



Loxwood Parish Council

Minutes to the meeting of the Parish Council of Loxwood held on
Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 8.00pm in the main hall North
Hall.

119/2023 ATTENDANCE: Parish Councillors: Rick Kelsey (Chair); Charles Todhunter; Roger Newman; James Hume; Annette Gardner; Sarah Dobson; Jamie Lynch, Valerie Woods (from item 121/2023). Jane Bromley, Clerk. Six members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: CDC Gareth Evans.

120/2023 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: None.

121/2023 CO OPTION: Valerie Woods nominated herself for Co Option. The Parish Council RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to Co Opt Valerie Woods as a member of Loxwood Parish Council. Cllr Woods then joined the members for the meeting.

122/2023 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS – The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings on 4th July 2023, and the Planning Committee Minutes of the 4th July and 1st August 2023 are accurate accounts of those meetings.

123/2023 **APPENDIX 1** ACTION POINT LIST: The Parish Council updated the list of Actions.

124/2023 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – A resident and Trustee of North Hall spoke during 127/2023 and another resident spoke during item 128/2023. A resident spoke during item 131/2023 as resident consultant to the Parish Council on self and custom build.

125/2023 REPORT FROM WSCC JANET DUNCTON- See attached report.

126/2023 REPORT FROM CDC GARETH EVANS AND CDC CHARLES TODHUNTER- See attached report.

127/2023 **APPENDIX 2** NORTH HALL GRANT APPLICATION. A Trustee spoke to ask for part funding for safety improvements for the Hall access. Widening is required and a description of the new arrangement had been sent through. The application is for £20K.

Cllr Kelsey asked if the tree removal and grinding of stump was included? The trustees confirmed the cost for this was approximately £500 and would be funded by the Hall funds.

Cllr Woods asked if the tree removal was absolutely necessary and the Trustees confirmed it was for room for the access improvements.



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Cllr Newman remarked that there was only one quote and the Trustees explained that the quote was from the contractor who had carried out the initial works at the car park and the new works would match the existing.

The Parish Council RESOLVED that three quotes should be sought for to enable them to consider the grant application but in principle the works were supported to a maximum of £20K. This matter will be revisited at the October meeting.

128/2023 **APPENDIX 3 WEY AND ARUN CANAL TRUST GRANT APPLICATION.** A volunteer for WACT spoke about the vandalism the Trust had suffered to its pumps and the cost for repair was £100K. The volunteers had carried out some of the works required to rectify the situation and raised £44971 mainly from private donations. The funding is going towards machinery and equipment.

Cllr Kelsey asked if the Trust had insurance and they had not.

Cllr Gardener expressed support as the Canal was a valued feature in the village.

The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the grant for £10k. **ACTION Clerk**

129/2023 **APPENDIX 4 FOUR SIGHT: REQUEST FOR A DONATION.**

The Cllrs noted there were four individuals being supported in Loxwood and the Parish Council RESOLVED to donate £220 which would support four persons for a year. **ACTION Clerk**

130/2023 **APPENDIX 5 RENEGADES:** Discussion on topics raised. The Trustees of North Hall felt there was not enough information in the note to understand what was required. Cllr Kelsey asked if the Trustees supported the group. The Trustees explained the group used the hall four nights a week. There could be no further discussions until the group leader attended a meeting.

131/2023 **PAYMENT SCHEDULE August and September:** The payments of £4703.08 and £3367.66 respectively, were RESOLVED as approved.



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132/2023 UPDATES AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: -

(a) Highway/Roads.

TRO Drungewick Lane. A resident had spoken to the Chair about speed along the Lane and as to whether the Parish Council could apply for a reduced speed limit for the lane. The Parish Council had previously decided to await the outcome of the TRO for Skiff Lane before applying for a TRO for Drungewick Lane.

12th September Traffic Consultant Meeting. An agenda would be sent out and a premeeting to look at the Thakeham Traffic Calming would be arranged.

(b) School- A grant application had been sent to the fete committee for laptops.

(c) North Hall: Playground matters. A new toddler swing had been ordered to replace that damaged.

Cllr Kelsey as North Hall Council representative would attend North Hall Trustee AGMs in future.

(d) Local Plan/Neighbourhood Plan/ Self and Custom Build. Feedback from 7th August meeting with CDC.

Cllr Kelsey spoke about the meeting with CDC that most Cllrs attended and also William McGeough (WM), the Parish Council resident consultant on self and custom, attended, but was told he could not by CDC. CDC had also not invited their self-build officer.

Cllr Kelsey took from the meeting that the Council need to revise the Neighbourhood Plan and would like to invite WM to become a member of the Steering Group to advise, regarding self and custom build.

CDC would like the Parish to commit to the revision but not to commence works until the Local Plan was in place which was thought not to be for another year.

The scope of works for a consultant would be revised to ask for assistance with deciding how and when to move forward. **ACTION RK**

(e) Heritage Trail. Cllr Kelsey updated that the Trail was very successful and U3A would be using part of it led by the originator of it. The leaflets had been reprinted and additional boards made together and the headers for the boards had been ordered. A stand had been offered at next year's Joust event. The additional costs were to be met as previously approved, by the Parish Council.



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133/2023 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES. One Cllr vacancy. Planning permission has been granted for the shop at Nursery Green and building is expected to start soon, an occupant is still required.

134/2023 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA. Nothing at this time.

135/2023 DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETING: 3rd October 2023

136/2023 CLOSED SESSION

137/2023 STAFF MATTERS: Consideration of purchasing a PO Box for correspondence £396 per annum (monthly direct debit). The Council RESOLVED to approve this proposal.

To Consider changing to a mobile phone to be the contact number for the Parish Council. The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve this proposal.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm