



Loxwood Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council of Loxwood to be held on Monday 5th September 2022 at 8.00pm in the main hall North Hall.

118/2022 ATTENDANCE: Parish Councillors: Charles Todhunter (Acting Chair); Tony Colling; Roger Newman; Simon Bates; Annette Gardner. James Hume CDC Gareth Evans; WSCC Janet Dunton (left the meeting after 124/2022).

Six members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Parish Councillors: Rick Kelsey and Hannah Carey.

119/2022 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: None.

120/2022 COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION. The resignation of Councillor Chris Agar was noted by the Councillors, grateful thanks for all he had done were expressed.

121/2022 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS – The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings on 4th July 2022, and the Planning Committee Minutes of the 4th July 2022 together with the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting on 1st August are accurate accounts of those meetings.

122/2022 **APPENDIX 1 ACTION POINT LIST**: The Parish Council updated the list of Actions.

123/2022 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – One resident spoke concerning the item 126/2022 and the letter to be considered for submission to CDC. The resident had helped draft the letter and would take any questions during the item.

124/2022 REPORT FROM WSCC JANET DUNTON- See attached report.

125/2022 REPORT FROM CDC GARETH EVANS- See attached report. Cllr Evans was asked to follow up when the outcome of the sustainability appraisal for housing numbers in the northern parishes would be concluded. **ACTION**

126/2022 APPENDIX 2 SELF BUILD SITES' ROLE IN THE FUTURE OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE PARISH.

Discuss the Parish Council's stance on this subject and review attached draft letter for submission to CDC regarding our support of self -building in the Parish.

Cllr Colling corrected one of the facts in the letter: The exact number of affordable homes was about 120 not 200; The Neighbourhood Plan encourages houses to be built in the style of the vernacular and the letter gives the impression a free and open vernacular style, which goes against the policy of the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Colling confirmed he could not support the letter in its current form but some re wording may be possible.

The author of the letter: replied that the level of affordable housing even at 120 was up to the maximum required for the Parish; the design standard in the Neighbourhood Plan should avoid self or custom build houses departing from the vernacular of the area. The author of the letter felt the character of the Parish would be improved by some departure from a standard design but within the design standard laid out. Central Government is supportive on Custom Build and some policy on this would be required within the Revised Chichester Local Plan with which the revised Neighbourhood Plan must concur.

Cllr Bates felt the current developments did not appear to be in keeping with the Parish style and it would be nice to recapture the village style within future designs.

The resident was asked that the letter be reworded to refer to the Neighbourhood Plan design standards and then it would be re considered by the Parish Council. **ACTION**

127/2022 HERITAGE TRAIL- The following update was circulated to the councillors.

The Loxwood History website has 'grown' since the early idea and so it has taken a bit longer than expected...but its better!

- We now have 52 Points of Interest on the walking tour map with 45 of the text drafted.
- The leaflet and map numbers had minimal changes so that shouldn't add to the costs.
- There is a section on the website for other villages which are: Ifold, Plaistow, Kirdford, Wisborough Green, Alfold. Three of those are complete with pictures and text.
- A stories section has interesting articles from newspapers that people can add to and send in their memories, that section will be completed this week
- The Timeline section will start in 1256 and have the Monarchs and the village development at the time.

The test site should be ready to check towards the end of September.

128/2022 GRANT APPLICATIONS:

128.1 **APPENDIX 3a** Alfold and Loxwood Flower Festival Sponsorship £50. The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the funding of £50.

128.2 Hope Charity grant application **APPENDIX 3b**. Following receipt of data on need for support in Loxwood data circulated previously.

The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve a grant for £2000 as a one off but with the provision that the benefit if any achieved is reported back. **ACTION**

129/2022 APPENDIX 4 ROTATION OF SID AND ROTATION OF PLAYGROUND CHECKING RESPONSIBILITIES AND REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT FOR SPINNER: Discussion.

Cllr Todhunter advised the SID management had received a complaint that the SID had been in one place too long. He advised that this was due to a holiday period during which it was not moved and going forward it would be rotated every three weeks' time allowing.

Cllr Hume would assist with the playground checking and Cllr Carey would be asked to pass the folder to Cllr Hume in due course. **ACTION**

The Parish Council discussed the broken basket spinner and RESOLVED to replace the spinner as the bearing appeared to be stuck in the broken section of the spinner. Further research on the type of spinner would be carried out and in the meantime, the remaining stump would be cut off at ground level. Eventually the stub shaft would need to be dug out and the wet pour repaired.

(Following the meeting it was found that the spinner could be repaired and this action will no longer take place)

130/2022 DOG Waste BIN SPY LANE: Problem of odour for adjacent neighbour. Discussion. The bin had been cleaned but this had made no difference. The bin was to be relocated to North Hall if permission could be granted by CDC and a notice put up to advise residents of the change.

ACTION

131/2022 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT -The September payments were RESOLVED as approved.

132/2022 BANKING SIGNATORIES: Change of signatories from Chris Agar to Charles Todhunter following the resignation of Chris Agar. The Councillors noted and RESOLVED to approve this change and the forms were duly signed by the appropriate Councillors and the Clerk.

133/2022 COMPLETION OF AUDIT. **APPENDIX 5** External Audit report for noting. The Councillors noted the report and that the Annual Return process was complete.

134/2022 NEW HOMES BONUS £2450. Projects for an application to be discussed. The Parish Council RESOLVED to use the funds to supply a new spinner for the playground. ***(Following the meeting it was found that the spinner could be repaired and this action will no longer take place).***

135/2022 MICROPHONE FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: A resident has pointed out the poor acoustics in the hall at North Hall and wonders if anything could be done to improve the hearing of dialogue between the Councillors by the general public at meetings.

The Parish Council felt that a notice should be posted with the agenda that those hard of hearing advise the Clerk ahead of the meeting so arrangements could be made to help those afflicted.

Councillors were also asked to speak up. **ACTION**

136/2022 UPDATES AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:-

(a) Highway/Roads.

- The update on the Traffic Calming was given during item 122/2022.

- Speed watch has been taking place over the summer. The Vicarage Hill session recording the most vehicles exceeding the speed limit.
- The resurfacing of the B2133 to commence from 12th Sept when sections of the road would be closed.

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

(c) School. Cllr Newman reported that there were staff recruiting problems and the intake was again low this year.

(d) North Hall: Hallt Land discussion by Trustee **APPENDIX 6**. The North Hall Trustee present advised the tract of land behind the car park has no access other than through North Hall driveway. There has been ongoing dialogue with the landowner. The Trustees of the Hall have been contacted by the owner recently for support for some development on the land if part of the land were donated to the Hall. The North Hall Committee voted that they didn't want to see any building on the land at all. The Trustees replied to the owner in this regard. The land had recently been offered for sale to the Trustees with a covenant to ensure the Trustees do not develop it. The trustees are considering this proposal to purchase the land.

(e) Thakeham /Stonewater site. An application for a grant from Stonewater had been chased recently by the Clerk.

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

137/2022 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES. Those with hearing difficulties or any other disability requirements to alert the Clerk ahead of the PC meetings if they had problems. Replace equipment in playground. Crouchlands planning to be heard in October. Speed watch call for volunteers. 110 vehicles exceeding the speed limit in an hour along Vicarage Hill.

138/2022 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA. Councillor Co Option.

139/2022 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 3rd October 2022

The meeting closed at 22.15pm