



Loxwood Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council of Loxwood held on Monday 6th February 2023 at 8.00pm in the main hall North Hall.

18/2023 ATTENDANCE: Parish Councillors: Rick Kelsey (Chair); Charles Todhunter; Jamie Lynch; Annette Gardner; Tony Colling; Simon Bates; Roger Newman; James Hume. WSCC and CDC Janet Duncton (left the meeting after item 23/2023). CDC Gareth Evans (left the meeting after 25/2023). Jane Bromley, Parish Council Clerk. 5 members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Parish Councillor: Hannah Carey.

19/2023 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: Cllr Bates declared an interest in Thakeham site to be discussed during item by virtue of proximity of home address.

20/2023 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS – The Parish Council Resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings on 9th January 2023, and the Planning Committee Minutes of the 9th January 2023 are accurate accounts of those meetings.

21/2023 **APPENDIX 1 ACTION POINT LIST:** The Parish Council updated the list of Actions.

Item 34/2023 b) was heard here.

22/2023 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – A resident spoke concerning Self and Custom Build (S&CB) and advised S&CB was now in the revised Local Plan. The resident would be making a representation to the Reg 19 Consultation to make some recommendations. The resident had arranged for Government Officials to meet up with CDC in due course and he asked if the Parish Councillors would like to be present? The resident expressed a wish to work with the Parish Council on S&CB for Loxwood via the Neighbourhood Plan revision. The resident would also like to post on the Facebook page for the community regarding this issue.

23/2023 REPORT FROM WSCC JANET DUNCTON- See attached report.

24/2023 REPORT FROM CDC GARETH EVANS-See attached report. CDC Evans mentioned the topic of discussion at his last Loxwood surgery was the CDC housing allocation for Loxwood in the revised Local Plan Consultation.

Item 31/2023 was heard here.

25/2023 **APPENDIX 2 LOXWOOD SPORTS ASSOCIATION GRANT APPLICATION:** The application was for £45K and the applicant advised the building needed renovation as it is 40 years old



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and expansion due to increased demand. The Association had been hit with high energy bills recently which had eaten into its Reserves.

Cllr Newman advised that this facility was an asset to the village and felt the Parish Council should support this benefit. The facility would need to be updated to continue to provide a good quality service.

The Parish Council agreed with Cllr Newman and RESOLVED to pay the full grant for £45K.

ACTION Clerk

26/2023 NORTH HALL HEATING COSTS: Update on the cost of heating North Hall and any PC grant requirement. The current bill showed a deficit of £3400 after a credit and Government Grant. After March a new discount scheme from the Government made it unclear as to the future. The Hall felt the Hall had enough funds to cope with the bill so far.

The PV Panels will begin to be installed on Monday 16th February 2023.

27/2023 SKIFF LANE 30mph TRO APPLICATION AND POSSIBLE DRUNGEWICK LANE 30mph TRO: Update and resident correspondence.

Cllr Newman, had as a resident, canvassed residents of Skiff Lane for comments on the TRO proposal. A resident had complained that he had not disclosed he was a Councillor nor was it a wide enough consultation to canvas all users.

The Parish Council had advertised for comments in the Village Newsletter and several comments had been received through this method of consultation from users of the Lane. Nearly a dozen supportive comments had been received three of which had suggested 40mph would be appropriate. Ultimately it would be WSCC Highways that would decide whether the speed limit would be reduced and as to what speed it would be set.

The Clerk would submit the TRO with all resident comments to WSCC **ACTION Clerk**

A resident had also asked if Drungewick Lane could also be included in the TRO application.

The Parish Council would see how the application for Skiff Lane progressed and then consider Drungewick Lane.

28/2023 VINTAGE JUNCTION SIGN REFURBISHMENT PROPOSAL: Discussion. Cllr Todhunter had been advised it was the Parish Council's responsibility to refurbish the historic sign post at the junction with Plaistow Road. A quote for restoration would be obtained. **ACTION Clerk**

29/2023 SOUTHERN WATER, WSCC AND PARISHES MEETING: QUESTION PROPOSALS:

Discussion. Loxwood Parish Council would attend this meeting but given they had already commented to Ofwat regarding the infrastructure situation they would listen to replies to other Parishes questions rather than submit any of their own.



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30/2023 BREWHURST BRIDGE REPAIR FUNDING: Proposal by WSCC Highways for contribution by the Parish Council: Discussion.

A quote for the works had not yet been obtained but the Parish Council RESOLVED they would not contribute as the structure existed on private land.

31/2023 LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION TO 17th MARCH 2023: Discussion as to: The possibility of engaging a Planning Consultant to respond on behalf of the NE Parishes; the future of the Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan; and whether to hold a public meeting to communicate with the Parish regarding this.

Cllr Colling made a presentation regarding the situation.

The revised draft CDC Local Plan shows a further 220 houses for Loxwood any sites approved before 1/4/2021 were not to be included in this number. With existing permissions outside of the Neighbourhood Plan would reach 290. The Policy 15 set out for this allocation has 10 criteria for information pertaining to any approved site which would be difficult for Loxwood Parish Council to achieve.

Previously in the original revisions to the Local Plan 125 houses were allocated to Loxwood. On the back of that allocation Loxwood produced a revised Neighbourhood Plan which was consulted with at Regulation 14 with the Loxwood Community and was submitted to CDC for further progress. Water Neutrality stopped this process.

In the meantime CDC have looked further into allocating housing to the North of the District due to problems with allocating housing in the South.

Recently Loxwood Parish Council advised the new allocation. Loxwood Parish Council have to decide if they are to undertake a further revision to the Neighbourhood Plan. The current Plan runs to 2029 and CIL will be payable at 25%, the rate for Parishes with a Made Neighbourhood Plan (without a Plan this would be 15%), until then if not beyond although the housing policies will be out of date.

Cllr Colling proposed a Public Meeting this month to advise the Community of the circumstances around the Revised Draft Local Plan and about the consultation. The Parish Council would also like to understand how the Community felt as to comments regarding the number allocation from CDC. The consultation for the revised Local Plan ends on 17th March 2023.

If there was a decision to go forward with the Neighbourhood Plan then community members would need to be involved and someone from the Parish Council would need to Chair the meetings.

The date for a public meeting was agreed as 20th February 2023 8pm or 8.30pm to be confirmed with the hall booking clerk.



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32/2023 NE PARISHES GROUP FORMALISATION PROPOSAL BY CDALC: Discussion. The item to be carried forward to the next meeting

33/2023 PAYMENT SCHEDULE FEBRUARY: Circulated separately. The payments were RESOLVED as approved.

34/2023 UPDATES AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: -

(a) Highway/Roads. No report.

(b) Drainage/ Sewerage Infrastructure.

Cllr Bates described the sewerage holding tank that had been constructed by Thakeham for their site and the fact that the smell when it was being emptied was over powering to nearby residents.

A resident has been assisting the Parish Council in this regard. He spoke concerning the three parties involved Thakeham Southern Water and Chichester District Council (CDC); Southern Water (SW) were responsible however; CDC have approved an installation which albeit supposed to be temporary should not have been approved as it was an unacceptable way to deal with the sewerage from 50 homes. There was no indication from SW how temporary the solution was. The resident felt that it would be up to the residents of the site to make a complaint and a nearby neighbour had complained to environmental health at CDC. The resident displayed a diagram of the situation with pipework and tank. The Parish Council had sent a letter to CDC and Ofwat concerning this to try to ensure this does not happen again.

(c) School- The Chair of Governors have resigned. The school would like to apply for funding for a gate for the footpath area and electric gates at the front of the school with a camera. Both issues for safety. The estimate was £15K.

The Parish Council were not in favour of funding these projects and this comment would be passed back to the School.

(d) North Hall: Nothing further.

(e) Thakeham /Stonewater site. Nothing further.

(f) Neighbourhood Plan. Nothing further.



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(g) Heritage Trail. Awaiting specifications for the notice boards.

35/2023 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES. Local Plan Consultation running to 17th March. Reporting Potholes method.

36/2023 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA. Nothing as yet

37/2023 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 6th March 2023

The meeting closed at 10.20pm