

Minutes 6th May 2008

LOXWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

An ordinary meeting of Loxwood Parish Council was held at 7:30pm on Tuesday 6th May 2008 in St John the Baptist Church Room, Loxwood.

Present: Parish Councillors: Alison Sanderson (Chairman), Charlie Whitmarsh (Vice Chairman), Elizabeth Dugdale, Mirus Kuszel, Sacha Pawley, Priscilla Phillips, Scott Taylor.
1 member of the public.

Appoint a temporary minute taker: Scott Taylor

55/08 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN.

It was proposed by Howard Thomas and seconded by Priscilla Phillips, that Alison Sanderson continue as Chairman.

56/08 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

It was proposed by Howard Thomas and seconded by Sacha Pawley, that Charlie Whitmarsh take on the role of Vice Chairman.

57/08 APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

North Hall: It was proposed by Alison Sanderson and seconded by Howard Thomas, that Elizabeth Dugdale become the Parish Council's representative on the North Hall Management Committee.

58/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

David Townsend.

ADJOURNMENT:

- QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- (i) Concern that grass cutting was not taking place either side of Oak Grove. – PC would contact County Highways.
- (ii) Would the PC be responding to the Dunsfold Park Planning Application? – would be put as an agenda item next month.

59/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Priscilla Phillips – Planning Application for 10 Nicholsfield.

60/08 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was proposed by Sacha Pawley, seconded by Priscilla Phillips and agreed that the minutes were a correct record of the ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 7th April 2008. The Chairman signed the minutes.

61/08 PLANNING MATTERS

(P) Loxwood

LX/08/00927/LBC

Mrs Jane Jarvis

Four Houses Guildford Road Loxwood Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0QL

Remove existing windows, replace with double-glazed identical windows.

O.S. Grid Ref. 503949/132501

P.C Comment: No objection as long as the requirements of LBC are complied with

(P) Loxwood

LX/08/01049/FUL

Mr And Mrs Demee

Oakwood Farm Drungewick Lane Loxwood Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0RS

Sand school and associated access track.

O.S. Grid Ref. 505531/129628

P.C Comment: No objection

(P) Loxwood

LX/08/01212/TPA

Mr William Mason (Mason Landscape)

Woodfold Guildford Road Loxwood Billingshurst

Crown lift by 4m (above ground level) and deadwood 2 no. Willow trees (T12 and T13) and fell 1 no. Chestnut tree (T11). All 3 no. trees subject to TPO/11/LX.

O.S. Grid Ref. 503872/131881

P.C Comment: Recommendations of the tree officer to be met but concern as to the raising of crown by 4 metres. We would have expected to have plans from adjoining neighbours

We object to the removal of the Chestnut TPO

(P) Loxwood

LX/08/01292/DOM

Mr D Harbottle

10 Nicholsfield Loxwood Billingshurst West Sussex

New two storey extension to the side of the property to provide a kitchen/dining room to the ground floor and a main bedroom with ensuite and a small bedroom to the first floor. Also included is a small ground floor attached boiler room.

O.S. Grid Ref. 503903/131706

P.C Comment: We object as the proposed addition brings the property out of scale with housing within the vicinity and creates an imposing frontage

(P) Loxwood

LX/08/01440/ELD

Mr Ashley Ward

Oakhurst Farm Oakhurst Lane Loxwood Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0QR

Use of lakes and adjoining land for commercial fishing. Use of lakes and adjacent land for commercial game shooting. Use of woodland and pasture land for forestry and agricultural business purposes.

O.S. Grid Ref. 503252/132860

P.C Comment: No objection to fishing within normal usage but we wish to defer our decision for shooting pending further information on the scale and frequency of use and the proximity to kennels, public rights of way.

62/08 CDC STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT – SITE ASSESSMENT FORM

It was agreed that the PC would accept the advice of Edward Gittins, and not fill in the questionnaire, but that the Chairman would acknowledge receipt and reserve the right to comment upon anything raised as a result of CDC's findings.

63/08 TOWN PLANNING CONSULTANT

(i) The Chairman gave a brief account of the meeting with Edward Gittins, also attended by Elizabeth Dugdale and Scott Taylor. All three members felt that it had been extremely useful.

(ii) It was agreed that the Loxwood Society should be given a hard copy of the report, on the understanding that its full contents were not for general circulation.

(iii) It was agreed that a précis of the report (agreed with Edward Gittins) would appear in the June Newsletter.

64/08 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(i) **Land at Nicholsfield:** CDC had responded to the PC query regarding hard surfacing, suggesting that an application for 'grasscrete' might be looked upon favourably. It was decided to pass this information on to Martlet Homes as owners of the land.

(ii) **Land at Station Road:** The chairman reported that the Solicitors were still trying to discover the status of the footpath. It was noted that the land was in need of maintenance, which was still the responsibility of Hillreed.

(iii) **New Notice board:** Elizabeth reported that the matter was progressing. County would supply the map, but could not do the artwork. Design from Cliftons for the board depended on the site.

(iv) **Potential closure of Drungewick Lane.** The chairman reported that some residents of Drungewick Lane were trying to get the lane closed with a barrier half way along, because of excessive use, and speed of traffic. This was not supported by all residents. The PC would await further developments.

(v) **Parish Clerk:** Peter was still improving, but not yet able to resume work. Efforts would be made to work around his 6 month non-driving problem, should he wish to continue working as LPC Clerk.

(vi) **Affordable Homes:** With Edward Gittins. PC had received a letter from Sam Irving, the new Housing Enabling Officer, which would be passed on the EG.

(vii) Howard Thomas told members that he had heard from the Clerk at Wisborough Green, the SIDs had to be purchased by Parishes, not borrowed from the Police! He would continue his research.

Howard Thomas asked that a reminder about clearing dog mess appear in the newsletter.

65/08 LOXWOOD SPORTS ASSOCIATION

(i) **Meeting** – Elizabeth Dugdale and Alison Sanderson attend the meeting requested by the Association, who wanted to flag up a number of issues. The LSA have a number of plans in the pipeline to put down all weather pitches with floodlights, to encourage greater usage by outside teams. The LSA had a number of other significant plans, which might eventually come to the PC for planning permission.

The LSA had started to erect low rise stands without planning permission, it had been suggested that they might check that it was ok to do so.

The LSA was having problems with the daughter of the property adjacent to the cricket pitch, who wanted nets erected. The LSA would report back to the PC as to whether this was needed.

(ii) Request for Dog Bin – the LSA asked whether the PC would have a bin put in the car park.

(iii) Request for repairs to be carried out on car park. – Alison Sanderson asked for photos of the area concerned.

66/08 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (i) **Financial report:** members looked at the revised figures for March. It was proposed by Priscilla Phillips and seconded by Charlie Whitmarsh, and agreed that the figures should be approved.
- (ii) It was proposed by Charlie Whitmarsh and seconded by Mirus Kuszel **to** approve payments made by the Parish Council in April 2008 and to note summary transactions and account balances at 30th April 2008.
- (iii) It was proposed by Howard Thomas and seconded by Elizabeth Dugdale and agreed to accept the recommendation of David Townsend, to change insurers to the Norwich Union, based on the quote. David Townsend was delegated the authority to clarify the position regarding the 3 year option, and to go for that if it proved fixed, if not then he would opt for the 1 year price. If this then undermined the cost effectiveness of the option, he had the authority to renew with the existing insurers
- (iv) It was proposed by Priscilla Phillips, and seconded by Howard Thomas and agreed that £10,000 should be transferred to the Reserve account.
- (v) It was noted that the Clerk was entitled to 6 months full pay and then 6 months at half pay.

67/08 CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) Southern Water – Resources Plan – Howard Thomas offered to complete.
- (ii) Surrey Minerals Report – areas covered not really relevant to LPC.

68/08 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND INFORMATION & MEETINGS

- (i) Priscilla Phillips reported on a meeting she had attended regarding 'project planning' – she felt it had been most useful.
- (ii) WSCC – Strategic Planning Seminar – 20th May from 5:30. Priscilla Phillips thought she might be able to attend.
- (iii) Priscilla Phillips mentioned that she had been told that Loxwood was on the web as one of the 13 areas in the UK at risk of flooding. Howard Thomas agreed to look into this, ready for the next meeting.
- (iv) The lack of road sweeping was raised – Charlie Whitmarsh agreed to raise the matter with Highways.

15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- (i) SIDs.
- (ii) Flooding in Loxwood.
- (iii) Whether to pay Edward Gittins a retainer, or to only contact as and when necessary.
- (iv) Whether LPC would write formally regarding the Dunsfold Park application.
- (v) The possibility of an August meeting.

16. DATES OF FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

To note that ordinary meetings of the Parish Council will take place on the first Monday of every month, the next being Monday 2nd June then Monday 7th July.