

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at Kirdford Village Hall on Monday 18th July 2022 at 7.30pm**

Present:
Cllr Mrs A Gillett
Cllr Mr T Brooks
Cllr D Gerrard
Cllr Mr J Nichols
Cllr Mr T Piedade

In attendance:
Members of public: 3
Cllr Gareth Evans
Parish Clerk

128. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Mr D Irwin, annual leave, Cllr Mrs N Goddard, work commitments, Mr A Persson, medical reasons.
Absent: Cllr M Osborne

129. Public Participation:

Three members of the public were in attendance.

130. Disclosures of Interest:

None.

131. Approval of Meeting Minutes

To resolve that the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th June 2022 and the Planning Committee held on 27th June 2022 be signed as a correct record. Approved.

132. Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Janet Duncton

County have received a Grant of over £800.000 which will be distributed through the District and Borough Councils in West Sussex for Household Support funding to support residents experiencing hardship.

There is also a fund continuing too support young people 4- 16 years, through School holidays etc known as the Holiday Activity & Food Programmes. You need to go to the web page HAF and to find out if they are eligible the web page Uk child community hub is still operating from 9am to 5pm 7 days a week. The phone number for this is 03302227980. If you can please pass this on to any in your communities that may need help.

We have heard a lot about mental health issues and for young people there is a web page Your Mind Matters. Again if you know of anyone that you think this would be helpful for please pass it on.

You will know that with the dry weather that we have there is a high risk of fires. Everyone is warned to be aware and for instance do not thrown out cigarette stubs should you smoke and bbq's also need to be put out properly as there have been many instances of this not happening and fires starting from say a spark. I am sure we all know this but it doesn't hurt to remind everyone.

The South Downs National Park has provided a list on their web site of some activities. These include places to Picnic and 14 accessible trails in the countryside suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

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The South Downs National Park also has a new Chairman this year, Vanessa Rowlands. The Trading Standards have had a busy time and have prosecuted traders for illicit Tobacco. We have extended the contract we have with YMCA for 'Blended Counselling' for an extra 2 years. This has been a well used Service.

The contract we have for Carers short breaks is going to be renewed. It is so important for Carers of any age to be able to take a short break. A recent Carers week with all sorts of activities provided for registered Carers was a huge success. Sadly of course although we have many Carers that we know about there are a large number of Carers that we don't have registered with us so if you know any that you think would like a break they need to get in touch with the department at County Council. The Street sweeping contract is also about to be re-let and over the last few years the re-cycling of street sweepings has saved the County 2.6 million pounds.

While on the subject of Streets, Councillors recently had a very informative and interesting day at the Drayton Highways Depot where we saw demonstrations and many new innovations for tackling Highway issues. I've mentioned this before but it's worth saying again. When it can be used in suitable sites the new virtual pothole repair machines are brilliant. We watched them doing quite a large area in the depot and the average time they took to do a first class job on the potholes was 7 minutes. Lets all hope that the 2 machines we have which may be the only 2 in the Country actually make a huge improvement to West Sussex roads. There was also a lot of re-cycling taking place like the re-using of grit etc and lots of information about how Highways are doing their bit for the environment. All very encouraging.

I am still trying to get to all 6 of the Schools in my division and I have visited some. What fantastic Schools we've got. I know those I haven't yet got to this term are also good Schools so I think we can be proud of them.

Of course one of the problems with them is that they are so good that with parents choice our Schools get so many pupils that do not live in the village. Parents have a choice of which School they want to enrol their children and I think they have 3 choices. Although it's great that so many want to attend our village Schools you do have to worry that there must be places for those who actually live in the catchment area can get in to their local School. Of course numbers change continually especially with all the new build and residents coming and going from the Parish's.

For Kirdford and Northchapel just a few notes on Chichester District work.

The Water Neutrality situation is still making development difficult and of course has slowed down the development of CDC's draft Local Plan. At the time of writing no solution has come from Natural England for a way forward on this issue. That does not mean we have stopped work on the draft Plan and in fact we are working on the Part for Gypsy's and Travellers at the moment.

You will heard of Culture Sparks which has involved not only the Chichester area but Midhurst and Petworth have had events in the Culture Spark.

It is a year in the District when CDC's own Novium Museum has reached it's 10th birthday and the wonderful Chichester Festival Theatre is now 60 years old so along with places like for instance the Pallant House Gallery it's a good year for celebrating the culture of the District.

Janet Duncton County Councillor Petworth division
CDC Councillor Loxwood ward

Cllr Gareth Evans

Local Updates

Rickman's Green at Crouchlands Farm, Rickman's Lane, Plaistow, RH140LE – Letters have been circulated to residents that a proposal for a new village (600 homes and a school) will go in imminently. There will be a drop in exhibition on 12th July for residents to attend and the applicant will also attend the Parish Councils public meeting on 13th July to discuss their plans. Once the application goes live residents will be able to comment with their views.

Foxbridge Golf Club Development – I attended a presentation for this last month and since then I have received a large amount of correspondence from residents who are concerned about this

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application. From I have seen so far, I share these concerns but will have to wait until the actual application goes live before taking a view. However as with the Crouchlands Farm development I will be listening to the views of the public

Lagoon 3 – The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 7th July at 2.00pm. This will basically give an update on progress regarding the legal action CDC were planning to take. I do also want to ask what the chances of approving the 600 home development will be whilst Lagoon 3 remains in place

Townfield Development – The most recent update I got was that the applicant tabled a water budget report for the proposed schemes which, whilst CDC need to check thoroughly, appears to be based on sound methodology along with proposals for offsetting on two residential schemes outside of the district. CDC consider that, in principle, the solution proposed would be acceptable. The applicant acknowledged that the proposal still needed further working up and we have been promised a revised version within a couple of weeks. It has also been confirmed that even if the officer were minded to approve it it would still need to go to planning committee.

Land West Of Guildford Road Loxwood West Sussex (20/01977/FUL) – I have written to the case officer upon hearing that the S106 had not been progressed some six weeks after approval. I was told that:

- Legal services have drafted the agreement and it awaits comments from the case officer and applicant.
- Jo (the case officer) is preparing the technical information to be attached to the agreement

Andrew Farquhar has told me that the second S106 which is water neutrality has been held in abeyance and CDC legal services cannot progress this until they have a technical note and instructions from CDC planning department. The planning department have told him that they are stretched and prioritising planning appeals.

I have raised this with Fjola Stevens and asked for estimated timescales which she says she is unable to provide. I will be raising this with my Group Leader as I do not think this hold up is good enough.

Hyde Housing – I have been supporting one resident in Loxwood who has had big issues with Hyde and has living conditions which are detrimental to her health and that of her young family. Having been refused to be placed on the housing list to bid for one of the Stonewater properties I stepped in, and CDC are now helping this resident. However, the issues with Hyde remain unacceptable in my opinion.

Chichester District Updates

Census – The first results of the census have now been published and can be found via this link

www.ons.gov.uk/releases/initialfindingsfromthe2021censusinenglandandwales

£150 energy bills rebate as of 13 June 2022 - Payments for eligible residents who pay by direct debit commenced on 11 April 2022. So far, over £4.3 million has been paid out to 28,860 residents. This equates to 80% of all payments being made as of 13 June 2022. CDC are writing to residents who do not pay their Council Tax by direct debit so that they can ask for their bank details so that they can make the payment. Officers continue to work extremely hard to ensure eligible residents receive their payments as quickly as possible.

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Residents who pay their Council Tax by direct debit will receive their £150 Energy Payment quicker. Due to this, CDC encourages local residents to pay for their council tax by direct debit. It's quick and easy to do following this link:

<https://www.chichester.gov.uk/energybillsrebate2022>

Please be advised that the Discretionary Scheme has been operating since 1 May 2022. To date, a total of 249 discretionary payments have been made. Until recently, take up has been low, but this is picking up. You can find out the full details here:

<https://www.chichester.gov.uk/energybillsrebate2022>

Hyde Housing Complaints - Residents wanting to make a complaint about a Hyde property should, in the first instance, must complain direct to Hyde at this site:

<https://www.hyde-housing.co.uk/complaints/>

If this route does not resolve the issue, then residents can raise this with this with their District Councillor who will attempt to resolve the issue via the other routes available to them

New agreement with South Downs National Park Authority - Further to the approval given by Cabinet in January 2022, a new agreement with the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) under section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 has been completed. This will enable the council to continue to provide a development management service to the SDNPA for up to two years initially, until 30 September 2024.

Local Plan Review - Officers are working hard to finalise the Local Plan Review. There are a number of key strands of strategic work that CDC are seeking to complete in the coming months, to enable further progression and then submission for examination.

Firstly, CDC are working closely with National Highways and West Sussex County Council to establish the effect of the revised Development Strategy, agreed by Members earlier this year, on the A27 and local road network. The issues surrounding the A27 are complex, but CDC's consultants have made significant progress on advancing the modelled impact, which CDC will discuss with the Highway Authorities over the next month.

Given the constraints of the A27 on development in the south of the district, the council will be under significant pressure at examination to demonstrate that it has looked at the potential for further development in the north-east as carefully as possible. There is an ongoing piece of work commissioned by CDC, Horsham and Crawley, to look at ways of overcoming the water neutrality issues in this area. Once complete, it will inform what development can be achieved in the north-east of the plan area.

While these are the two most significant strategic level strands of work, there is also a lot of activity on other matters necessary to submit a successful local plan.

Full Council Meeting – The next full council meeting takes place on 19th July at 2.00pm

District Councillor Surgeries:

These are my final two surgeries of the summer and I will publish my next round shortly.

Saturday 23rd July, The Half Moon Northchapel (12-2pm),

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19th August Kirdford (venue TBC).

I am also available for home visits or one to one meetings at alternative dates/venues upon request.

133. Correspondence.

None received.

134. Chairperson's Announcements

There had been a service at Kirdford Chapel to welcome Pastor James Clarke. It was agreed to invite Pastor Clarke to attend a Parish Council meeting.

It was noted that the gate to Great Common had been repeatedly left unlocked. A new padlock would be fitted.

It was noted that the bus stops needed some minor repairs and this would be arranged for the Autumn.

It was noted that some trees on Butts Common needed pruning. It was agreed to arrange any necessary works prior to bonfire night.

135. Finance

- a. Bank reconciliation (Appendix A) – this was approved.
- b. Monthly financial report - (Appendix B) – this was approved.
- c. Payments for approval (Appendix C) – these were approved.

136. Planning

22/01262/DOM | Retrospective application for rooflights to north and south roof slopes and increase in size of cellar | Churchlands Farm Village Road Kirdford West Sussex RH14 0LU

<https://publicaccess.chichester.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RBtSE6ERGF100>

It was agreed that KPC's prior objections would stand.

Decisions: The following decisions were noted:

KD/22/00730/FUL Mr & Mrs Paul Ferguson Mill Cottage Linfold Road Strood Green Kirdford RH14 0LG The erection of a 12m x 8m agricultural barn for the storage and maintenance of farm machinery and agricultural produce. The creation of a permeable track from the existing driveway to the barn. **PERMIT**

<https://publicaccess.chichester.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=R8Y8NSERMDY00>

Kirdford KD/22/00627/ELD Mr Ian Crouch Sussex Game Farm Scratching Lane Kirdford West Sussex RH14 0JN Existing lawful development certificate for light industrial use of buildings (labelled 1 to 7). **WITHDRAWN**

<https://publicaccess.chichester.gov.uk/onlineapplications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=R8Q68UERM6S00>

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Kirdford KD/22/00758/DOM Lizzie Felstead High Barn Farm Plaistow Road Kirdford West Sussex RH14 0JS Replacement extension on north elevation, two storey side extension and minor internal alterations to a listed building. **PERMIT**

<https://publicaccess.chichester.gov.uk/onlineapplications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=R95F17ERMJ400>

Kirdford KD/22/00829/LBC Lizzie Felstead High Barn Farm Plaistow Road Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0JS Replacement extension on north elevation, two storey side extension and minor internal alterations to a listed building. **PERMIT**

<https://publicaccess.chichester.gov.uk/onlineapplications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=R911K1EROPD00>

Enforcement Notices: None received.

137. Planning Enforcement / TPOs

It was noted that a caravan at Bridgefoot Meadows was inhabited.

138. Common Land

It was noted that Cllr Piedade was discussing this with Troy Hayes Planning.

139. Recreation Ground and Pavilion Upkeep - Update

It was noted that renovations to the tennis court to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee had been completed.

140. Village Hall Refurbishment

After consideration, it was agreed that Hampshire Land Surveys should be asked to carry out a measured survey of the Village Hall in the sum of £1325.00 + VAT.

It was agreed that The Ecology Co-op should be asked to undertake a bat survey in the sum of £1649.88 + VAT.

141. CAGNE – Response to CAGNE Gatwick 2 Consultation.

This item was deferred to the September meeting.

142. GAAC – Newsletter. This item was deferred to the September meeting.

143. Health & Safety

It was noted that the kerbside setts in Kirdford Road were loose and Highways should be informed.

Resilience training would be arranged during the Autumn.

It was noted that the RoSPA annual reports showed that some of the playground equipment needed maintenance. It was agreed to ask R J Playground Services to undertake any necessary repairs.

144. Date of next meeting: 19 September 2022 at 7.30pm.

17 October

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21 November

Dates for 2023 were agreed as follows:

16 January

20 February

20 March

17 April

15 May

19 June

17 July

18 September

16 October

20 November

145. Matters for Consideration at the Next Meeting

PR and media

Amanda Gillett

Chairman

26.9.22

Date