



Loxwood Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council of Loxwood held on Tuesday 13th
June 2023 at 8.00pm in the main hall North Hall.

82/2023 ATTENDANCE: Parish Councillors: Rick Kelsey (Chair); James Hume; Annette Gardner; Charles Todhunter; Sarah Dobson; Jamie Lynch; Roger Newman. CDC Gareth Evans (left the meeting at item 90/2023). WSCC Janet Duncton (arrived during item 85/2023 left the meeting at item 88/2023). Jane Bromley Clerk. 8 members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Parish Councillor: None.

83/2023 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: None.

84/2023 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS – The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings on 25th May 2023, and the Planning Committee Minutes of the 25th May 2023 are accurate accounts of those meetings.

85/2023 **APPENDIX 1** ACTION POINT LIST: The Parish Council updated the list of Actions.

86/2023 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – A resident spoke concerning the Brewhurst Bridge repairs. He felt, if repairs were to take place they should be sympathetic with the surrounds and the historic setting. He stressed the importance of carrying out the repairs for safety reasons. A second resident spoke concerning the bridge and stressed the danger to children as the area was difficult to get down to, to affect a rescue.

A resident pointed out Giant Hog Weed encroaching the Wey and Arun Canal path. The Clerk was to try to establish the land owner to write to the landowner to point out the problem and also to contact the Wey and Arun Canal to see if they continue to spray annually. **ACTION Clerk**

A resident requested to speak during item 90/2023. He confirmed he wished to speak to the draft letter on Self and Custom Build. The resident advised that S&CB was becoming more prevalent and was now to be included in planning law and therefore the Local Plan.

87/2023 REPORT FROM WSCC JANET DUNCTON- See attached report.

88/2023 REPORT FROM CDC GARETH EVANS AND CDC CHARLES TODHUNTER- See attached report.

89/2023 OFWAT COMPLAINT LETTER: Discussion as to whether to continue with this complaint given the report circulated separately regarding this issue where Southern Water(SW) have acknowledged the problem.

The resident acting as a Parish Council consultant advised the concern re the Thakeham site connection to the sewerage infrastructure which currently has a cesspool to be emptied every day. A letter had been sent to Ofwat to investigate what was going on in February 2023. A nearby resident had arranged a meeting with CDC and SW and it was agreed the

arrangement be replaced and a scheme is being designed with the work being fast tracked to be finalised October or September. The scheme to allow sewerage to be held in tanks until discharge can be carried out in to the existing infrastructure. Occasionally tanking away may still be required. SW have also upgraded the urgency for new infrastructure for Loxwood although it will still be many years before any work is done on the ground. The PC Consultant thereby advised that no further action is therefore taken with Ofwat but the letter is not withdrawn. There is an outstanding request from Ofwat for further information but there is nothing further that the Parish Council has to send and the Clerk was asked to respond.

ACTION Clerk

90/2023 **APPENDIX 2 SELF AND CUSTOM BUILD:** Letter to CDC discussion on content. The resident who wrote the first draft of the letter advised of a couple of changes which were agreed. The Clerk was asked to send the letter as amended to CDC. **ACTION Clerk**

The resident felt the Revised Neighbourhood Plan should be changed to reflect the S & CB in the revised Local Plan.

91/2023 **PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE REQUIRED:** Report from Cllr Hume. Some repairs are needed to the activity trail wobbly bridge. The Clerk to look at the repairs required and report back. **ACTION Clerk**

92/2023 **DOG BINS:** Discussion as to the idea of replacing dog bins with general waste bins which allow dog bags and which are less expensive to empty.

Cllrs discussed the positioning of new general bins which needed to be close to a road for emptying. It was felt they should not be near houses. Likely positions were to be investigated and a licence obtained from WSCC to position them after consultation with the residents. Existing dog bins were to be replaced as well. Cllr Dobson and Cllr Todhunter would research new locations. **ACTION Cllr SD And CT.**

93/2023 **SITE FOR BANNER:** Discuss idea of positioning posts for a banner at Nursery Green and or North Hall.

Cllr Kelsey would talk to the North Hall Committee and a resident from Nursery Green present at the meeting would ask the Nursery Green Residents' Committee. It was also felt the Station Rd junction was a good position and repositioning there may also be an option as it was a central location. **ACTION Cllr RK**

94/2023 **HERITAGE TRAIL SIGNS:** Discussion as to whether two more Heritage Trail signs are required.

A meeting has been set up with the resident responsible for the Heritage Trail with costing to be presented and therefore this item carried forward.

95/2023 **APPENDIX 3 SONGHURST WOOD FOOTPATH APPLICATION.** The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to support the application and Cllr Kelsey would speak to a resident who it was imagined had walked the route for many years. **Action Cllr Kelsey**

96/2023 WEY AND ARUN CANAL TRUST GRANT APPLICATION. **APPENDIX 4.** The application was to be submitted in July and this item was carried forward.

97/2023 APPENDIX 5 NORTH HALL TREE SURVEY. Cllr Kelsey to canvas the opinion of the North Hall Management Committee. **ACTION Cllr Kelsey.**

97/2023 PAYMENT SCHEDULE June: Circulated separately. Payments totalling £2380.39 were RESOLVED as approved.

98/2023 UPDATES AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:-

- (a) Highway/Roads. A meeting to be arranged with the Traffic Consultant. The Speed Watch group have been active.
- (b) School. The Choir sang at the fete which was very good.
- (c) North Hall. A grant application re the changes to the entrance is expected.
- (d) Local Plan/Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Kelsey felt a Steering Group should be set up making a lot of use of consultants. To be discussed further at the next meeting. The Clerk was asked to research Consultants. **ACTION Clerk**

99/2023 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES. Councillor Vacancies. Giant Hog Weed. Councillor responsibilities.

100/2023 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA. Heritage Trail. Neighbourhood Plan. 150 years since the church moved from Church Cottage.

101/2023 DATE OF FORTHCOMING MEETING: 4th July 2023

The meeting closed at 9.50pm