

LODSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

**DRAFT Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at Lodsworth Village Hall
On Monday 12th July 2021 at 7.30pm**

Present: Councillors Emma Davies, Chris Fairclough, Justina Leitao, Caroline Neville (Chair), Paul Phillips, James Rees, Tom Richardson (also in attendance as County Councillor) and Jim Summers

In attendance: Mrs Helen Cruikshank, Parish Clerk

PARISH COUNCIL AGENDA

Comments and Questions from members of the Public

There were four members of the Public in attendance. There were no questions.

39/21 To note apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Parish Councillor Mark Reed, District Councillor Francis Hobbs and PCSO Neil Billingham.

40/21 Declarations of interest

The Chairman reminded members of the code of conduct. Jim Summers declared an interest in item 46/21 as an owner of Lodsworth House.

41/21 Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of the Annual Meeting on Monday 24th May 2021 were approved and signed as a correct record.

42/21 Police report: In his absence, the Clerk read out the following written report from PCSO Neil Billingham:

Introduction.

Unfortunately, although I am not able to go into much detail, I must start this month's update with news that Jess has left Sussex Police. I will continue as the local Officer for the time being and will provide updates on any changes in the future. Hopefully, if things continue as they are, we will see the end of "Lockdown" from 19th July, with further announcements in August. I am happy to say, the vast majority of the population in this area have stuck to the rules/guidelines through out, so my thanks to all of you.

Incidents of Note.

We continue to have reports of fraud related phone calls, so please keep vigilant. No legitimate organisation will cold call and ask for any personal or bank details. If you are not expecting a call, even regarding fraudulent activity on an account, hang up and speak to your local branch in person as soon as you are able. Never give account details or allow remote access to anyone.

We have received a report of a suspicious vehicle in a rural location asking for used oil for sale. Please be aware of this type of activity and where possible without causing danger for oneself, getting any vehicle index.

PCSO Activity over the next month.

Hopefully, we will see an improvement in the weather as the school holidays approach. With that in mind, please be aware that, although we do often see a rise in reports of noisy groups during the summer months, children playing is not in itself a Police matter. We do, of course need to know about any threat, harm or risk involving children, but any noise complaints need to be directed to the Environmental Health Officers at Chichester District Council in the first instance.

DON'T LET THEM MAKE YOU A VICTIM OF CRIME. IF YOU SEE IT, REPORT IT - 101!

43/21 Reports from elected representatives of WSCC and CDC

County Councillor Tom Richardson said he did not have a great deal to report. There is a lot of resurfacing works going on in the area. The SLOW markings in the village are being left to fade to reduce clutter on the

roads. He said he is to be appointed as a special advisor to Highways which will mean he will be part of policy writing on speed limits. Hopefully making it easier to get limits lowered in the County. Concern was raised regarding the overgrown verges as you pull out from Lodsworth onto the A272. *Update: this has since been cut back.*

If you have any issues of a County nature then please do not hesitate to contact Tom on tom.richardson@westsussex.gov.uk

There was no District Councillor report. However, if you have any issues of a District nature then please do not hesitate to contact Francis on fhobbs@chichester.gov.uk or 01730 813313.

44/21 Working Party Reports

- **Highways:** Tom Richardson said Sussex Police have 8 days of action planned over the summer trying to catch motorbikes using excessive noise and speed. Acoustic cameras are due to be installed in Wisborough Green and Bury Hill with ANPR parking installed at the car park at the bottom of Bury Hill.
- **Speedwatch:** Emma Davies reported that no sessions had been carried out since the last meeting. She was going to look into an alternative location. Caroline Neville asked that the number of lorries be added to the collection of data going forward. More volunteers are required. If you are interested, please contact Emma on emma.davies@lodsworth-pc.uk
- **Footpaths and Rights of Way:** James Rees reported that WSCC would be carrying out its summer clearance works over the next six weeks. The Parish Council had received a letter from Cowdray Estate informing them it is going through the process of providing WSCC with plans recording the public rights of way across the Estate's land. The process known as lodging of Deposits will see site notices placed across the parish.
- **Playground:** Emma Davies reported that the emergency works to repair the swings (plus a new handle for the springer) had been carried out at the play area. The annual ROSPA inspection had been carried out. The Lodsworth Mowers had approached the Parish Council to take over the cutting of the playground on a voluntary basis. New mowers had been purchased (£1,050) and the cost would be split between the Village Hall, Parish Council and the Lodsworth Fete. All agreed this seemed a good idea. A small annual amount would be paid to allow for any maintenance and fuel and the playground will be cut every 2 weeks. A short contract or agreement will be put in place. Clerk to cancel current contractor.
- **Allotments:** Paul Phillips reported all is pretty good at the allotments apart from a few issues with hedges.
- **Parish Repairs:** Emma Davies reported that the tidy up session in June did not go ahead and July's tidy up session is this Saturday 17th July. She will see who turns up to volunteer. There was an issue last time with finding a vehicle to remove the waste/cuttings.
- **Winter Plan:** Justina Leitao said she would be submitting the salt/grit bin audit by Monday 16th August for the forthcoming winter. She hopes to get the new WSCC team responsible for the Winter Management Plans to come along to a future meeting to discuss their offer and answer any queries the Parish Council has. She and the Parish Council are not satisfied with the quality of the grit bins.
- **Planning:** The Clerk said there are three outstanding planning applications in the parish which would be discussed over the next couple of weeks; The Butty on Hollihurst Lane, 10, The Croft and Mead House, Selham. The following applications have been discussed by the Parish Council since May's meeting:

SDNP/21/02701/HOUS

Arms Cottage, The Street, Lodsworth GU28 9BZ

Replacement outbuilding for use as a home office, summerhouse and store in connection with Arms Cottage

SDNP/21/02635/HOUS

Oakleaves, School Lane, Lodsworth GU28 9DH

Extension of existing bungalow to provide first floor accommodation and construction of new garage building

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

SDNP/21/03000/DCOND

The Old Vicarage Vicarage Lane Lodsworth GU28 9DF

Discharge of conditions 4 (Design and sample of metalwork) & 6 (Bird box details) from Planning Permission SDNP/19/03305/HOUS

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/02538/DCOND

Church Cottage Church Lane Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 9DD

Discharge of condition 6 of Planning Permission SDNP/19/03202/HOUS.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/02328/TCA

The Old Vicarage Vicarage Lane Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 9DF

Notification of intention to fell 4 no. Scots Pine trees (quoted as 4) and 1 no. Robinia tree (quoted as 1).

Reduce height down to approx. 2.5m on 19 no. Sycamore trees (quoted as 2). Reduce height down to 2.5m (to match height of hedge) on 8 no. Ash trees (quoted as 3). Reduce height by approx 50% on 1 no. Holly tree (quoted as 5). Crown lift to 10m (above ground level) on 1 no. Leyland Cypress tree (quoted as 6).

Reduce height by approx. 4-5m leaving height of approx. 2.5m on 1 no. Holly tree (quoted as 7). Remove 1 no. stem (south-east sector) with large cavity on 1 no. Thuja tree (quoted as 8)

Decision: Raise no objection

SDNP/21/02182/DCOND

Hammick House Langham Lane Lodsworth GU28 9DA

Discharge of condition 4 from planning permission SDNP/21/00630/HOUS.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/01260/HOUS

The Garden Cottage Highstead Lane Lickfold Lodsworth GU28 9DX

Proposed front porch, single storey rear extension and alterations to fenestration

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/00914/HOUS

Gentils Farm Lickfold Road Lodsworth GU28 9EY

Proposed in-ground swimming pool.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/02413/LDE

Old Bakehouse Surrey Road Lickfold Lurgashall Petworth West Sussex GU28 9DX

Use of land as residential garden

Decision: Refused

SDNP/21/02283/PRE

Gentils Farm Lickfold Road Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 9EY

Proposed conversion of existing barn structure to include selected alterations to existing fenestration and internal alterations to provide facilities to allow use as a two-bedroom annexe including the addition of two mezzanine floors with rooms below. The proposed maintains the existing building footprint and retains &

minimises its impact on the existing building fabric. New glazing is to carefully utilise existing openings and new external cladding elements are to match the existing.

Advice given

SDNP/21/01256/HOUS

The Garden Cottage Highstead Lane Lickfold Lodsworth GU28 9DX

Erection of 2-bay barn-style garage and bicycle store and a bin store following demolition of existing shed outbuilding.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/01198/HOUS

Brickyard Cottage Surrey Road Lodsworth GU28 9DR

Demolition of existing oil tank and omission of free-standing plant shed to be replaced by proposed semi-basement plant room extension. Replace facing brickwork with stonework, brick quoins and window surrounds using lime mortar.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/20/04726/HOUS

St Peters Well Vicarage Lane Lodsworth GU28 9DF

New timber-framed four-bay garage, brick retaining wall and relocation of existing oil tank.

Decision: Refused

45/21 Dog fouling

There had been numerous complaints about dog fouling throughout the parish. Lodsworth Village Hall Management Committee has said if the situation does not improve at the recreation ground, they will be forced to ban dogs. **How can you help?** If you spot a dog owner failing to clean up after their pet, you can report them to CDC's Enforcement Officers. If you can provide details of the time/day, location, a description of the owners and the dog, and if relevant, a car registration number, the Enforcement Officers will be able to investigate. Just email environmentalprotect@chichester.gov.uk or call 01243 785166. There are grave concerns again from local farmers of sheep/lambs being savaged by dogs not on leads and not under control. Dogs must be on leads near farm animals particularly when there are new-born lambs, calves etc

46/21 Lodsworth House land (this item was brought forward and discussed after 41/21)

Seven plots of land adjacent to Lodsworth House have come up for sale and are being auctioned by Barnard Marcus and Barney Estates. Their advertising has been very misleading. The land is in the South Downs National Park (SDNP) which has a higher degree of status than an area of outstanding beauty, it is outside of the Village Settlement Boundary and many of the trees within the plots have Tree Preservation Orders on them. SDNP has placed an emergency Article 4 on the land and is endeavouring to make it permanent on 6th August. There are differing versions on how many plots to date have been sold and to whom. Nothing completes until September. There is a local consortium, made up of residents who are looking to purchase the land. They are committed to maintaining the wall and the trees within the area. They are looking to get the conservation area extended to protect the land from development. A member of the public suggested people read the Parish Design Statement.

Clerk to report the overhanging trees on Gills Lane and The Street adjacent to the aforementioned land to WSCC Highways.

47/21 Electric Car Charging point

Caroline Neville stated there are grants available for installation of electric car charging points. It was suggested that the Village Shop and Village Hall might be useful places to have the charging points. Jim Summers and Justina Leitao to follow up on availability and eligibility of grants.

48/21 Financial Matters

- The Council's current financial position of £25,510 was noted.
- The bank reconciliation as at 5th July 2021 was noted.
- The schedule of accounts was noted. There were no payments due for approval tonight.

49/21 Reports back from meetings attended by Councillors

James Rees and Emma Davies had attended the SDNP parishes workshop last month. Emma has sent through very comprehensive notes to all members. The SDNP had sent in their response to the Government's Planning White paper requesting further information and clarification as to what it means for the National Parks. The paper envisages that future planning will be simplified and areas zoned into three categories. However, this is not particularly clear and National Parks are not included with Green Belt and Conservation areas that are to be protected. SDNP has requested that National Parks be given the same status. SDNP's full response can be found [South Downs National Park Authority's response to Planning White Paper - South Downs National Park Authority](#)

James Rees reported that the Cowdray Estate treehouse project at Benbow Pond was on hold however there would be a planning application coming through for renovations to modernise Gosdenheath Farmhouse.

50/21 Clerk's report including any correspondence

Clerk reported on the following:

- Draft West Sussex Transport Plan 2022-2036 (WSTP) for consultation from Friday 16th July to Friday 8th October. They are reviewing the WSTP to update the County Council's approach to managing and investing in the transport network.
- Rural Crime Team Update for June 2021
- South Downs National Park monthly newsletter www.southdowns.gov.uk/join-the-newsletter
- CDC: Thousands of free trees available for planting in the district

It was suggested that Cowdray Estate may like to consider planting a tree on the green outside The Hollist Arms in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee next year.

51/21 Items to be included in the next agenda

Please let the Clerk know of any additional items to be added to the agenda by Monday 5th July 2021

52/21 Date of next Parish Council meeting

Monday 13th September 2021

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm