

LOXWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

An ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held at 7:30pm on Monday 6th July 2009 in at St John's the Baptist Church Room, Loxwood.

Minutes

168/09 Apologies received from Cllr. Whitmarsh and Cllr. Thomas.

169/09 Adjournment

Mr. MacGeagh (Member of the public) spoke of his efforts to raise the awareness and dangers of Japanese Knotweed and Hogweed. An email had been sent to the Parish Council Mr. MacGeagh regarding this issue and the current situation on 22nd June 2009 copies on the tables for this meeting.

Cllr. Duncton informed members that the Highways department are actively attempting to control Hogweed, but they do not have permission to spray land owned by Farmers. This is down to the landowners to deal with.

Mr. MacGeagh informed members that in these harder economic climates we may need to try and establish ways of helping Farmers to fund the spraying of this plant in order to bring the situation under control.

Cllr. Andrews added that it would need to be a County wide initiative as it is a plant that grows and travels with the waterways.

Cllr. Sanderson thanked Mr. MacGeagh for his efforts so far and suggested that the Clerk make contact with Highways via Cllr. Duncton to see how the Parish Council can help support this issue.

Mr. Gibbons re: Planning application LX09/02003 Oakhurst Farm, Oakhurst Lane, Loxwood.

Mr. Gibbons informed members this was one of the less contentious applications for this property, and it was to restore the garden back to its original state following records found dating back to 1905. Cllr. Sanderson extended her thanks to Mr. Gibbons for coming along this evening.

Cllr. Andrews read out his report :

1. You may recall the concerns at the large shortfall in CDC's budgets for the next 3 years. An early recommendation to the Executive Board is forecast to save net £300,000 annually with a pay back on investment from reserves of 1.9 years, all with no impact on services levels. That's a 10% contribution to necessary savings. I'm hopeful of the proposal being signed off by both the Executive Board tomorrow and full CDC meeting later in July.
2. Dog bins for the Onslow Arms overflow car park. I'm meeting several people with a similar interest later this month to consider amending the restrictiveness of the policy. Enforcement would remain an issue unless digital

pictures could be used in any civil action.

3. I'm still chasing various grant matters, and have advised your Clerk of the timetable for grant applications. More soon I hope. I remain unclear as to why North Hall MC had the impression that no further grants are to be available. I need chapter and verse to take this further.
4. The health profile for Chichester District is now available from www.healthprofiles.info. In summary' it shows the District to be a little healthier than the average for England but with significant pockets of deprivation induced poor health; and that traffic deaths and injuries are worse than such average. In respect of my note to Derek Whittington QED, shame there's so much wrong-headed "silo-ed" thinking in public authorities.
5. Separately I've advised your Clerk of the Chichester District Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership: Consultation on Priorities. As community leaders I hope you will all encourage everyone in the Village to sign up much as I recommend, see attached.
6. At the North Chichester CLC of 23rd June Andrew Shaxson agreed with Steve Johnson that a Northwest and Midhurst Parishes Forum should be established to advise Highways on road repairs. Andrew then agreed this at the relevant forums and as Loxwood was unrepresented the matter's gone by default. I intend to raise a substantial fuss about our exclusion from this "pilot".
7. Minor alterations to housing allocations are being considered which, if as expected are approved at Council in July will increase the ability of Parish Councils to influence issues regarding priority given to those with real local connections. With such influence would come extra responsibility.
8. DEFRA have appointed Dr Richard Shaw as Interim Chief Executive for the South Downs National Park Authority. Dr Shaw's role will be to:
Prepare for the arrival of the new National Park from April 2010; Represent its interests until it comes into being; and Act as its Chief Executive until the National Park Authority makes its own appointment.
Dr Shaw was Chief Executive of Surrey County Council until January 2009, when he left to form his own management consultancy. Or Shaw will have a small support team working with him to prepare the ground for the new National Park Authority.
9. Proposals are under consideration regarding the Council's processes involving Councillors. This is in parallel with the Services Reviews and will include reviews of all structures, processes, and support services to Councillors with a view to increasing efficiency with at least the current level of accountability.
10. Sadly no volunteers for the Billingshurst 1st Responders have come forward despite your kind support in publicizing their activities. The Chairman offered to publish in the September Newsletter.

Cllr Duncton reported: The County Council Elections were 6 weeks ago. The breakdown of the members was stated. Following Cllr Andrews point 6 in his report, Cllr Duncton informed members he had Chaired the CLC meeting and was unaware of these issues, he felt they must have been decided after he left the meeting. The Police spoke along with other members of the emergency services to the Youth of Midhurst at the CLC meeting to look for ways of tackling the behaviour of Youth in Midhurst. It was felt there is not enough for them to do, so they turn to misbehaviour. Drungewick Lane is not to become a Close.

Cllr Duncton has been appointed as an Outside Body to Wey and Arun Canal Trust. Ford Recycling Plant is due to open on 15th July 2007. Cllr Duncton offered to arrange visits should Cllrs wish it.

Cllr Sanderson extended her thanks to Cllr Andrews and Cllr Duncton for their continued support.

Meeting re-convened.

170/09 Declaration of Interests – Cllr Taylor informed members he lived in the same road as planning application LX09/02345 The Coach House, Pigbush Lane.

171/09 – Approval of Minutes from 1st June 2009. Proposed Cllr Dugdale. Seconded Cllr. Lane. Signed Cllr Sanderson.

172/09 – Matters Arising – None.

173/09 – Drungewick Lane – Cllr Sanderson reminded members Cllr Duncton had already touched on this earlier this evening, and it was no longer to become a closed road.

174/09. North Hall Land Registry Document – All Members agreed that as the document had been checked by Solicitors and SALC the Clerk should sign this document. Proposed Cllr. Dugdale. Seconded Cllr. Lane.

ii. Return of PC meeting to North Hall – All Members agreed this would be a good idea if a suitable meeting room were provided at cost effective price.

iii. Loxwood Bridge – new meeting date 15th July 2009 at 1:30pm. Clerk to write to WSCC to ensure they do not adopt the bridge before the issues are dealt with, and the same to CDC – not to approve the planning. Cllr. Andrews informed members he is happy to speak on our behalf regarding this issue at CDC.

It was decided not to use Edward Gittins at this stage with the bridge situation.

iv. Willetts Way – Cllr. Sanderson informed members of the difficulty in obtaining quotations for this land clearance as a comparison. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the tree surgeon and confirm if the cost includes the grinding out of the tree stumps, and also if the quotation stands less the Herbicide as the Gardening Club would rather that was not used. Members agreed the Clerk should proceed with the Tree Surgery work immediately due to the risks involved with the problem trees, and also check with CDC regarding the TPO's. The ground clearance can also be started once the Clerk/Chairman is satisfied with costings.

v. Newsletter – It was decided that the future of the newsletter may well have to stay as it is due to the costs of print being based per 100 and the complicated issues of running separate lists of those requiring emailed versions and those wanting it posted. Members were asked to continue to think this issue over.

vi. Hogweed – dealt with earlier in the meeting.

vii. Sports Association meeting update – Cllr. Dugdale informed members of the meeting in June attended by Cllr Andrews, Barry Hunter (Sports Association) and the Clerk. It was noted there are large concrete pathways and also wooden stands now in place with no regard for planning checks, although this had previously been suggested to the Sports Association over 12 months ago. Barry Hunter had talked the PC through his plans to try to expand the number of fixtures at the ground, and hoped to move up a league. There would be little or no effect to traffic, but flood lighting and further standing area's for 50 people are required. Members requested the Clerk to look into the panning issues surrounding the work completed so far at the Club.

Barry Hunter had seemed keen to make contact with other local focus points to the village such as the school to see if there are ways of making more use of the Sports ground and improving relationships. There were no plans for tennis courts, although discussions did take place. Barry Hunter recognised the issue the Sports Association face, and would like to work on changing the profile and making it a more appealing place to visit.

Cllr. Andrews informed members that the floodlighting would be unlikely to be agreed via planning should it fall above the tree line.

Jeremy Glynne- Jones informed members that Tim Spence (Ex-Parish Councillor) has experience in the lighting at the Rugby Club, so may be a worthwhile contact.

viii. Developing Closer relationships with Loxwood School – Chair of Governors Jeremy Glynne-Jones was in attendance and informed members that the school was looking for ways of developing and raising their profile within the village. It was felt there was not a need for a formal member of the PC to be a School Governor and Vice Versa, although Jeremy had come forward as a potential candidate for the PC vacancy in the sidelines.

Clerk to copy Jeremy when requesting the Parish Council Newsletter articles.

x. Section 106 update – Cllr Sanderson informed members the £15K had been secured for North Hall and the refurbishment. The Clerk is working with Shona Turner as each individual sum of money falls under a separate department at Chichester, and is very complicated, so it is a lengthy. Shona Turner had confirmed the Developer had paid all the monies over to County Council, so funds are there.

Cllr Sanderson informed members of the conversation between the Clerk and Shona Turner regarding the £25K and Hall Hurst Farm earlier today. Shona had stated as the PC had objected to the car park, it had meant that the community facility funding option had been taken instead, so the £25K was no longer relevant as a 'house' was to be built where the car park should of been.

It was agreed the Clerk should establish if this is 'hear say' or true, and instruct Edward Gittins to clarify the current situation with this site/extra building and if we can push for further 106 funding.

Members agreed at this stage a budget of £1k should be used for Edward Gittins with the delegated powers to use a further £1k (£2k in total) by the Chairperson Cllr. Sanderson during the summer period of 2009 if she feels it necessary.

Proposed Cllr Townsend. Seconded Cllr Dugdale.

Jeremy Glynne-Jones informed members the School is looking into their funding from the Section 106.

Cllr Andrews informed members it would be a sensible idea to have a review of issues/liabilities relating to the inheriting of housing/insurance policies held by the Parish Council. He would be more than happy to assist us with this issue.

175/09 Planning

LX/09/02345/DOM The Coach House, Pigbush Lane, Loxwood.

Cllr Taylor left the room.

No objection to this application. Cllr Taylor returned to the meeting.

LX/09/02003 Oakhurst Farm, Oakhurst Lane. Loxwood.

No Objection to this application.

LX09/02174/DOM Headsfoldwood /Cottages, Plaistow Road, Loxwood.

Cllr Lane left the room.

The Parish Council object to this application as they are unable to comment due to no plans having been received.

We also understand that the neighbouring property has not been notified of the application, therefore has not been notified nor consulted in the given timescales. Clerk to write to Steve Carvell at CDC.

Cllr Lane returned to the meeting.

176/09 Financial Report – Clerk was asked to bring the Cash book and back statements to the PC meetings. It was agreed they will be placed on the planning table from Sept 09.

The following payments were agreed:

Clerks Expenses May/June 2009	£278.42
Information Commissioners Office	£ 35.00
WSSC Newsletter	£253.63
WSSC Salary for May 09	£912.43
WSSC Salary for June 09	£912.43
NH mothers & Toddlers	<u>£200.00</u>
Total	<u>£2591.91</u>

Cllr. Sanderson read a letter received from Mr Winney re: Billingham Community Transport. They had requested funding of £150 each year.

Members agreed to respond to Mr Winney that should the service be successful in finding drivers for this area, the Parish Council would consider the £150 request for funding. This request would need to be applied for in writing each year for Councils consideration. Clerk to write a letter confirming.

177/09 Correspondence – emailed to Members when received.

178/09 Items for next Agenda – Speeding, North Hall 100/lottery club

179/09 Date of next meeting- Loxwood Bridge Committee – 15.07.09 at 1:30pm

- Parish Council Monday 7th September 2009 at 7:30pm

Meeting closed at 9:25pm.