



Loxwood Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council of Loxwood held on Monday 4th July 2022 at 8.00pm North Hall.

101/2022 ATTENDANCE: Parish Councillors: Rick Kelsey (Chair); Tony Colling; Roger Newman; Charles Todhunter; Hannah Carey; Simon Bates; Annette Gardner. James Hume (joined the Council following election at item 104/2022) CDC Gareth Evans; WSCC Janet Duncton.

7 members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None.

102/2022 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: None.

103/2022 COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION. Councillor Chris Agar had submitted his resignation to the Council following his moving home out of the Parish. Cllr Kelsey thanked Cllr Agar for his tremendous contribution especially with regard to the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Agar had been with the Council for nearly 11 years. A presentation was made to Cllr Agar from the Parish Council. Cllr Agar thanked all for their support whilst he had been a member and expressed his sadness at retiring.

104/2022 CO OPTION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBER: A statement from the candidate had been circulated separately. The Parish Councillors RESOLVED unanimously to Co Opt James Hume onto the Parish Council as a member. He then joined the meeting.

105/2022 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – The Council RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings on 6th June 2022, and the Planning Committee Minutes of the 6th June 2022 are accurate accounts of those meetings.

106/2022 **APPENDIX 1** ACTION POINT LIST: The Parish Council updated the list of Actions.

107/2022 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: See items 110/2022 and 112/2022

108/2022 REPORT FROM WSCC JANET DUNCTON- See attached report.

The state of the footpath through the Blackhall site was discussed. The Clerk had reported this to Love West Sussex.

The Clay Pit application had been refused and WSCC Duncton did not know if an appeal would arise within the 6 months' time limit.

The Nursery Green shop S106 was awaiting legal agreement and this had been chased by WSCC J Duncton.

109/2022 REPORT FROM CDC GARETH EVANS- See attached report.

110/2022 SELF BUILD SITES' ROLE IN THE FUTURE OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE PARISH.

110.1 A resident spoke on this subject on which he was an authority. One of the first in the UK to build a self-build at the age of 23. He extolled the virtues of self-build to be able to maintain the character of building within Loxwood. There are various means of self-build from being very hands on to choosing your own contractors to do work to your design. The build is usually to a far higher standard of finish and those buildings are far more likely to remain in the property and therefore the community for longer. Government initiatives for self and custom build are starting to be considered as it is recognised by government the vital role this area plays in housing the population. MPs and the LPA have been supportive in discussions with the resident. There are 152 people on the self-build register looking for land for self-build.

Support for the following was requested:

To recognise that mixed tenure affordable housing is fully satisfied in Loxwood;

Small scale self and custom build sites should be facilitated in Loxwood;

To move away from box style estate housing.

Cllr Kelsey pointed out the revision to the Neighbourhood Plan was ongoing and would the resident be willing to devise a policy for the Neighbourhood Plan to which the resident expressed his willingness.

110.2 A CDC officer present at the meeting expressed his willingness to support such a policy for the Neighbourhood Plan but advised the Parish Council to keep a close eye on the Local Plan which would develop over the next few months.

Cllr Bates asked how would sites be advertised by the LPA?

The CDC website would be used. Workshops could also be useful.

Cllr Colling pointed out that CDC Policy was to apply 30% of any sites over a certain size has to be allocated to affordable housing. There are now over 130 affordable houses in Loxwood yet a small number of people with roots in Loxwood on the register. Policies on self-build have to dovetail with the Policies applied in the Local Plan from CDC. Cllr Colling did not anticipate the Local Plan would be updated any time soon due to water neutrality issues.

WSCC Duncton has been involved in a self-build site which had been a great success and advised to canvas local opinion.

111/2022 **APPENDIX 2** HERITAGE TRAIL: The questions posed were discussed and in principle the Parish Council were happy with the costs involved although Councillors felt the boards should be A2 size not A1 and invoices would be obtained for final approval.

The following item was held after 110/2022

112/2022 GRANT APPLICATIONS:

112.1 HOPE CHARITY PROJECT **APPENDIX 3a 3b and 3c.**

The founder of the project spoke concerning her application. The charity strove to support teenagers from 11 to their early adult lives at 21. She spoke of the challenges for the youth at this time who are influenced so much by technology. She spoke of the lack of services available for support. Hope strove to support not just the young person but the whole family who are all affected. The aspiration was that the "Sussex Community" would all pull together to fund this service. The system CAMHS can only offer a waiting list for support.

Cllr Newman asked how the Charity would be advertised to the people of Loxwood and wanted to see a plan for advertising this project within Loxwood.

Cllr Colling asked if the charity could approach the Parish Council when funding for residents was required?

Cllr Kelsey felt the Parish Council was supportive but not sure how support could be offered to support the residents of Loxwood only.

Cllr Colling wanted to see data on distressed families in Loxwood without going into specifics. A HOPE leaflet would be put up on the Loxwood PC Facebook page and website. Fundraising opportunities within Loxwood may also arise.

The Parish Council RESOLVED to discuss this application at the next meeting in September when further details for Loxwood identified cases were received.

113/2022 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT - Payments of £3796.36 were approved for payment.

114/2022 UPDATES AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: -

- (a) Highway/Roads. Traffic Calming costings had come through and had been circulated by Cllr Colling for which Stonewater would be approached for a funding contribution. The I Transport information and a justification (using the Neighbourhood Plan Policy for context) would be sent to Stonewater. **ACTION Clerk**

Resurfacing for the B2133 centre of the village has not been confirmed although the two ends out of the village would be done this week. Cllr Bates was chasing a reason for this as the whole road needed resurfacing but had not received a reply Cllr Duncton would be asked. **ACTION Cllr Bates/ Clerk**

Cllr Todhunter had carried out a Speed watch event recently which was successful and another event would be carried out soon.

- (b) Drainage/ Sewerage Infrastructure. Nothing to report.

- (c) School- A vacancy for a new business manager is being advertised.

(d) Thakeham /Stonewater site. A letter has been sent to residents with emergency details in case of problem with the site.

(e) Neighbourhood Plan/ IPS statement. Nothing to report.

115/2022 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES. New Councillor. Chris Agar retirement. Hope presentation.
½ hour Open Session in September.

116/2022 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA. To be confirmed.

117/2022 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 5th September 2022

The meeting closed at 10.20pm