the museum. A resident had suggested further carved wooden animal sculptures similar to the owl at North Hall. The Councillors were not against this idea and this could be an addition to the trail at a later date.

157/2021 WELCOME LEAFLET: Discussion of updates required. Cllr Kelsey to write a foreword and supply a picture ad then this can be put on the website. **ACTION Cllr Kelsey**

158/2021 APPENDIX 2 PRE SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION £3000 FOR OUTDOOR SHELTER:

Discussion as to whether to grant the funds for this.

The Parish Council discussed the requirement for some contribution from the pre school towards this as requested by the LSA when their grant was considered and RESOLVED a 50% donation.

**ACTION Clerk**

159/2021 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT -See attached. The payments were approved. The £1500 to the preschool would be paid on receiving a receipted invoice.

160/2021 UPDATES AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: -

- (a) Highway/Roads. Nothing to report.
- (b) Drainage/ Sewerage Infrastructure. Oak Grove gardens were flooded recently. Thakeham were sinking storage containers for sewerage on their site.
- (c) North Hall- Nothing to report.
- (d) School- School sign proposal discussion APPENDIX 3. The Parish Council were in agreement with the suggested sign and its location. The lights should only flash at relevant times. **ACTION Clerk** Cllr Newman advised there was an advert for a new headteacher in circulation. A temporary Head would be in place if no appointment was made before the spring term.
- (e) Neighbourhood Plan- The Neighbourhood Plan is still awaiting progression by CDC.

161/2021 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES. Christmas wishes. New Councillor needed. Volunteers to help with the jubilee celebration organising to work with the Parish Council and Fete Committee.

162/2021 PARISH MATTERS: Nothing further.

163/2021 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

**164/2021 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC TO DISCUSS CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES**

**165/2021 STAFF MATTERS.**

165.1 Appendix 4 Appraisal Process Policy. The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the Policy.

**The meeting closed at 9.20pm**