

**LOXWOOD PARISH COUNCIL**  
E-mail: [loxwoodpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:loxwoodpc@yahoo.co.uk)

An ordinary meeting of Loxwood Parish Council was held at 7:30 pm on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009 in St John the Baptist Church Room, Loxwood.

**Present:** Parish Councillors: Alison Sanderson (Chairman), Charlie Whitmarsh (Vice- Chairman), Elizabeth Dugdale, Howard Thomas, Scott Taylor and Sarah Lane.

**Also present:** County Cllr. Chris Duncton  
Jenny Hartley – Clerk to the Council

**113/09 Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr Townsend, Cllr Kuszel and Cllr Pawley had sent apologies.

**114/09 Adjournment – questions from members of the public.**

Cllr Duncton informed members he would wait to talk to Cllr Kuszel to see if the response sent from Alison Tate, regarding speed/accidents in the village had been satisfactory before giving any further update on the situation. Cllr Duncton confirmed he had asked the PCSO's for more Police presence in the village.

Cllr Lane stated she had seen an electronic speed sign had been placed in the village for a short time one day after Christmas.

Cllr Duncton confirmed the Doctor's Surgery in the village will continue to dispense prescriptions, and that it was true that it would mean no one else could open a dispensary in the village.

Cllr Duncton reminded members of the CLC meeting at Midhurst Grammar School Site at 7pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

Mr. L Milsom advised the Clerk of an inaccuracy to the minutes from the previous meeting regarding the Adoption date of the Loxwood Bridge – it was Mr. P Foulger who confirmed the adoption date, not Mr. Milsom. Mr. Milsom informed members that The Loxwood Society had been contacted regarding the Dunsfold Park Traffic Census. The Clerk confirmed she would send a copy of the last survey completed to Mr. Milsom.

Mr. J Andrews informed members of a potentially serious hazard within the Hall Hurst Farm development relating to an Oak Tree at the end of the field, adjacent to the Bridleway. The roots on the east are supported by a heavy concrete base, which currently provides support. Mr. Andrews informed members he understood there to be no limit permitted by law for death due to negligence. Mr. Andrews will raise this issue with the solicitor at CDC.

Mr. Andrews also requested the Parish Council place pressure on the developers and WSCC to ensure a 'Clean Wheels' policy is adhered to on the Hall Hurst Farm development. Mr. Andrews informed members that Mr. David Few (North District Planning Officer) had confirmed there could be up to 70 feet of deep, cold, wet clay on the Hall Hurst Farm site. If there is not a strict Clean Wheels policy in place then serious clogging of the gulleys could take place. It is an offence to deposit clay on a public road.

7:40pm Meeting reconvened

**115/09 Declaration of Interest from Members of the Council**

None.

**116/09 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

3 Spelling amendments agreed.

Signing of the minutes Proposed: Cllr. Thomas. Seconded: Cllr. Dugdale.

**117/09 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

None.

Cllr. Whitmarsh asked Cllr. Duncton for his assistance in highlighting the dangerous road conditions caused by pot holes. In particular, Station Road (heading towards Rudgwick). The Parish Council had received a letter

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of from the Women’s Institute who are also concerned for the safety of road users in the village. It had been noted that drivers are tending to drive along the middle of the road to avoid vehicle damage from pot holes and subsidence of the road near to the verges.

Cllr. Duncton advised members there had been issues due to the severe change in weather conditions with the results of WSCC Highways temporary repair to pot holes. The tarmac wasn’t able to withstand the change in temperatures, and in some area’s the temporary repair had been left too long – they are not designed for long term use.

Cllr. Duncton informed members there had been talk of Parishes being allocated funds to do their own repairs on the area’s they felt were a priority – there had been no further updates on this scheme.

Cllr. Duncton suggested Cllr. Whitmarsh make contact with Derek Whittington – Cabinet Member to try and push this issue forward. Clerk to inform Cllr. Whitmarsh of Derek Whittington’s contact details.

Cllr. Thomas suggested the root cause of this damage could be due to HGV Lorries using these roads, which were not designed for that type of vehicle. Signs are of minimal cost to prevent these vehicles from using these roads.

Mr. Andrews suggested a ban on vehicles of a certain width; these vehicles endanger users such as cyclists, pedestrians and equestrian users. He agreed a review of signs used should be carried out, prohibiting certain vehicles of using these roads.

Cllr. Whitmarsh confirmed he would make contact with Derek Whittington and report back.

**118/09 Freedom of Information Act – Adopt the model policy.**

The Model Freedom of Information Act policy was formally adopted.

Proposed by Cllr. Whitmarsh. Seconded by Cllr. Thomas.

A Complaints procedure to accompany this F.O.I document to be written by the Clerk for approval at the next meeting.

**119/09 Updates**

**(i) Loxwood Bridge** – Cllr. Sanderson informed members that the next stage would be a meeting between the Parish Council and WACT.

**(ii) Hall Hurst Farm** – Cllr. Sanderson confirmed the points raised at the beginning of the meeting by Mr. Andrews relating to the Oak Tree and Wheel Washing. The Clerk to contact the TPO regarding the Oak Tree and write to the developers reminding them of their responsibility regarding wheel washing.

Mr. Andrews re-iterated the importance of trucks using a dry bed road – excavators should only enter and leave by this dry bed road to help aid the issue of wet clay.

Cllr. Sanderson read an email received from Mr. Edward Gittins regarding the LDF situation and also a note regarding a contact he has who may be able to help with the bridge/bridleway. All Councillors are in favour of Mr. Gittins continuing his work with these issues. Clerk to stay in contact with Mr. Gittins

The Parish Council are interested to find out if they should renew/update the current Design Statement/Action Plan. Clerk to discuss with Mr. Gittins.

Cllr. Whitmarsh suggested that members of the Parish Council should work with Mr. Gittins to produce the best document. All Councillors agreed this was a good way forward.

**(iii) Speed Update** – Further update at the next meeting from Cllr. Kuszel.

**(iv) Sports Association Car Park** – The Clerk updated members with the current situation of CDC recommended contractors are quoting for a suitable surface to with stand the movement and weight of the recycling lorries that use the car park.

**(v) Pharmacy Update** – covered by Cllr. Chris Duncton earlier in the meeting.

**120/09 Planning**

None.

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**121/09 Financial Matters**

- (i) **Budget/Agree Precept** – Various discussions took place relating to the Budget paperwork. It was agreed the Precept for 2009/10 should be £28,000 +3%. Proposed Cllr. Charlie Whitmarsh. Seconded Cllr. Sarah Lane.
- (ii) **Financial Report** – issued by Clerk. Report agreed – proposed Cllr. Howard Thomas. Seconded Cllr. Sarah Lane.
- (iii) **SALC interim pay increase** – Members were informed of the latest interim pay award from SALC for Clerks to be backdated to April 2008. Clerk to confirm if the previous Clerk would be entitled to any of this award.
- (iv) **Home Office Allowance** – Clerk informed Members of the suggested allowance via SALC for the use and storage of a Clerks home. Cllr. Whitmarsh confirmed in principal that members were happy and supported the Home Office Allowance.  
Following the discussions regarding this item, it was decided in a cost cutting exercise, the Parish Council would cease using the current North Hall office space and that the Clerk would write a letter to notify the North Hall Management Committee of this decision.  
Members felt that as the North Hall office could not also double up as a meeting room the costs of keeping up the rental could not be justified.
- (v) **Grant for Loxwood Parish Magazine** – Cllr. Alison Sanderson talked members through the request received for a grant. Discussions took place regarding the accounts for the Loxwood Parish Magazine and the fact they appear to be running at a loss. It was agreed a grant of £275 should be made to the Loxwood Parish Magazine. Proposed Cllr Elizabeth Dugdale. Seconded Cllr. Scott Taylor.

**122/09 Correspondence**

**Roundabout Repair at North Hall Play Area:**

Clerk informed Members of the cost for the repair work on the roundabout in the NH Play Area. Clerk to ask why they did not include this cost in the remedial work they completed earlier this year. Clerk to look into other companies for cost comparison.

**Letter received from Girl Guides:**

Letter was read to Members regarding a letter received asking for a grant towards the Girl Guiding Centenary Celebrations in 2010. It was decided the Clerk should respond to the letter asking for a guide on the figure they had in mind. Plan this into Autumn Budget setting meeting for 2010.

**123/09 Members Questions**

Cllr. Whitmarsh raised the issue of some play area’s having to close due to them being located under trees. Clerk to check into this with ROSPA.

Cllr. Taylor to look into the tree’s at North Hall and advise regarding any TPO’s.

**124/09 Items for Next Agenda – None.**

**125/09 Future meeting dates:** Next PC meeting Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009

Meeting with WACT/PC (to move Bridge forward) to be confirmed after the meeting with Cllr. Thomas and Cllr. Lane and CDC.

Meeting Closed at 9:35pm

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