



Loxwood Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council of Loxwood held on
Tuesday 4th October 2021 at 8pm in the main hall North Hall.

MINUTES

128/2021 ATTENDANCE: Parish Councillors: Rick Kelsey (Chair); Tony Colling; Roger Newman; Annette Gardner and Simon Bates. CDC Gareth Evans, WSCC and CDC Janet Duncton (left the meeting at 134/2021). Charles Todhunter and Hannah Carey joined the Parish Council as members after their Co Option at item 131/2021. 6 members of the public.

Jane Bromley, Clerk.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Chris Agar.

129/2021 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: None.

130/2021 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – the Parish Council Resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings on 7th September 2021, and the Planning Committee Minutes of the 6th September 2021 are accurate accounts of those meetings.

131/2021 CO OPTION TO FILL COUNCILLOR VACANCIES: Councillors to have reviewed the profiles of two candidates for Co Option ahead of the meeting (circulated separately) and to vote at the meeting on whether to Co Opt the candidates as members of the Council.

Councillors voted unanimously for the Co Option of Charles Todhunter and Hannah Carey to join the Parish Council as members. They both signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

132/2021 APPENDIX 1 ACTION POINT LIST: The Parish Council updated the list of Actions as attached.

133/2021 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

- A resident who had instigated the Welcome Pack advised she would be standing down from controlling this. The resident felt that Facebook and the website had rather taken precedence from leaflets.
- The resident also asked who should be contacted if someone was interested in Speedwatch and Cllr Chris Agar would be the contact.
- The resident asked if a second Village Sign could be on the Nursery Green. Cllrs agreed to add this to the November agenda and thanked the resident for all her work on the Welcome Pack which would be put on the website. **ACTION Clerk**

134/2021 REPORT FROM WSCC JANET DUNCTON-

- First of all, for those who may want to travel south a warning that the road from Petworth to Chichester almost outside of the Seaford College entrance is closed and this situation may go on for some time. The road has collapsed and I don't know all the detail but it's

to do with the culvert that goes under the road taking water from the Lake on the west side to the stream on the east side.

- The County continues to work with all the Districts and Boroughs in west Sussex to help with the Afghan refugee situation. Of course, County does not have housing so the D&B's are the housing authorities and working together is the only way to help.
- A contract has been awarded to collect re-cycling and general waste from our Schools and on the subject of Schools it's now that parents should be looking to register their children for their Schools in September 2022.
- The Household Waste & re-cycling sites in West Sussex are now in winter opening time mode from 9am to 4pm until 31st March 2022. Most continue to be open on the same days as before.
- The Watershed money is still available with 704K allocated for 2020/21 and another 404K for 2022/23. Of the 300K allocated for 21/22 applications totalling £155,879.31 has been allocated so there is still some in the budget.
- My latest information regarding the Loxwood Claypits application is that the likeliest date for committee is November 2021. We have 2 Planning & Rights of Way committees in November 9th and the 30th. If I hear something different, I will let you know.
- Work on the budget is progressing but it will be a difficult year.

135/2021 REPORT FROM CDC GARETH EVANS- See attached report

136/2021 NEW HOMES BONUS SCHEME AWARD £7270- Agreement for authorisation of Clerk signature. APPENDIX 2.

NHB 18/21 Sports association car park improvements £4,620

NHB 19/21 Dishwasher for North Hall £2,034

NHB 20/21 Commemorative bench for the Queens Jubilee £625

The Parish Council had reviewed the agreement as set out by CDC and they understood that they should seek approval from the grants and concessions panel should there be any changes to projects. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk may sign the CDC agreement for acceptance of the New Homes Bonus awards.

137/2021 APPENDIX 3 GRANT APPLICATION: Loxwood Sports Association £3200 for audio visual equipment.

A representative from the LSA explained that the equipment would stream a projection to a screen would enable more people to view the projection rather than a television. The project was designed to attract more people to the venue.

The LSA currently has reserves and would be willing to contribute towards the full cost of £3200. The Parish Council RESOLVED to grant 50% of the cost of the equipment £1600 (Cllr Kelsey proposed, seconded by Cllr Newman. five in favour, one abstains and one against). The money to be paid after the receipt for the purchase of the equipment has been supplied.

138/2021 QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE- Discussion regarding progress with this item.

- Funding has been received for a Commemorative bench.
- North Hall Trustees have agreed for an oak tree to be planted to commemorate the jubilee.
- The fete Committee will organise celebrations for the jubilee at the fete summer event.
- The Heritage Trail seemed popular and The Onslow Pub seemed supportive to use their car park for the start of the trail. A Sub Committee would be formed to progress this. Cllr Kelsey and Cllr Gardner would form the sub- committee with residents. The price of trail boards would be investigated. **ACTION Clerk and Cllr Kelsey.**
- The purchase of a building for a museum was still be considered and investigated. **ACTION Cllr Carey and Cllr Colling.**

139/2021 THE NORTH EASTPARISHES MEETING: Update from meeting on 29th September 2021. The Clerk had previously circulated highlights from the virtual informal meeting of the parishes.

Two main issues for the parishes fighting fund use were discussed.

- A lack of action when there was a breach of planning (i.e., enforcement);
- and the Water Neutrality position in that CDC had a power S97 of the Town and County Planning Act to stop development and they were not using this. This power could relate to planning applications agreed prior to the water neutrality issue arose and were therefore being built without consideration to water neutrality. The group felt these developments should be stopped by this power pending a solution being found. One of the parishes were already challenging CDC re this and had sent a LBA (Letter before action) to CDC.

All agreed that a joint application for SDNP membership would not be possible as each parish had a unique situation.

A cross party working group was to be established re the giga bait broadband scheme to get as many households in the area interested in this thus bringing down the cost per household.

140/2021 CIL INFRASTRUCTURE BUSINESS PLAN (Circulated previously)

Current CIL Projects for Loxwood:

IBP/696	Transport	Pedestrian infrastructure	Pedestrian crossing B2133 Loxwood Nursery site	Increase footfall across the road in particular children crossing from new development to get to school and in the other direction, residents crossing to the new village stores.	2021-2026	Short term (2022-2027)	£500,000	Community Highways Funding
IBP/772	Health	Community healthcare, primary care facilities & improvements	Doctors surgery internal building improvements	Improving the internal environment of the surgery for health and comfort.	2021-2026	Short term (2022-2027)	£60,000	CIL and other
IBP/964	Green Infrastructure	Playing fields, sports pitches, related build and children's play areas	Picnic benches for North Hall Village Hall	To increase the number of benches at North hall to accommodate increase in population	Summer 2021	Short term (2022-2027)	£3,500	CIL

The Parish Council RESOLVED the following deletions:

IBP/772 to be removed £5000 spent on flooring

IBP/964 to be removed £3500 spent on benches.

There were no additions at this time. ACTION Clerk

141/2021 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT -See attached. The payments of £9889.14 were approved, however the grant to the LSA would be paid when a receipt for the purchase of the equipment had been received. ACTION Clerk

142/2021 PARISH MEETING 8th OCTOBER: Final discussion on arrangements.

- Agenda to be drafted and circulated to Cllrs and printed off for residents attending.
- Cllr Gardner to advertise the event on facebook.

143/2021 UPDATES AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: -

(a) Highway/Roads. Drungewick Lane Speeding problems. The Parish Council felt that a TRO would have very little chance of success for a reduction in a speed limit to 40mph and the fact that there had not been any serious injuries would mean the police would have little concern.

(b) Drainage/Flooding/ Sewerage Infrastructure- PFR Meeting 23rd September report.

- The Loxwood Flood mitigation project had been concluded by holding a workshop for residents affected by flooding to explore the Property Flood Resilience scheme offered by the Environmental Agency. The EA would set up the project and funding was available to these residents.
- Drainage- Surface water drainage issues would be followed up following meetings with developers of sites currently with planning permission along the B2133.

(c) North Hall- The Trustees were exploring the installation of Solar Panels.

- Cllr Newman asked if anything could be done regarding the sight lines for exiting the Hall.
- The Landowner with the hedge to the left of the exit would be contacted and asked to reduce the height and width of the hedge in the near vicinity of the exit. ACTION Clerk.
- The Farmers Market previously located at Wisborough Green had applied to relocate to North Hall and this was currently being looked into.

(d) School-

- The Head teacher at the Loxwood school had resigned and there was expected to be a time of limbo before the post could be filled. The current Head would leave at Christmas.
- The preschool were putting together a grant application for the replacement of the outside classroom canopy and were currently obtaining quotes.

(e) Neighbourhood Plan- CDC were seeking legal advice regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and the Water Neutrality issue of all new developments having to use zero net water. The details of this will be shared with the Parish Council in due course.

144/2021 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES. Bus shelter book library, resident monitor to be asked for. New Councillors. Farm Close presentation. Speed watch advertisement.

145/2021 PARISH MATTERS: The 9th November was fixed as the date for the Finance Meeting 7pm.

146/2021 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2021.

147/2021 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC TO DISCUSS CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES

148/2021 STAFF MATTERS.

148.1 The Clerk's salary increase was approved commencing 1st April 2022

148.2 The Clerk's Office allowance increase was approved.

The meeting closed at 10.30pm

