

LODSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held at Lodsworth Village Hall On Monday 11th November 2019

Present: Councillors, Justina Leita, Caroline Neville (Chair), Paul Phillips, Mark Reed, James Rees and Jim Summers

In attendance: District Councillor Francis Hobbs
Mrs Helen Cruikshank, Parish Clerk

PARISH COUNCIL AGENDA

Comments and Questions from members of the Public

There was one member of the public present.

The Chairman of the Lodsworth Village Hall Management Committee (LVHMC) thanked the Parish Council for its support with the outdoor fitness equipment. He was pleased to report the equipment was being well-used by all ages. He spoke of the lack of storage space at the Village Hall which is becoming a safety issue and the need for more indoor storage space to encourage new offerings. For example, they would like to provide indoor table tennis tables. The LVHMC feels an extension is required to provide this and it would also have the advantage of making storage safer. The extension would potentially be built on the SW side of the building using similar materials and would not block any existing exits. It is thought the project would cost @ £60,000 which would be paid for with grants and LVHMC funds. Quotes are currently being sought and a planning application will be submitted for formal consultation.

67/19 To note apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Emma Davies, Chris Fairclough and Tom Richardson. Also from County Councillor David Bradford.

68/19 Declarations of interest

The Chairman reminded members of the code of conduct.

69/19 Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th September 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record.

70/19 Reports from elected representatives of WSCC and CDC

District Councillor Francis Hobbs said he had nothing specific to report. He said the ceremony on Remembrance Sunday had been slightly marred by the noise of a number of motorbikes going past. In his absence, County Councillor David Bradford had informed the Clerk that the police can intercept and prosecute if part of the silencer on a motorbike has been removed. (Further discussion on this under item 72/19)

Caroline Neville said the electric car charging point at SDNP HQ in Midhurst was impossible to use. She added that more charging points were needed and had suggested one be installed at the Lodsworth Larder. Clerk had put the proposal to the shop committee and they were to discuss with the Hollist Arms. Francis Hobbs suggested the Parish Council write to CDC asking about their latest policy with regard to this and when and whether grants will be available. Clerk to action.

Francis Hobbs left the meeting at 8.20pm

71/19 Working party reports

- Highways

There are a lot of potholes! Clerk has reported the nasty local ones on Gills Lane, on the one-way road leading up to the back of Lodsworth and the one on Jobsons Lane. Anyone can report potholes using the free mobile app or via the Love West Sussex website. Information and details as follows

<https://love.westsussex.gov.uk/reports/home>

- Speedwatch

The police have rectified the issue with booking out the equipment so people now need to log on, book out and start carrying out sessions. Many thought that volunteers may want to wait until spring now to start, given the weather and dark evenings.

- Footpaths and Rights of Way

James Rees reported all the footpath clearing had been done. The farmer had cleared the overgrown brambles on footpath FP1085 and Cowdray had moved a fallen tree on bridleway 1076. Issues discussed at the last meeting had been resolved.

- Play Area

The hedge at the play area had kindly been cut by two neighbouring residents and the remnants burnt. Clerk to write and thank them.

- Allotments

Paul Phillips reported that raising the rents this season had caused so much trouble and has meant he has had to spend a lot of time dealing with the aftermath. Neighbouring hedges continue to be a real problem as there are a lot of them surrounding almost the entire allotments. There are a few problems which he is unsure how to deal with but he will plod on for now. He and several others from the allotments, parish council and family, in the spirit of goodwill, had cut the hedge (and removed the cuttings and branches) on the path leading down to the allotments from School Lane. Another vacant plot has been rented out. Paul Phillips said he had yet to mend the handrail on the steps but would do so shortly.

- Parish Repairs

Jim Summers reported Andrew Mills had done a good job increasing the number of car parking spaces in the pub car park. A couple of parking issues on Shepherds Lane have been raised by parishioners. Parking throughout the parish continues to be a problem. Clerk to submit an article into Outlook to remind people to use their driveways and garages over the forthcoming festive period and to always park politely and with consideration. Emergency vehicles need access to ALL parts of the parish ALL of the time.

The monthly village tidy up is due to take place on Saturday 16th November at 10am. Meet outside The Hollist Arms.

- Winter Plan

Justina Leita reported that she had submitted the salt audit to WSCC. All bins were fairly full so there would be no top-ups this winter. She would look to update the winter plan for the deadline in December.

- Planning

There are currently no outstanding planning applications. The following planning applications have been discussed since the last PC meeting:

SDNP/19/03202/HOUS and SDNP/19/03203/LIS

Location: Church Cottage Church Lane Lodsworth GU28 9DD

Proposal: Form link building between main dwelling and barn develop barn into home office. Install semi-renewable heating system. Construction of oak porch to main dwelling and green house.

SDNP/19/04532/LIS

Location: Bounds Cottage The Street Lodsworth West Sussex GU28 9DA

Proposal: Replacement of six existing single glazed timber windows that are rotting, warped and no longer repairable. The windows are located on the front elevation. The style and design of the windows match those fitted under a previous consent granted in 2015

SDNP/19/03687/FUL

Location: Lods Saw Mill Selham Road Selham Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 0PJ
Proposal: Extension to existing sawmill and dust collection facility

SDNP/19/04851/HOUS and SDNP/19/04852/LIS

Location: Lodsbridge Mill Selham Road Selham Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 0PL
Proposal: Re-modelling of existing extension

Since the last meeting, Chichester District Council/South Downs National Park has made the following decisions:

SDNP/19/03996/PRE

Location: Shotters Farm Highstead Lane Lickfold Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 9DX
Proposal: Dismantling & re-construction of 16th C chimney.
Advice provided

SDNP/19/03241/HOUS

Location: The Old School Lane Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 9DH
Proposal: Demolition of existing conservatory. Erection of two storey rear/side extension with alterations and additions to fenestration.
Decision: Approved

SDNP/19/02356/LDE

Location: Gentils House Lickfold Road Lodsworth GU28 9EY
Proposal: Use of part of garage as a single dwelling house.
Decision: Approved

SDNP/19/02350/PRE

Location: Lods Saw Mill Selham Road Selham Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 0PJ
Proposal: Principle of modernisation of the existing facility together with a small scale residential development.
Advice provided

SDNP/19/03431/HOUS and SDNP/19/03432/LIS

Location: Leggatt Hill Farmhouse River Lane River Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex
Proposal: Amendments to proposals for alterations, extension and basement previously approved under SDNP/18/01061/HOUS and SDNP/18/01062/LIS
Decision: Approved

SDNP/19/03687/FUL

Location: Lods Saw Mill Selham Road Selham Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 0PJ
Proposal: Extension to existing sawmill and dust collection facility
Decision: Approved

72/19 Noise of motorbikes on A272

The Clerk had received a letter from Tillington Parish Council to find out the Council's views on the noise and speed of motor bikes along the A272. At Tillington, the Council has recently installed new 40 mph signs at either end of the village, but although this does seem to have had some effect on general traffic, it has made no difference to motor bikes who continue to rev up and ignore the speed limits. Tillington Parish Council would like Lodsworth (and they have asked Easebourne and Midhurst too) to work with them to see action and to get some Police commitment to address the problem. Councillors agreed to support Tillington as there had been a couple of serious accidents in the parish on the A272. Noise was more of a problem for Lodsworth in the summer months.

Any incidents should be reported to the Police on 101 or online

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/rti/rti-a/report-a-road-traffic-incident/> or using Operation Crackdown <http://www.operationcrackdown.org/>

Don't tolerate bad anti-social driving or abandoned vehicles.

73/19 Financial Matters

- The Councils current financial position of £29,113 was noted.
- The Bank Reconciliation as at 5th November 2019 was noted.
- The schedule of accounts submitted for payment were approved as follows; WSCC (Clerk's October Salary @ £450), Mrs Helen Cruikshank (Clerk's General Exps Q2 2019/20 @ £61) and Function 28 Ltd (Website quarterly hosting fee @ £36)
- The annual finance meeting will be held on Monday 9th December at 7.30pm. Grants and donations for 2019/20 will be discussed plus the budget and precept for 2020/21. All are welcome to attend.

74/19 Reports back from meetings attended by Councillors

Justina Leitao and Jim Summers had attended the SDNP workshop at the end of October.

75/19 Clerks report including any correspondence

The Clerk reported that there has been a change to the allocation of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) from Monday 4th November. The police precept uplift this year means communities will start to see and feel a difference as these roles are deployed to strengthen local policing. The bolstering of PCSO numbers will help Sussex Police, working with their partners and local communities to address low level issues before they can escalate into more serious crime as well as identify and keep safe the most vulnerable people in our communities. This decision complements ongoing plans to strengthen local policing and improve how the public can contact the police. The new PCSO for this area (Rother Valley) is Charlotte Hall. Clerk to contact her and request she comes to a future meeting.

CDC are looking at changing car parking charges but Midhurst and Petworth are unaffected.

North Chichester CLC meeting is on Tuesday 12th November 7pm at the Willow Room at the Grange Centre – Caroline Neville to attend.

James Rees has a meeting planned with Cowdray so any queries, please let him know. Caroline Neville is to chair the MAC (Midhurst Area Cycling) meetings.

76/19 Items to be included on the next agenda

Please let the Clerk know of any other items by Monday 6th January 2020

77/19 Date of next Parish Council meeting

Monday 9th December 2019 at 7.30pm (Finance only meeting)

Monday 13th January 2020 at 7.30pm (Full PC meeting)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm