

LOXWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

**An ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held at 7:30pm on Monday 5th July 2010
in the Church Rooms of St John the Baptist, Loxwood.**

Minutes

Persons Present:

Cllr Alison Sanderson (Chairman), Cllr Scott Taylor, Cllr Wendy Andrews, Cllr Howard Thomas, Cllr Sarah Lane, Cllr Anne Kersey and Clerk to the Council – Miss Jenny Hartley.

Also Present:

CDC Cllr John Andrews.

Mr Tony Colling (Loxwood Society)

Mr Andrew Black

Minute No.	Description	Detail/Discussion	Action/Agreed
290/10	Apologies for Absence	Cllr Elizabeth Dugdale, Cllr Charlie Whitmarsh and Cllr Chris Duncton	Nil
290/11	Adjournment; (i) Questions from members of the public (ii) Reports from District and County Councillors	Nil Cllr J Andrews (Report attached) Cllr C Duncton – not present	Nil
290/12	Declaration of Interests from Members of the Council	Cllr Sanderson declared an interest in planning application LX/10/02557/DOM	Nil
290/13	Approval of minutes of previous meeting held on 7 th June 2010	Amendments made to minutes.	Clerk to bring to next meeting for signing
290/14	Matters Arising from the above minutes	Clerk to contact Cllr Duncton regarding the recycle bins at the Sports Association as the potholes are increasingly dangerous	Clerk to contact Cllr Duncton
290/15	Updates: 1. A281 Junction with Alfold 2. Loxwood Bridge 3. North Hall	Works completed. Thanks to Cllr Duncton and Cllr Whitmarsh. RH14 magazine had an advert in support of the 'Buy a Brick' campaign. There are concerns over the water level for the fund raising coming up later this month. The planning application for WACT bridge is to be considered at the same time as Southland Lock. It was agreed someone should attend the meeting to speak. Papers distributed by Cllr Lane in advance of the meeting. It was agreed the impact per household based on the figures in Cllr Lanes report is minimal. Following lengthy discussions the Councillors agreed the fundraising for North Hall is	

	<p>4. Rural Housing Update</p> <p>5. Woodside, Guildford Road, Loxwood</p> <p>6. Newsletter</p> <p>7. Holiday Dates/August meeting</p> <p>8. Councillor Vacancy</p> <p>9. CLC meeting</p>	<p>bringing the community together therefore the PC should support this proposal.</p> <p>It was agreed the PC would apply for a PWL £75k over 20 years. Proposed Cllr Thomas; Seconded Cllr Kersey.</p> <p>We are awaiting a response from Sam Irving at CDC. Pressure may continue in Loxwood, so we need to keep in touch with what is going on.</p> <p>Recent complaints regarding the bonfires and possible materials being burnt. CDC completed a site visit and found no hazardous waste being disposed of.</p> <p>Discussions took place regarding the delivery of newsletters in the village. There are several delivered at the same time. It was agreed the PC would stop the newsletter at the moment. The PC will place articles either via Loxwood.org or via another newsletter/magazine.</p> <p>It was agreed to produce another newsletter in September – possible with different delivery timings to announce this change.</p> <p>Provisional date for a planning meeting was agreed as 9th August 2010 – Clerk to confirm if this is needed.</p> <p>No further interest expressed at this time. Ongoing.</p> <p>Cllr Sanderson updated members on the outcomes of the recent CLC meeting held in Loxwood. There was much heckling at the meeting, with no one being prepared to listen. It appeared the decision had been made before the meeting took place. The next meeting is scheduled for 6th September 2010 at 7pm to revisit the issues relating to Loxwood. Venue to be agreed.</p> <p>It was agreed to move the PC meeting to the Tuesday 7th September at 7.30pm Clerk to check with Church Bookings etc.</p> <p>Cllr Kersey- update regarding the school competition.</p> <p>2 prizes for book tokens agreed as the winners prizes. £10 per token. Cllr Sanderson to purchase 2 x £10 book tokens.</p> <p>Clerk to chase WSCC for the update on Speedwatch locations. Clerk to contact Steve Barry and Chris Duncton to move this forward.</p> <p>Cllr W Andrews reported stated she had spoken to Mr N Budd – from Alfold Mowers he will help with our Speedwatch. He has a speed gun so if Alfold is not using it he has offered it to us. Clerk to check how this is possible. WA will email the contact details to Clerk.</p>	<p>Provisional meeting date for 9th August 2010 in case of planning</p> <p>Clerk to chase WSCC for the update on Speedwatch locations. Clerk to contact Steve Barry and Chris Duncton to move this forward.</p> <p>Clerk to if the PC can use the Speed Gun owned by Alfold.</p>
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	<p>10. LDF</p> <p>11. Housing Land Assessments</p>	<p>Cllr W Andrews wanted to highlight the recent email sent by the Clerk for discussion and that the PC must stay alert to changes.</p> <p>Cllr W Andrews stated this was just for discussion. Handout given to members from WA showing the highlighted areas for potential development. Cllr Sanderson updated members on the discussions that took place at the meeting with CDC Sam Irving and John Saunders.</p>	
290/16	Planning	<p>LX/10/02550/FUL Oakhurst Farm, Oakhurst Lane, Loxwood. Construction of new farm access track (retrospective) No objection.</p> <p>LX/10/02557/DOM Norton Cottage, Guildford Road, Loxwood Two storey extension Members agreed they had no objection to the application.</p> <p>LX/10/02691 Orchard Lodge, Oakhurst Lane, Loxwood Proposed loft conversion construction of a gable end to rear, single storey rear extension, new car port, conversion of existing garage into study and utility room and replace flat roof over kitchen with pitched roof. No objection</p> <p>LX/10/02977/DOM 11 Hall House Close. No objection. There is a TPO located at the rear of the property. Unfortunately we had to chase up a TPO to look at a planning application.</p>	
290/17	Financial and Administration	<p>Cllr Sanderson stated she will no longer accept the Chairman's Allowance for this financial year. The £20 allowance for July will be used to purchase the 2 book tokens for the competition winners.</p> <p>Payments agreed: A.Sanderson £20 ICO £35 Clerks Salary June 2010 £913.03 Clerks Expenses £259.70 Proposed Cllr Thomas; Seconded Cllr Lane</p>	
290/18	Correspondence	<p>Cllr Taylor to look at the NHS document for 14-15 year old lifestyles.</p>	

		Surrey Minerals document & CD available from the Clerk.	
290/19	Members Questions and Information & Meetings	North East Parish Forum held recently at North Hall. Future NEPF Agenda's should be scrutinised. It was felt that every NEPF and CLC should have a PC representative attending particularly as we have in return received support from other Parishes such as Duncton in the past.	
290/20	Items for discussion since preparation of the agenda.	Nil	
290/21	Items for next agenda	NHMC Loan Update Newsletter - future	
290/22	Next meeting date	Tuesday 7 th September 2010 at 7.30pm	
		CLC – Monday 6 th September 2010 at 7pm	
		WACT Cream Tea – 27.07.10 WACT BBQ Cruise – 31.07.10	

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____

CDC Councillor John Andrews – LPC report 5th July 2010

LDF

You'll have seen my messages about suspending work on the LDF. This is a contentious area, and there are downsides, and these perhaps especially may affect Loxwood, since the current "plan" is grossly outdated and may encourage development biased towards inwards internal migration into an area bereft of work, transport infrastructure and supporting services for those not self-sufficient.

Officially the LDF Panel has recommended suspension as infrastructure needs are unmet and the future uncertain.

CLC & Alfold Bars

As regards the CLC at Loxwood School last week, I was very disappointed with the low turnout of Loxwood residents in support of Alfold Bars residents – about 40% fewer than for the Superintendent Steve Barry and LPC meeting. Without the reasoned arguments of many of those attending (including the notable contribution from you Chairman) and the theatrical coup at the end using a Weald schoolboy all may have been lost. I hope all will now recognise that without a very large turnout in the "special Loxwood CLC" in September, local needs may continue to be ignored: Barry Steele has campaigned for more than a decade; each of the points I made at Midhurst 3 months ago was dismissed only for one agreed to be reconsidered in September during the June meeting.

Budgets

The Coalition Government announced its first budget last month and in doing so announced some major cuts in levels of public sector spending as a means of addressing the deficit. We had previously known about £1.2 billion immediate cuts which will affect some of our funding streams and as I explained last month these are essentially at noise level.

However the second budget of 2010 set out much larger cuts of at least 25% to all unprotected government departments, including Communities and Local Government.

Whilst we will not find out our exact future levels of funding until the spending review is completed and the (nominal) four year settlement is announced in October this year, any funding from the previously presumed carried forward under spent 2009/10 budgets will be stripped out, and these details are also awaited.

It is also clear that we will be hit hard and are likely to lose out significantly in terms of the grant we receive from government. In addition other funds that we rely upon for providing our services continue to be stopped, the latest being the announcement that the free swimming initiative will come to end while free bus passes for the over 60 are to continue.

You may recall that unlike most "District Councils" who collect 70%+ from Government grants CDC raises 50% from Council Taxes. All of this provides us with some major challenges around how we operate in the future, it is clear that we will not be able to carry out the current level of services in years to come (both in the number of services that we provide and the level that we carry out). The impact of this will be a difficult message to give to you our residents, as the level of council tax that we levy will be fixed whereas the level of service that you will receive will reduce.

So far as I am concerned there are no "no-go" areas other than to preserve and wherever possible to improve the critical services provided and especially to those civil parishes not benefitting from the capital spending in the southern area and Midhurst. The introduction of the bulletin board scheme and of a minimum rolling 12 month program of works at my insistence is beginning to provide useful interchange of information between Cllrs. and Officers.

I am convinced that sharing buildings between all local units in the public sector, use of information kiosks rather than dedicated buildings for most resident/officer contacts, merged rubbish collections across West and East Sussex and perhaps East Hants DC and Waverley BC, a single Revenues and Benefits service for at least the Districts of East and West Sussex would yield most of the required savings with a further reduction in the numbers within the senior Officer cadre. I am somewhat less convinced of benefits from the general merging of the senior management teams across Districts, although I am agnostic as regards a detailed study I have suggested.

Bulletin Boards

A small number of Parish Councils have shown an interest in having an insight into the IDeA bulletin board CDC now uses for Member/Officer interchange to see how to better use their Cllrs to better effect and one has asked for a similar Bulletin Board for use exclusively by Parish Councils. I'd be delighted to facilitate either or both.

Accounts 2009/10

I've been too engaged in various matters to distribute details of CDC's draft accounts for last year, these include details of payroll costs for senior Officers and every Councillor. I'll forward a soft copy to Jenny when I can for your information. I also hope to complete my own "P&L".