

LOXWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

An ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held at 7:30pm on Monday 1st March 2010 in the Church Rooms of St John the Baptist, Loxwood.

Minutes

237/10 Persons Present: Cllr Sanderson (Chairman), Cllr Whitmarsh, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Lane,

Cllr W Andrews, Cllr Dugdale and Cllr Kersey.

Apologies received from: Cllr Townsend

Also Present: District Cllr John Andrews and County Cllr Chris Dunton. 9 Members of the public. Phillipa Hardwick (Ward Councillor) arrived at 7:40pm
Mr Tony Colling (Loxwood Society) and Mr Andrew Black.

Adjournment:

North Hall Draw: Number 12 drew this month. Thanks extended to Mrs Winney.

A resident raised an issue relating to a hedge in Station Road causing poor visibility. Cllr Sanderson informed the resident that WSCC and CDC had been unable to identify the owner of the hedge in question when the Parish council had responded to the issue in the past.

It was agreed that Cllr Whitmarsh and Mr Tony Colling (Loxwood Society) would cut the hedge to improve

Visibility for the safety of the residents.

Mr Beadle informed the PC that there is water running from Pancake Cottage to the Junction with Spy Lane and thought there are 2 drains blocked to the west of Pancake Cottage. Clerk to report to WSCC.

Cllr Dunton Report:

Cllr Dunton reported the CLC meeting is coming to Loxwood in June. The issues relating to traffic on the B2133 are to be dealt with at the March meeting at Capron House in Midhurst. The Grange is no longer to be used for older people. The County Council are not using their space allocation from social services.

Budget set at 2.5%.

Snow Summitt – Cllr Dunton reported he would like to see farmers brought back to help in poor weather conditions as they were many years ago.

Thanks extended to Cllr Dunton.

Cllr Andrews Report:

Report to Loxwood Parish Council 1st March 2010, John Andrews Cllr. Chichester District.

Summary given orally:

Activities for young people:

The Street Dancing Programme for 5 to 15 year old children nearest Loxwood was apparently as much fun as ever. Mini-world cup and Football in the Community days are in hand.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

District Service Reviews

Continued progress made, adoption of Member arrangements likely in April 2010 of all substantive measures, implemented with a pilot arrangement until the next new Council is in place in May 2011.

Roads and Footways:

The appalling state of the repairs to the highway as the trench of the storm sewer for Hall House Farm development continues. Noise generated from the poor surfaces of tarmac and manhole covers is unacceptable. I think however WSCC deserve some congratulations for the relative speed of most road repairs after the snow damage, the Loxwood area roads are generally in a better state than previous experience would have suggested.

Speeding Traffic and Health issues from Traffic Noise:

The NE Parishes Forum on 4th March will have Superintendent Steve Barry and Tony Sneller speaking on these subjects.

Residents along the B2133 between Tokens Farm and the Surrey border have asked about locality signs. These were agreed some years ago but seem to have gone below the radar. As such signage is known to reduce speeding somewhat and thus can protect both pedestrians from injury and residents from harmful noise I do urge the PC to finalise signage.

John Andrews, Cllr.JohnAndrews@gmail.com or 01403 752 170

Thanks extended to Cllr Andrews.

Meeting reconvened.

238/10 Declaration of Interest from Members of the Council

Cllr W Andrews declared her position regarding Wey and Arun Canal Trust. Cllr Whitmarsh declared an interest regarding planning application:LX/09/04816 as he is a resident of Farm Close

239/10 Planning Application for 10 Affordable Dwellings to meet local needs at the land South of Farm Close (LX/09/04816)

Cllr Thomas informed everyone present of the following information:

Copies of the Loxwood Society Flyer had been issues to the residents in close proximity to the proposed application. Copies of any meetings held by the small sub committee looking in to this application had been sent to members.

It is an exception site. One of the main issues for the Parish Council and Loxwood Society was to ensure there was no discriminatory reason behind objecting to this application.

The main factors of concern are: The land becomes very wet due to the stream flooding, there is a water balancing tank positioned in the gardens of the proposed properties, the layout of the proposed dwellings and the standard of the properties look to be of a poor quality. There is a lack of parking for vehicles – Loxwood is a rural village therefore it is likely residents would need to commute – often households needing to have 2 vehicles as a minimum. There also appears to be a lack of proven need.

The Parish Council would prefer a balance of private and affordable housing this way a high standard is achieved for all residents on the site.

The sub committee had useful meetings with the CDC planning officer – John Saunders and also CDC Housing Enabler Sam Irving.

Cllr Dugdale asked if Edward Gittins should formulate a response on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Sanderson stated she felt as it would appear CDC are mindful to to object, on this occasion we could spend out money better elsewhere and formulate our response to CDC.

Cllr Lane asked if someone will attend the committee meeting if Planning Officers do not use their delegated powers.

Cllr Thomas informed members it didn't look as if it would go to Committee.

Cllr Sanderson explained Cllr Whitmarsh's declaration of Interest situation and that he would make a statement and leave the room whilst any vote/decision was taken.

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Date: _____

9pm Meeting Adjourned for members of the public to speak.

Mr Colling stated he had been shocked at the lack of 'take up' for the Hall House Farm Development.

Member of the public stated the Habitat Survey was a misrepresentation of the proposed field. CDC could stand by and allow developers to build on that land.

Cllr Sanderson explained the meeting with the Planning Officer – John Saunders had made CDC well aware of these issues.

Mr Colling suggested the sub committee group stay in contact with Sam Irving so we are forewarned and forearmed for any future discussions and to thoroughly understand the housing needs in Loxwood. Proactive not reactive.

Cllr Sanderson stated the discussions with the Planning Officer that we would prefer to do this at a local level.

A member of the public asked for an explanation regarding the Nursery identified on the planning application.

Cllr Sanderson stated that as that piece of land was a gift from one individual to another it was not being included in our response.

Mr Beadle raised the issue relating to the number of parked vehicles already in Farm Close – particularly when the Doctors surgery is at it's busiest times. Also the water logged gardens already in Farm Close – no one knows how effective the water table is and if it is rising.

Cllr Sanderson informed Mr Beadle this was one of the points raised to CDC, along with photographic evidence of the car parking situation during the opening hours of the doctors surgery.

Cllr Whitmarsh stated the report from Stephen Hunt was inaccurate and misleading and he should be held accountable for the water flow which could flow back towards the village. It is an agricultural field, it is permanent pasture and the preschool should not be part of the application.

8.25pm Meeting reconvened

Cllr Whitmarsh left the meeting whilst the decision was taken.

Cllr Sanderson asked for a show of hands for those in favour of objecting to this application – all Members voted in favour of objecting to this application.

240/10 Approval of the minutes of previous meetings – Monday 1st February 2010

2 amendments made. Proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr W Andrews.

241/10 Matters Arising from the minutes of 1st February 2010

Covered on this Agenda.

242/10 Potholes – Car Park at the Sports Association Ground

A member from the Sports Association was present to discuss the issues relating to the potholes at

The Sports Association Ground.

The Sports Association are happy to fund the costs of a short term fix – Clerk to check the quotation from

E.P. Clarke. The works for the Flood lighting will be light work, so it was not felt there would be subsequent damage caused to the car park.

It is understood much of the issue is due to the recycling lorries using the car park to collect/deliver – Clerk to check into the bottle recycling and establish when it will begin from households as part of their normal collection.

Updates on the following issues:

- i. Loxwood Bridge – Grants are applied for to help support the funds needed.
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- ii. North Hall – Cllr Dugdale informed members the Big Lottery Fund will continue but not until the Autumn. There is a wine tasting evening on Friday. Tickets available on the door.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

- iii. Alfold Bars Signage – WSCC have said it is not a financial priority although we are trying a different route.
- iv. Speedwatch – Cllr Kersey informed members that all the volunteers names had now been sent off to the Police, so we are awaiting the next stage.
Cllr Sanderson informed members she had been approached by the Chair of Governors from Loxwood School to run a competition to display speed posters designed by the children. All agreed this would be a good idea.
- v. Hall House Farm Development/Road Works Update
Update on the plans to complete the works, and make good the area's damaged during the works between Gracelands and WSCC.
- vi. APM – Members duties
Finance Report – Cllr Lane
Loxwood Speed Report – Cllr Sanderson
Development Group report –
North Hall Report – Cllr Dugdale
School Competition – Cllr Sanderson

243/10Planning

LX/09/04816 Erection of 10 Affordable dwellings to meet Local needs at Land South Farm Close.
Decision taken earlier.

LX/10/00318/EXT Walthurst Barn, Walthurst Lane, Loxwood, Billingshurst
Single Story Extension to utility and First Floor Extension above Flat Roof
To the South of the Property.
No objection.

LX/10/0442/DOM Weavers Cottage, Drungewick Lane, Loxwood, Billingshurst
Two Storey Front Extension – revised design.
No Objection.

TPO request for Oak Tree bordering Bridleway 810 at Hall House Farm
Dev – potentially all three trees to be included.
Cllr Thomas to take photographic evidence and talk to Henry Whitby at CDC to move this request forward. It was agreed that all three trees subject to Cllr Thomas' discussions with CDC should have TPO's applied for.

Wey & Arun Canal Trust – Southland Lock Rebuild
Initial planning information received from Wey & Arun Canal Trust
Cllr Sanderson would like to request a reminder that although there appears to be a substantial amount of chainsaw work being carried out, WACT must ensure only necessary work is undertaken. All agreed in favour.

LX/10/00186/DOM The Beeches, Vicarage Hill, Loxwood
Demolition of existing rear conservatory & Front entrance porch, erect new single storey entrance porch to front elevation, erect new double storey extension to south elevation, and new single storey extension to rear elevation. Extend existing front dormer and add flat hipped roof. Reposition and extend rear dormer and add flat hipped roof.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Object – over development/in keeping/Appearance too dramatic/Change the size of the adjacent property.

LX10/00142/DOM The Fletchlings, Brewhurst Lane, Loxwood.

Construct 2 Dormer window extensions

Cllr Kersey stated that Dormer windows do not suit Listed Buildings.

Due to the amount of changes this property has undergone it was felt there should be no objection to this application. The Listed Building officer would be involved to ensure all regulations were met and satisfied.

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244/10 Financial and Administration Matters

Financial report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Payments approved.

£50 donation agreed for the Girl Guides association – Centenary celebration.

Financial report – proposed Cllr Whitmarsh. Seconded Cllr Dugdale.

245/10 Correspondence – see urgent emails sent daily or members reminded to log onto Google docs.

246/10 Members Questions, Information and Meetings

Cllr. Sanderson informed members of a course on 23rd March 2010 with a Rural Housing Theme – all

Members had received the information via email. Bookings via the Clerk.

247/10 Items for next Agenda

Full Loxwood Bridge update

Update from CLC meetings/Highways

248/10 Dates for Future Parish Council meetings

Next PC meeting Tuesday 6th April 2010

Meeting Closed at: 9:45pm

Signed: _____

Date: _____