



Loxwood Parish Council

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

38/2023 ATTENDANCE: Parish Councillors: Rick Kelsey (Chair); Roger Newman; Annette Gardner; Simon Bates; Charles Todhunter; Jamie Lynch. CDC Gareth Evans; CDC & WSCC Janet Duncton. Six members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Parish Councillor Tony Colling.

Non -attendance: Parish Councillors: James Hume and Hannah Carey.

39/2023 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: None.

40/2023 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS – The Parish Council Resolved the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings on 6th February 2023, and the Planning Committee Minutes of the 6th February 2023 are accurate accounts of those meetings.

41/2023 **APPENDIX 1** ACTION POINT LIST: The Parish Council updated the list of actions.

42/2023 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – A resident spoke concerning the Neighbourhood Plan. Residents in the Parish would be interested in setting up a Forum to produce a revised plan. Cllr Kelsey clarified the Parish Council were happy to become involved but would not be able to Chair a Working Group or invest significant time.

Two residents spoke regarding the Clay Pits Appeal during item 47/2023. The resident Campaign Group against the proposals have agreed to attend the appeal as a Rule 6 Party. As a Rule 6 Party the status is on the same level as the WSCC Planning Department. Funds for a barrister and consultants are being raised a total of £75,000 is required. Costs are only awarded if behaviour is unreasonable (non- compliance with procedure, no regard to Government Policies, pursuing a no hope case) and therefore not likely to be awarded against the Campaign Group. Further funding in the order of about £20,000 is required. The Group would like to form an alliance across the community. The Campaign, Loxwood Parish Council and Rudgwick Parish Council possibly Alfold Parish Council. This needs to be decided before March 23rd.

43/2023 REPORT FROM WSCC JANET DUNCTON- See attached report.

44/2023 REPORT FROM CDC GARETH EVANS- See attached report.

Item 47/2023 was heard here.

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45/2023 **APPENDIX 2** VINTAGE JUNCTION SIGN REFURBISHMENT PROPOSAL: Discussion on quote £940 net. The repair will be deferred for the time being but kept in mind.

46/2023 **APPENDIX 3** LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION TO 17th MARCH 2023: Discussion. The draft proposal for the Parish Council's submission was discussed. The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the objection and the Clerk will respond to the Consultation as detailed in the Appendix after a review for clarity. **ACTION Clerk**

47/2023 LOXWOOD CLAY PITS APPLICATION APPEAL LISTING APP/P3800/W/23/3315146:
The Parish Council to discuss and agree regarding the following:

47.1 LPC acting as an Interested Party. Cllr Kelsey proposed that the Parish Council become a joint Rule 6 Party to the appeal and not an Interested Party and all were in favour to RESOLVE this proposal.

47.2 Agree or not to share Interested Party status with the Resident Campaign; No longer thought relevant.

47.3 Instruct Jane Ashcroft to write a response to the appeal. As the Parish Council are to be a joint Rule 6 Party the involvement of Janet Ashton may not be necessary although a quote of £1500 plus expenses had been received from her.

The Parish Council to consider a donation to the Rule 6 Parties barrister and consultant costs, possibly in the order of £5000 to be discussed again at the April meeting. **ACTION Clerk**

47.4 Instruct Jane Ashcroft to draft a statement which LPC would read out at the appeal. To be reconsidered. Parish Councillor Colling to be asked to speak to Janet Ashton for her advice. **ACTION Cllr Colling**

48/2023 NE PARISHES GROUP FORMALISATION PROPOSAL BY CDALC: Discussion.

Cllr Kelsey felt a formalisation of the Group was a good idea.

Cllr Todhunter felt the informal arrangement worked well currently and was formalisation.

Further discussion and the Councillors RESOLVED to feed back an adhoc basis was preferable to formal regular meetings. **ACTION Clerk**

49/2023 **APPENDIX 4** IFOLD SCOUTS GRANT APPLICATION. The Councillors discussed the application. A Parish resident had made some comments regarding the application which were discussed as well. The lack of quotes and details of the work involved were remarked upon. Councillors felt they could not commit public money to this project without further

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detail or at least an applicant attending the meeting. The Clerk would feed back to the applicants.

50/2023 PAYMENT SCHEDULE MARCH: Circulated separately. Payments totalling £57354.27 were RESOLVED as approved.

51/2023 UPDATES AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:-

- (a) Highway/Roads. Further traffic calming road markings have been painted along the B2133 by the Thakeham site. The Skiff Lane TRO has been submitted.
- (b) Drainage/ Sewerage Infrastructure. No reply to the Ofwat letter had been received and a chasing letter would be sent. **ACTION Clerk**. CDC have acknowledged receipt of the letter sent to them regarding the sewerage arrangements for the Thakeham site. A resident had written complaining about the situation and the odour that is inflicted upon them when the sewage tank is emptied. A better arrangement has been pointed out to CDC (*corrected to Southern Water outside of the meeting*) who are looking into this as a solution.
- (c) School- The School had requested a grant application form for play equipment. **ACTION Clerk** The school may have a stand at the fete.
- (d) North Hall: The PV panels are up and running and the Trustees are very pleased with them. The application for the smart export guarantee has to be completed.
- (e) Thakeham /Stonewater site. Stonewater have failed to offer any contribution in lieu of the CIL that was not due to be paid as all the units on the site were affordable housing.
- (f) Neighbourhood Plan. Awaiting finalisation of the Local Plan and it was not envisaged anything could be achieved before 2024. A meeting will be arranged with residents interested in getting involved at some point after discussion with Cllr Colling.
- (g) Heritage Trail. The notice board quotes are awaited. North Hall, Onslow Arms and one in the centre of the village by Church Cottage are envisaged. Leaflets to be distributed to households shortly and to be launched as a Parish Council initiative although credit should be given to the originator.

52/2023 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES. Heritage Trail. Annual Parish Meeting. Elections. Home for the weather station.

53/2023 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA. TBC

54/2023 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 3rd APRIL 2023: 25th APRIL FINANCE MEETING 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm