

LODSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at Lodsworth Village Hall On Monday 14th November 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Emma Davies, Caroline Neville (Chair), Mark Reed, James Rees, Tom Richardson (also in attendance as County Councillor) and Jim Summers

In attendance: Mrs Helen Cruikshank, Parish Clerk

There was one member of the public in attendance.

PARISH COUNCIL AGENDA

Comments and Questions from members of the Public

A member of the public had come to speak with Tom Richardson. Unfortunately, Tom is currently at another parish council meeting and is due shortly but the Chairman stated there is a highways meeting planned with Lurgashall Parish Council tomorrow night to discuss the email the resident had sent regarding the road leading from the A272 to Gospel Green. The member of public was pleased the meeting was finally taking place as it is imperative that something is done about the road and lorries are stopped from using it. The Chairman reported that County Councillor Tom Richardson is working on getting a County-wide policy to reduce speed limits. All small rural parishes are experiencing the same issues.

The Chairman thanked the member of the public for attending.

The member of the public left the meeting at 7.40pm

71/22 To note apologies for absence

Apologies had been received and accepted from Parish Councillors Justina Leitao and Paul Phillips. Apologies also from District Councillor Francis Hobbs.

The Chairman announced the sad resignation of Chris Fairclough. Due to the forthcoming elections in May 2023, the Parish Council would not be filling this vacancy until then.

72/22 Declarations of interest/Code of Conduct

The Chairman reminded members of the Code of Conduct.

73/22 Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th July 2022 were approved and signed as a correct record.

74/22 Police report

There is now only one PCSO (Nathan Ford) covering North of Chichester. Police resourcing is very low across the district. They are recruiting but it will take time to get the numbers back up. In the mean-time Acting Inspector Daniel Burt (Chichester Neighbourhood Policing team) is trying to organise an online meeting for all parishes. Tom Richardson kindly offered to attend this.

There has been a recent theft of a motorcycle on The Street in Lodsworth during the night and a break in at the church in Lurgashall, so please be vigilant at all times.

**DON'T LET THEM MAKE YOU A VICTIM OF CRIME. IF YOU SEE IT, REPORT IT!
101 or 999 (Emergencies only)**

Tom Richardson arrived at the meeting at 7.45pm

75/22 Reports from elected representatives of WSCC and CDC

As special advisor to the WSCC cabinet member for Highways and Transport, County Councillor Tom Richardson is working on the Road Safety Speed Limit Policy which he has been invited to present to the Communities, Highways and Environment Scrutiny committee. It is hoped the revisions will be in place by mid-December. The main idea is to reduce country lanes from the derestricted 60mph to 40mph and make the implementation of 20mph limit in villages much easier. By reducing the limits on these roads, once updated, satnav systems will no longer see them as a faster route than the main roads.

It will be down to the Parish Council to apply through the Community Highway Scheme. Every application will be assessed as it comes in. If parishes can pay themselves (whether that is through a precept increase, donations or using CIL money) then they will jump the queue. WSCC Highways are also trying to reduce signs to declutter the roads and use painted markers instead.

WSCC are running young driver courses alongside the Institute of Advanced Motorists and Goodwood. Goodwood are giving 10 days free use of their track in December and January next year. The course will be a mixture of classroom, track and road sessions, aimed at 17–25-year-olds and cost £40-50. It is hoped that 400 people able to benefit from this. Road fatalities have sadly doubled this year in West Sussex.

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

In his absence, District Councillor Francis Hobbs had sent through the following written report.

Once again, I am pleased to give you a short update on matters which, I fear, seem to be quite repetitive.

Housing and Planning

Easebourne, King Edward VII – We have no reason for why the planning application by Pinewood Benson Elliot has been withdrawn. I know some community groups have asked for a meeting with SDNPA but they have suggested further engagement with the current owners of the site as a first step. Three development sites in Easebourne – Having arranged meetings with local interested parties, the parish council and the developer, we have opened lines of communication which should ease development concerns longer term. At the meeting set up at the end of September SDNPA confirmed it had followed established policy on what sort of development is expected, particularly in Egmont Road. I am fully aware that some in the community remain concerned about the style of development particularly on the Egmont Road site. We must now wait for the Planning Committee. In Lodsworth I have asked for and await a response on when CDC planning enforcement can visit. I realise there are a number of planning matters, not least with approvals for tree work, which will need careful monitoring. In Heyshott I still have no formal advice on next steps at Dunford House. I am aware that the site is now being promoted for various activities, including weddings. Without additional access there will be natural limitations on what can be done, particularly in terms of activity volume. As reported in my last report it will have to go to committee if the community object to the final planning application.

Environment

The Parish Environmental Group (PEG) is completing its final draft and will be distributing booklets about the parish pledge to support the climate emergency shortly. A key member of the group has been abroad for a few weeks and the programme has had to be slightly delayed.

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.

76/22 Working Party Reports

- **Highways:** Tom Richardson said today he had driven from Lodsworth to Gospel Green reporting all the potholes. He has been looking at options and possible locations for a width restriction, which would stop large vehicles from using the parish roads as an alternative to the official HGV route around Petworth. The Parish Council is conscious that this cannot interfere with the routes that the

local farmers use and of course that large vehicles do need to be able to get in and out of the village. The idea is that a strategically placed restriction would still allow large vehicles in, but they would have to approach the village from the relevant side and leave the same way they came in thus not allowing anyone to just 'cut through'. Once sites have been identified, the Parish Council will consult with parishioners and interested parties before any applications are submitted.

- **Speedwatch:** It was agreed that the Speedwatch initiative would be abandoned for the time being. Once there had been a reduction in the village speed limit, then it will be reconsidered.
- **Footpaths and Rights of Way:** James Rees said there was a tree down by Lod bridge but it had a sign on it that it was to be removed. During the recent bad weather, there had been a few trees down but these had been reported and cleared.
- **Playground:** Emma Davies thanked Paul Phillips for the repairs carried out at the play area to the baby swing and gate.
- **Green in front of The Hollist Arms:** Jim Summers reported he had strimmed and tidied up the green. The jubilee tubs need to be removed. It was agreed to provide a Christmas tree for the green once again. With the pub now being closed, members felt the area needed some cheer. Caroline Neville and the Clerk to source a tree, Emma Davies to look at battery operated lights and Jim Summers would ask Andrew Mills to help him put the tree up.
- **Village Hall and Recreation Ground:** There was nothing to report. Due to the pub closing, carols on Christmas Eve, this year will be held at the Village Hall.
- **Allotments:** All is going well at the allotments with two new tenants.
- **Parish Repairs including tidy up sessions:** Emma Davies reported that there had been a very successful tidy up session last month. The Chairman thanked all the volunteers and also Mark Reed for clearing out the bus shelter on the A272 and checking all the grit bins.
- **Winter Plan:** In Justina Leitaos absence, the Clerk reported the Winter Resilience Plan 2022//23 had been submitted. The local contractor had confirmed that he is happy to support the plan and grit the two routes in the plan if required. WSCC will pay £35 per hour but the contractor now charges £52.50 per hour so the Parish Council will need to fund the shortfall of £17.50 per hour if needed. Members agreed to this when WSCC give the go ahead that enough snow has fallen. Thanks to Mark Reed for all his work with mending the bins. It was agreed that the small additional grit bin on Bexley Hill be moved to a suitable location by the Lickfold Bridge for road users there.
- **Parish Environmental Group (PEG):** Jim Summers stated there had been a slight revision to the booklet following COP27 and it was now ready to be printed. The cost is estimated to be £1 per household for the booklet, pledge card and magnet. Members agreed to pay Lodsworth's share based on % of households split with Easebourne and Heyshott. There will be boxes in the Lodsworth Larder and the Three Moles for householders to post their pledges. Lots of small changes will help!
- **Planning:** The following applications have been discussed by the Parish Council since July's meeting:

SDNP/22/04226/LIS

Rose Cottage The Street Lodsworth West Sussex GU28 9DA
Partial re-roofing of northeast and southeast roof slopes.

SDNP/22/04326/HOUS

Old Bakery The Street Lodsworth West Sussex GU28 9BZ
Garden office.

SDNP/22/04348/HOUS

Great Ham Mead Selham Road Selham Lodsworth West Sussex GU28 0PJ
Demolition and replacement extensions.

SDNP/22/04483/TPO

Lodsworth Stables Coach House Block Lodsworth House Gills Lane Lodsworth
Fell 1 no. Common Ash tree (03) and 1 no. Sweet Chestnut tree (04) within Area, A1 subject to
LD/02/00610/TPO

SDNP/22/02256/FUL

Peartrees Highstead Lane Lickfold Lodsworth West Sussex GU28 9DY
Replacement dwelling.

SDNP/22/02126/TPO

Land North of North Court Lodsworth House Gills Lane Lodsworth
Fell only internal 29 no. Laurel trees (quoted as 1-29) in the site within Area, A1 subject to LD/02/00610/TPO

SDNP/22/02410/TPO

Land North of North Court Gills Lane Lodsworth
Reduce heights by up to 33%, reduce widths by 3-5m and crown thin by 10% on 7 no. Sweet Chestnut trees (marked 1, 2, 8, 7 and 11-13). Reduce heights by 4m, reduce widths by 2-4m and crown thin by 10% on 2 no. Sweet Chestnut trees (marked 3 & 4). Removal of 1 no. sub-stem at base on southern sector on 1 no. Sycamore tree (5). Fell 2 no. Sweet Chestnut trees (6 & 9), 1 no. Ash tree (14) and 1 no. Holly tree (20). All 14 no. trees are within Area, A1 subject to LD/02/00610/TPO

SDNP/22/03126/HOUS and SDNP/22/03127/LIS

Tudor Cottage, Surrey Road, Lickfold GU28 9DT
Erection of a 2-storey rear extension, a single storey rear and side extension, internal alterations, removal of 4 no. existing outbuildings and erection of 1 no. garden outbuilding, installation of a natural swimming pond and installation of a ground source heat pump.

SDNP/22/00201/HOUS

Hill House, School Lane, Lodsworth GU28 9DH
Replacement porch

SDNP/22/02487/HOUS

Holly Cottage The Street Lodsworth GU28 9BZ
Proposed veranda (including terracing) to be attached to existing garage

SDNP/22/03180/TCA

Lodsworth Cottage The Street Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 9BZ
Notification of intention to crown reduce by 30% (all round) on 1 no. Fig tree (quoted as T1), 1 no. Mulberry tree (quoted as T2), 1 no. Cherry tree (quoted as T3), 1 no. Handkerchief tree (quoted as T4) and 2 no. Magnolia tree (quoted as T5 and T6).

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

SDNP/22/03443/DCOND and SDNP/22/03444/DCOND and SDNP/22/03410/DCOND

Leggatt Hill Farmhouse River Lane River Lodsworth West Sussex GU28 9DN
Discharge of Condition 4 (window and door details) of householder permission SDNP/19/03431/HOUS. 635 161 PLAN Details; 635 162 PLAN Details; 635 163 PLAN Details plus Discharge of Conditions 4 (window and door details) and 5 (rooflight details) of householder permission SDNP/20/01598/HOUS. 635 164 PLAN Details; 635 165 PLAN Details; 635 166 PLAN Details; 635 167 PLAN Details; 635 Discharge of Conditions notes.
Decision: Approved

SDNP/20/04304/ADV

Land East of Langham Stables Langham Lane Lodsworth Petworth West Sussex GU28 9BU
1 no. non-illuminated roadside entrance sign
Decision: Refused

SDNP/22/00201/HOUS

Hill House, School Lane, Lodsworth GU28 9DH

Replacement porch

Decision: Approved

SDNP/22/04226/LIS

Rose Cottage The Street Lodsworth West Sussex GU28 9DA

Partial re-roofing of northeast and southeast roof slopes.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/22/02126/TPO

Land North of North Court Lodsworth House Gills Lane Lodsworth

Fell only internal 29 no. Laurel trees (quoted as 1-29) in the site within Area, A1 subject to LD/02/00610/TPO

Decision: Approved

SDNP/22/02410/TPO

Land North of North Court Gills Lane Lodsworth

Reduce heights by up to 33%, reduce widths by 3-5m and crown thin by 10% on 7 no. Sweet Chestnut trees (marked 1, 2, 8, 7 and 11-13). Reduce heights by 4m, reduce widths by 2-4m and crown thin by 10% on 2 no. Sweet Chestnut trees (marked 3 & 4). Removal of 1 no. sub-stem at base on southern sector on 1 no. Sycamore tree (5). Fell 2 no. Sweet Chestnut trees (6 & 9), 1 no. Ash tree (14) and 1 no. Holly tree (20). All 14 no. trees are within Area, A1 subject to LD/02/00610/TPO

Decision: Approved

SDNP/21/05617/HOUS

Holly Cottage The Street Lodsworth GU28 9BZ

The installation of a swimming pool and associated terracing

Decision: Approved

SDNP/22/00581/HOUS

Bexley House Surrey Road Lickfold Lurgashall West Sussex GU28 9DX

Proposed rear orangery

Decision: Approved

SDNP/22/02487/HOUS

Holly Cottage The Street Lodsworth GU28 9BZ

Proposed veranda (including terracing) to be attached to existing garage

Decision: Approved

SDNP/22/04483/TPO

Lodsworth Stables Coach House Block Lodsworth House Gills Lane Lodsworth

Fell 1 no. Common Ash tree (03) and 1 no. Sweet Chestnut tree (04) within Area, A1 subject to LD/02/00610/TPO

Decision: Approved

SDNP/22/04326/HOUS

Old Bakery The Street Lodsworth West Sussex GU28 9BZ

Garden office.

Decision: Approved

SDNP/22/03126/HOUS and SDNP/22/03127/LIS

Tudor Cottage, Surrey Road, Lickfold GU28 9DT

Erection of a 2-storey rear extension, a single storey rear and side extension, internal alterations, removal of 4 no. existing outbuildings and erection of 1 no. garden outbuilding, installation of a natural swimming pond and installation of a ground source heat pump.

Decision: Approved

77/22 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

The Clerk stated that standing orders are the written rules of a local council. Standing orders are essential to regulate the proceedings of a meeting. Financial regulations are standing orders to regulate and control the financial affairs and accounting procedures of a local council. The financial regulations, as opposed to the standing orders of a council, include most of the requirements relevant to the council's Responsible Financial Officer (RFO). Lodsworth's Parish Clerk is both Clerk and RFO. All members agreed to adopt the updated documents. These will be reviewed annually.

78/22 Financial Matters

- The Council's current financial position of £31,721 was noted.
- The bank reconciliation as at 7th November 2022 was noted.
- There was one invoice due for payment tonight for Greenbank Furniture (Play area repairs) @ £72 which was approved.
- James Rees agreed to become a bank signatory and a Bankline (online banking) authoriser. Members approved this mandate amendment.

79/22 Reports back from meetings attended by Councillors

There were no reports back from external meetings.

80/22 Clerk's report including any correspondence

The Clerk is attending a Police focus group on Friday 18th November. The WSALC AGM is on Friday 25th November in Billingshurst if there are any Councillors who would like to attend.

Emma Davies stated that Deryck Hamon had offered to organise an event for the King's Coronation on Saturday 6th May 2023. It is hoped that CDC will give a small grant to help with this and the Parish Council agreed to donate £250 to the parish wide celebration.

The Parish Council Annual Meeting has been moved to Monday 22nd May 2023 due to the bank holiday for King Charles' Coronation and Parish Council elections.

District Councillor Francis Hobbs has organised a meeting with Shona Archer from CDC Enforcement and Caroline Neville to go through all the issues in the parish.

There is a Village Meeting to discuss the future of the Lodsworth Larder on Tuesday 22nd November at the Village Hall. All Councillors have been contacted for their views and are encouraged to attend.

It was agreed any decision regarding Open Gardens in Lodsworth should lie with the Garden Club.

81/22 Items to be included in the next agenda

King's Coronation

Please let the Clerk know of any additional items to be added to the agenda by Tuesday 3rd January 2023

82/22 Date of next Parish Council meeting

Monday 12th December 2022 (Finance & Precept meeting only). Emma Davies sends her apologies

Monday 9th January 2023 (Full PC meeting)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm