

# Minutes 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008

## LOXWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

An ordinary meeting of Loxwood Parish Council was held at 7:30pm on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008 in St John the Baptist Church Room, Loxwood.

**Present:** Parish Councillors: Alison Sanderson (Chairman), Charlie Whitmarsh (Vice Chairman), Elizabeth Dugdale, Mirus Kuszel, Priscilla Phillips, Scott Taylor, David Townsend.  
County Councillor Chris Duncton  
1 member of the public.

Appoint a temporary minute taker: Scott Taylor

### **69/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Sacha Pawley

### **ADJOURNMENT: Questions from the members of the public**

A query was raised regarding the future of the Public Telephone Box outside the P.O. – This was to be dealt with as an agenda item.

The Footpath sign opposite the Chapel in Spy Lane was missing.

Chris Duncton: Informed Members that a decision had been taken at a meeting if the PCT that Worthing be the preferred option.

Clive Roberts was the new Cabinet Member with responsibility for Highways.

The condition of the footpath linking Ifold and Loxwood was discussed.

### **70/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Charlie Whitmarsh: LX/08/01441/ELD & LX/08/01443/ELD: Acquaintance of Applicant

Scott Taylor: LX/08/02040/DOM: Near neighbour

### **71/08 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was proposed by Mirus Kuszel, seconded by Howard Thomas and agreed that the minutes were a correct record of the ordinary Parish Council meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008. The Chairman signed the minutes.

### **72/08 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- (i) No response to the issue of the road sweepers, not coming to Loxwood since Christmas/canal road closure. Chris Duncton offered to look into the matter.
- (ii) Query as to why Martlets had cut down the wild pear tree at the corner of Nicholsfield/Station Road. – It was deemed diseased and potentially dangerous.

## **73/08 PLANNING MATTERS**

### **(P) Loxwood**

LX/08/02033/LBC

Mr And Mrs R Keates

Pound Cottage Spy Lane Loxwood Billingshurst

Replace existing sunroom with a traditional brick and the single storey extension with alterations.

O.S. Grid Ref. 504011/131986

**Parish Council Comment: No objection**

### **(P) Loxwood**

LX/08/02040/DOM

Mr Anthony Parks

Sheaves Farm House Pigbush Lane Loxwood Billingshurst

Erection of 2 storey pitched roof extensions to rear (north) of property. Alteration of front (south) elevation to incorporate 2 no. dormer windows and 2 no. roof lights. Proposed single storey pitched roof link structure to connect dwelling to existing adjacent garage unit.

O.S. Grid Ref. 503881/133431

**Parish Council Comment: No objection**

### **(P) Loxwood**

LX/08/02065/DOM

Ms V Claydon

Walthurst Farmhouse Walthurst Lane Loxwood Billingshurst

Construction of new three bay open garage and log store.

O.S. Grid Ref. 503373/128974

**Parish Council Comment: No objection**

### **(P) Loxwood**

LX/08/01441/ELD

Mr Ashley Ward

Oakhurst Farm Oakhurst Lane Loxwood Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0QR

Excavation of soil and import and consolidation of hardcore with planings on top to form a new vehicular access track.

O.S. Grid Ref. 503252/132860

**Parish Council Comment: We do not wish to comment on this application**

### **(P) Loxwood**

LX/08/01443/ELD

Mr Ashley Ward

Oakhurst Farm Oakhurst Lane Loxwood Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0QR

Use of tracks from the B2133 and Oakhurst Lane across Oakhurst Farm for vehicular access to lakes, land and woodland for commercial fishing and game shooting maintenance of lakes spillways sluices and adjoining areas and commercial agricultural and forestry activities.

O.S. Grid Ref. 503252/132860

**Parish Council Comment: We do not wish to comment on this application**

### **Telephone box outside PO.**

PC in contact with decision makers in an attempt to preserve the box. It was suggested that it be changed to a card phone if part of the problem was the emptying of the coin box.

### **Dunsfold Park**

The PC would formally object on the grounds of:

Increased traffic through Loxwood and the surrounding roads.

The fact that under the original agreement the land at Dunsfold was to revert to agricultural land.

Flooding on the 281 was already a problem, which would be exacerbated by extra buildings.

Damage to the eco system and the bio diversity of the site.

The danger that houses would come before the infrastructure, therefore new homeowners on the site would use surrounding villages, with a knock on effect on numbers in schools, surgeries etc.

The visual impact.

As the matter was considered to be of great importance to Loxwood, it was agreed that Edward Gittins would be approached to see if he could respond on behalf of the PC. Scott Taylor agreed to deal with the matter. The members agreed that Scott Taylor could negotiate on behalf of the PC as to the fee, up to a maximum amount of £500.00, as there would not be enough time to bring the matter back to Council. Priscilla Phillips asked that it be noted that she abstained from the vote.

### **74/08 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

It was noted that the report showed the bank balance at March instead of May, this was corrected. Members noted the Parish Council's payments and receipts in May 2008, and summary transactions and account balances at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2008. It was proposed by Howard Thomas and seconded by Mirus Kuszel and agreed to approve the total payments of £2756.06.

David Townsend informed Members that he had now changed the insurance to the Norwich Union on a 3 year deal.

It was proposed by Howard Thomas, seconded by Charlie Whitmarsh and agreed that the transfer to reserve would be £7,500 rather than £10,000, as a number of payments were expected to be due soon.

The PAYE for the Clerk had been submitted on line for a £100 discount.

### **75/08 SIDs**

Howard Thomas reported that he had been in contact with Rudgwick PC regarding their use of SIDs. They felt that it was felt that it was important to be seen doing something, but it may have been the high visibility jackets that had the effect on the traffic speeds as much as the devices themselves.

### **76/08 FLOODING**

Howard Thomas reported on his findings regarding the Environment Agency's study on potential flood risk in Loxwood. It was felt that the risk had been over estimated, and some designated potential areas at risk as shown on their plan of Loxwood, were in fact on high ground and therefore unlikely to flood.

It was agreed that Charlie Whitmarsh would draft a letter pointing this out, to include the request that the few ditches that caused the problem in the Burley Close area be dealt with.

A notice requesting people not to tip their garden refuse in the Loxwood stream would go in the next newsletter.

### **77/08 EDWARD GITTINS**

It was agreed that Mr Gittins would be contacted on a case by case basis, rather than pay a retainer. However this was a matter that would be reviewed if the need arose.

### **78/08 AUGUST MEETING**

It was decided not to set a date, but to call an extraordinary meeting if the need arose.

### **79/08 CORRESPONDENCE**

- (i) The Chairman had received a request from the Secretary of North Hall, that the PC minutes for February 2008 be changed as the facts stated were incorrect. As it is illegal to alter minutes, once they have been agreed to and signed, this would not be possible. The Chairman informed Members that the NHMC did not in fact spend a £400 from the Parish Church on a vacuum cleaner, but rather they spent a donation of £418.87 on 22 new chairs plus a vacuum cleaner.
- (ii) Willets Way – footpath across the piece of land to be bought by the PC. A letter had been received from Hedley's suggesting the PC proceed with the transfer. Some concerns were again raised as to the potential liability by the PC if they bought the land ahead of adoption of the footpath by WSCC. The Chairman agreed to get back in touch with Hedley's and get a firm statement as to whether to proceed on this basis. Owing to the amount of time this had all taken it was agreed that she would contact Members as soon as she had the information, and see their approval as to whether to proceed or not.

### **80/08 MEMBERS QUESTIONS AND INFORMATION**

Charlie Whitmarsh had had a response to his request that the B2133 remain restricted to 7:5 tonnes after the bridge had reopened. He had been informed that the 'list' for the next consultation was full. It was agreed that he ask for the matter to be put on the next list. In the interim he would pursue the option of signage indicating a weight restriction.

### **81/08 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

There were no items suggested.

### **82/08 DATES OF FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

It was noted that the next Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council would be Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July. There would be no August meeting, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September, Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November and Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9:30pm.

Approved at a meeting of the Parish Council held on 7th July 2008.

(Signed)

Chairman

Date: