

LURGASHALL PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LURGASHALL VILLAGE HALL
ON THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7.30PM

Councillors Present: Mrs B Burkhart (also in attendance as District Councillor), Mrs J Landstrom, Mrs A Loughan, Mrs A Martin-Jenkins (Chairman), Mr N Jowett, Dr A Tate and Mr P Wilding

In Attendance: Mrs H E Cruikshank (Clerk)

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm and welcomed all to the meeting. There were two members of the public in attendance.

LURGASHALL VILLAGE SHOP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE ON THE SHOP

Jim Rice, Chairman of Lurgashall Village Shop Management Committee gave a brief and useful update on the shop. He thanked the Parish Council for its grant and said he is optimistic about the future of the village shop. The shop is a very valuable asset to the community, enhancing the village alongside the church and the pub. It is tough going with revenue plateauing and costs increasing. Covid had benefited the shop but the cost-of-living crisis now is not helping. There has been mixed feedback to the shop pricing but it simply needs more support from the village. **There is a shop open meeting on Thursday 30th November at 7pm at the Village Hall for everyone to come and have their say and talk to the new committee.** The committee is made up of five new members who are all working very hard to make the shop work but are still very much in a new phase. There are 35 volunteers who give fantastic support to a paid team including a part-time manager, post officer, weekend staff and bookkeeper. Ideas and contributions are welcomed.

The Parish Council agreed the shop is a valuable asset however it is limited in its financial support due to restrictions on section 137 expenditure. Originally the precept was raised to help fund and support a full-time manager.

Mrs Martin-Jenkins thanked Jim Rice for updating the Parish Council and encouraged all to attend the meeting on the 30th. It is an important night for the shop.

Jim Rice left the meeting at 7.55pm

Public Question time

There were no questions.

Mrs Martin Jenkins thanked Ray Cooper for all the years he had been involved as a Parish Councillor, District Councillor and Chairman and for all he still does in the village. She presented him with a small token of appreciation.

PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS

107/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Adrian Stainton, District Councillor Eleanora Newbery and County Councillor Janet Duncton.

108/23 CODE OF CONDUCT

The Chairman reminded members of their responsibilities under the Code of Conduct.

109/23 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

There was no co-option.

110/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 14th September 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

111/23 MATTERS ARISING

The Village Hall Management Committee are still looking for a Parish Council representative as its landlord.

112/23 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

In her absence, County Councillor Janet Duncton had sent through the following update:

First of all, the South Downs National Park meeting today was regards CIL funding. I know Northchapel has some funding and the project is not yet complete but there is no reason for concern. Should a project not be completed 5 years after being awarded, the SDNP can ask for it back but are more likely to discuss what the difficulties are, so no need to worry and I'm sure it will get completed.

There is not a lot to update on the last notes but in case anyone would like to fill in a survey regarding the County budget there is an opportunity to do so on the County website.

Platinum house the new Fire and Rescue/training centre at Broadbridge Heath is going well and getting enquiries from not just the UK but abroad as well regarding training.

After some initial issues, the new Woodlands Mead special School near East Grinstead is getting really near completion. This will take at least 500 special needs pupils once up and running.

There are more delays in getting highways issues fixed and I don't expect this weather will help but it is not just weather, our contractors are all having difficulty getting the staff required to fulfil their commitments. I know they are working on it.

At SDNP we have been meeting for the biggest planning application of any National Park in the UK. This won't affect this area as it's in Lewes but I have to say it's giving us a lot of work and having had one meeting in Lewes for this application we have now given them up to another 4 months to take on board the issues that are still outstanding. For those who know Lewes it is a site that runs along the River Ouse north of Harvey's Brewery and if we get it right it will be great.

And finally, our Chief Executive is departing. Becky Shaw has been amazing and as you know we share her with East Sussex. Becky is going back to East Sussex and will stay with us until we have replaced her. She has done a great job and a lovely person to work with so it's going to be no mean job finding a good replacement.

Please contact Janet on janet.duncton@westsussex.gov.uk or mobile 07979152898 if you would like further information.

District Councillor Brett Burkhart reported on the following:

Winter Storms

Storm Ciaran wrought havoc across the District with SSE having to restore lost power to 35000 homes. The District Council has issued guidance for severe winter storms. It discourages use of parks and green spaces and asks that bins be carefully sited as they can blow away. For this reason, residents are asked to remove them from the highway as soon as collection has occurred. In exceptional circumstances it may not be possible to provide collection services. The Council's social media channels can be followed for updates and advice.

Grant Funding

From November 6th, CDC is accepting applications for grants from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural

England Prosperity Fund so organisations within the parish are encouraged to apply. All information needed to gauge whether a project might be eligible can be found at www.chichester.gov.uk/sharedprosperityfund
The deadline for completing submissions and returning to CDC is **6pm on 3rd January 2024**.

Cross Market and More

The Chichester Cross Market and More returns to the city centre on Sunday 19th November, between 10am and 4pm. It is an innovative and quality market that showcases the best in creative and unique products from across the Chichester District, along with delicious food and entertainment.

Christmas lights switch-on

Chichester's Christmas lights switch-on event takes place on Saturday 25 November. The event is organised by the Chichester Rotary Club and will feature the Light Up Chichester Parade along North Street. The lights go on at 6.30pm.

City Sounds line-up

The City Sounds music festival is returning to Chichester on Saturday 25 November. The line-up has now been revealed and the festival promises to be even bigger and better than before. There will be eight venues in the city, and for the first time includes a venue for under-18s.

Father Christmas at The Novium Museum

Father Christmas will be back at his festive grotto at The Novium Museum on Saturdays 2 and 9, and Sunday 17 December this year! Tickets cost £8 per child and include a gift. Booking essential

Tree Planting

The Council's scheme will receive £120,000 through the Government's Shared Outcomes Fund Trees Outside Woodland programme, which is delivered in partnership with DEFRA, The Tree Council, Natural England, and five local authorities, including our own.

The new funding means that the Council can continue researching ways to increase tree cover in rural and urban areas over the next two years. This will include the launch of a new targeted scheme that will encourage planting in areas where new trees and hedgerows could help improve habitat connectivity, allowing different species to move and migrate for food and to breed, as well as supporting environmental resilience.

As part of this scheme, we're currently developing an interactive map, which will be made available so that landowners can see if they fall within one of these targeted areas. If so, they can then apply to find out if they are eligible for funding to plant trees and hedgerows on their land.

Those interested in progressing a tree planting project — whether it's a community initiative or on private land — should contact the council's dedicated Tree Project Officer who can offer advice, by emailing treescheme@chichester.gov.uk or calling 01243 521161. To find out more about the Tree Chichester District scheme, please visit www.chichester.gov.uk/treescheme. Since the Tree Chichester District scheme was launched in January 2021, nearly 25,000 trees have been planted across the district through 175 individual projects.

Up until the end of the 2022 planting season, we ran a subsidised tree scheme — which was open to residents, community groups, schools, parish councils, charities, businesses, landowners, and tenant farmers — through which nearly 7,500 trees were allocated. More recently, we supported parish councils and local community groups with grant funding that helped develop seven community orchards in Selsey, Chichester, Fishbourne and Goodwood; two community tree nurseries in West Wittering and Selsey; and five new mini urban forests in Hambrook, East Broyle, Summersdale, East Beach Walk and Midhurst.

Fly tipping

Residents and businesses can report fly tipping at: www.chichester.gov.uk/reportflytipping

Supporting You Team

They will do everything possible to help, and anyone struggling should make contact with the team using the email supportingyou@chichester.gov.uk

<https://www.chichester.gov.uk/supportingyoucampaign>.

Technology doesn't Byte (ongoing)

A fantastic initiative to help wanting to learn how to use technology without feeling intimidated by it. Please visit <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/choosework> or contact them directly at choosework@chichester.gov.uk

District Councillor Ellie Newbery
enewbery@chichester.gov.uk or telephone 01428 656 941

District Councillor Brett Burkhart
bburkhart@chichester.gov.uk or telephone 07876594168

113/23 FINANCE

The Clerk had previously distributed Appendix 2a and 2b which included:

- a) A statement of the position of the Council's bank accounts as at 3rd November 2023 incorporating details of payments which needed to be made, and for which approval was sought.
- b) Budget Monitoring sheet as at 3rd November 2023

The Council's current financial position at £38,216, bank account and budget monitoring sheet were noted. The second instalment of the precept had been received (£12,500).

The members duly approved the payments for Mrs H E Cruikshank (Clerk's September & October 2023 Salary & Expenses) @ £802, Mr Jonathan Wright (Allotment hedge cutting) @£99 and The Leconfield Estates (Allotment water) @ £87.

The Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting will be held on Thursday 14th December at 7.30pm.

Mr Jowett left the meeting at 8.15pm

It was agreed to contribute £250 towards the mowing of Whites Green due to extra costs incurred this financial year. An on-going contribution will be discussed at the Finance meeting.

114/23 PLANNING

The Clerk had previously distributed Appendix 3. Mrs Burkhart has resigned from the planning committee due to a conflict of interest with her being a member of the District Council planning committee.

Three planning applications were discussed after the main meeting tonight:

SDNP/23/04360/TCA

Location: Hazards, High Hamstead Lane, Lurgashall GU28 9ET

Proposal: Notification of intention to reduce back to previous pruning points on 3 no apple trees & crown reduce 1 no field maple

SDNP/23/04513/LDE

Location: Sybs Farm, Jobsons Lane, Wood Common, Lurgashall GU27 3BX

Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate for an existing use to station a mobile home within the curtilage

SDNP/23/04481/CND

Location: Old Hearne Farm Jays Lane Lurgashall West Sussex GU27 3BL

Proposal: Reinstate horse walker on existing foundation - Variation of Condition 6 of planning permission SDNP/23/02393/FUL - to allow the horse walker to be used for exercising the 10 no. horses stabled on site

PLANNING APPLICATIONS DISCUSSED SINCE THE LAST PC MEETING

SDNP/23/03365/FUL

Location: Tapper Barn, Jobsons Lane, Windfall Wood Common, Lurgashall GU27 9HA

Proposal: Change of use of disused winery to residential dwelling with replacement single side extension and demolition of outbuildings

DECISIONS RECEIVED FROM CDC/SDNPA SINCE THE LAST PC MEETING

SDNP/23/02393/FUL

Old Hearne Farm Jays Lane Lurgashall Haslemere West Sussex GU27 3BL

Reinstate horse walker on existing foundation

Decision: Approved

SDNP/23/02412/CND

Sods Farm High Hamstead Lane Lurgashall West Sussex GU28 9EX

Erection of Agricultural Workers Cottage. (Removal of condition f of permission LG/3/48 - removal of agricultural occupancy condition).

Decision: Approved

SDNP/23/04172/PNTEL

The Hole Brook Hill Blind Lane Lurgashall Petworth West Sussex GU28 9HB

Regulation 5 Notification under The Electronic Communications Code (Conditions and restrictions) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 to install 1 no. 10m light pole

Decision: Raise no objection

115/23 HIGHWAYS

Mrs Martin Jenkins said the parish litter clearance had been very successful and thanked all the Councillors who helped. Disappointingly no parishioners turned out on the day although there are a few people who collect litter on a regular basis separately.

It was agreed that the fingerboard at the junction of Surrey Road and High Hamstead be repaired one last time before another solution is found. Gary Sharp has kindly offered to do this.

116/23 WINTER MANAGEMENT

Dr Tate said he had carried out the grit survey. This had been sent to WSCC Active Communities team. Some of the grit bins are damaged but WSCC no longer supply them to parishes. Dr Tate will liaise with the previous Winter Plan contractor to find out whether he is still happy to continue for 2023/24. The Clerk will submit the updated plan once confirmed.

117/23 VILLAGE GREEN

The new noticeboard is in place and looking great. Thank you to Ed Carter for designing, making and installing it. He will be returning to add some cork and to waterproof. Mr Loughan kindly offered to remove the old one. Some of the white posts around the Green are rotten and have fallen over. These need replacing. Some empty cooking oil tins have been thrown into the pond by the car parking area. These need removing and disposing of.

118/23 PLAYGROUND

Mr Loughan has looked at the play area annual report and will kindly carry out the repairs within a budget of £1,500. The rotten picnic bench will be replaced in the spring. He will approach The Leconfield Estates requesting assistance in possibly providing some new fence posts.

119/23 ALLOTMENTS

Mrs Landstrom reported the allotments are still fully let. The hedge has been cut. There is a working party tidy up on Sunday. It is hoped that the land behind the shop will be used as an extra half plot if the shop does not need it.

120/23 RIGHTS OF WAYS

There are no huge issues although there are a couple of trees down on the parish footpaths which need attention.

121/23 L.R.A

Dr Tate reported the L.R.A has taken over the running of the Cricket Club which includes the management of the cricket pitch, its mowing and the lease of the pavilion. It is hoped someone will want to start up a village team again next year.

122/23 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk has contacted The Leconfield Estates about extending the existing passing places on Blind Lane and further cutting back of hedges to widen the spaces. They are sending out a team to investigate.

123/23 TO CONSIDER URGENT MATTERS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

There were no urgent matters.

124/23 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Please let the Clerk know of any additional items by Thursday 4th January 2024

125/23 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is on Thursday 11th January 2024

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm