

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at Kirdford Village Hall on Monday 17TH October 2022 at 7.30pm**

Present:
Cllr Mrs A Gillett
Cllr Mrs N Goddard
Cllr Mr T Brooks
Cllr Mr D Irwin
Cllr Mr M Osborne
Cllr Mr A Persson
Cllr Mr T Piedade

In attendance:
Cllr Gareth Evans
Cllr Janet Duncton

167. Apologies for Absence: None received.

Absent: Cllr D Gerrard.

168. Public Participation:

There was one member of the public present.

169. Disclosures of Interest:

Cllr A Gillett and Cllr T Piedade in relation to the planning application for the Foresters Arms as they are close neighbours.

170. Approval of Meeting Minutes

To resolve that the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th September 2022 be signed as a correct record. Approved.

171. Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Janet Duncton

There has been quite a gap between my last notes and this coming weeks Parish Council meetings so I though perhaps a few extra notes would be good.

Last Friday was County Council. The first since the summer break and there were a lot of items so I have hopefully picked out those most relevant.

We had 2 presentations at the start of the meeting the first from the Cabinet member for Children's Services. It was a re-assurance for us all with regards a problem we had in one of our children's homes in Crawley.

This home, has, for many years now been OFSTED inspected and always been outstanding which shows how quickly a problem could arise. I won't go into details as it was a case of personalities and situations not handled quickly enough. It was over a short period of time around I think April May or thereabouts and was handled quickly . The OFSTED inspector has returned unannounced to see

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what had happened and I am glad to say was happy with the actions taken and is no longer concerned.

I am sure you can appreciate that some but not all of the children in our care often arrive because of traumatic and difficult situations and sometimes things can go wrong but fortunately quick action was taken to sort things out so now all well. Children's Services are continuing on their journey and have overall had a small OFSTED inspection which went well and of course we are expecting the big OFSTED sometime early in 2023. I think we all feel pretty hopeful with the direction we are travelling so I am sure it will continue well.

Fire and Rescue has also had HMI (now of His Majesties Inspectorate) and are also satisfied that some of the things they felt needed attention have been attended to. Of course as ever one of the things we struggle with is getting enough Retained Fireman. If you know anyone that is interested in becoming a retained Fire & Rescue retained Fireman please encourage them to get in touch with the department at County Hall.

Fire and Rescue are now up to date with their home safety visits and these are proving valuable to keep people safe in their own homes.

The not such good news is of course the budget at County. Although not easy we are pretty sure that we will get a well balanced budget for 23/24 but those that know do warn us that it will be more difficult in the years after that. We are continuing to have member workshops on the budget so that we all get the opportunity to say what is important to our residents. Some we win and some we lose.

Last Friday I proposed a motion at Council which was actually quite simple. It was for the whole Chamber to vote their support to the Leader and the Cabinet member for adult Services to write to the department in Government and ask for clarity on the new rules governing people going into Care. You will know that the rules are changing and when a resident who is paying for their Care gets down to £86,000 they can ask the Council to take over and often move them and pay for their Care. You can imagine that this will cost County many millions and although of course the Cabinet member and Leader have been in touch with the Government department they still don't have the answers so we thought that if they were backed up by a vote from all Councillors it may help. I am glad to say it was unanimous by all those in the Chamber.

Many Parish Councillors will remember CLC. We stopped these some time ago and introduced another member forum method which we called Community Forums. Sadly these did not work well and the Governance committee proposed a recommendation to Council that we discontinue with this service. This was also passed at Council. This will also save Council money and Staff time which we hope to put to better use.

We had a report from the Armed Services Covenant which I think I have said before we were awarded a Gold Award. We could not do this without the support of the Districts and Boroughs in West Sussex all of which have Armed Services Covenants.

We aim to help Veterans on leaving the Services with whatever help they need like for instance getting on housing lists, help with writing CV's for jobs and many other things besides.

On a Chichester District note for those Parish that I also represent there has been a lot going on. Once again the rough street sleepers only number 4, sometimes 5 in Chichester. We have a very active team at District that watch the situation continually. Of course the numbers fluctuate but these number are up to the middle of October.

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One last item. You may have heard of 'Sparks'. This is really all about the cultural heritage of the District. Events took place throughout the Summer in Selsey, Chichester, Midhurst and Petworth and it also included celebrations for Pallant House Gallery celebrating 40 years and of course the Chichester Festival Theatre celebrating 60 years. We are so very lucky in this part of the world.

Janet Duncton
County Councillor Petworth division
Chichester District Councillor Loxwood ward

Clr Duncton confirmed that the scheduled elections would be held in May and would not be affected by King Charles III Coronation.

Clr Duncton would investigate any update on the Townfield Meadows planning application.

Clr Gareth Evans

Local Updates

22/01726/FUL | Erection of 32 no. residential dwellings on land at Little Farm, Loxwood

I am receiving a high number of objections to this application and will be following this carefully to ensure I represent the views of residents. At last count over 100 objections had gone in and I will be submitting my own comments on this. As Loxwood Parish Council have objected to this it will go before the planning committee at a future date but this is likely to be a long way in the future due to a number of issues that need resolving including the issue surrounding Water Neutrality.

21/02849/FUL Land Southwest Of Willets Way Willets Way Loxwood West Sussex – The planning committee asked for this to be deferred to a future planning committee meeting to enable to site visit to take place. This is something that I pushed for when I spoke at committee, and I am pleased that this will now occur.

22/02346/OUT Foxbridge Golf Club Development – The application went in on Friday 30th September 2022 and residents can now comment. I have been meeting residents who have expressed concern over this application. I share many of these concerns and will be following this application very closely. The best way to ensure your voice can be heard on this application is to comment via the Chichester District Council Planning Portal.

Response From Sussex Police – I have followed up on this again and hope we receive a response before we meet.

Land South of Townfield Development – No further updates

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 their District Councillor who will attempt to resolve the issue via the other routes available to them

CDC Updates

Trial of Evening Meetings

There was a trial of evening meetings in September which began at 6pm. These were for the following meetings

VAG

Cabinet on 6 September
Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20 September
Full Council on 27 September

I was delighted that we had the opportunity to trial these but regret that the trial could not be for longer. I was also disappointed that several members did not engage with the process and were quite hostile about it.

For context 95% of councils across England and Wales currently have evening meetings. I believe a mix of evening and daytime meetings will make local politics more inclusive both for people to have the option to serve as a councillor for their community and for residents to have their voice heard.

I will continue to push for this.

Communications

CDC are launching a new cost of living campaign, called 'Supporting You'. This aims to highlight the range of support that is available to those who may be struggling with the current cost of living, including help with finances; help with saving money on household bills; help with housing; help with health and wellbeing; and help for businesses. CDC will be delivering this campaign in partnership with the Observer series this September.

District Councillor Surgeries:

My next District Councillor Surgery Dates are as follows:

Saturday 5th November – Old Mill Café, Wisborough Green, 12pm-2pm

Saturday 19th November – The Foresters, Kirdford 12pm-2pm

Saturday 3rd November – The Coffee Cup, Ifold 12pm-2pm

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

Cllr Evans said he would investigate any update regarding Lagoon 3.

172. Correspondence

Non received.

173. Chairperson's Announcements

The Chair said that fly-tipping at School Court was being investigated by the Housing Officer at Hastoe.

It was noted that a further traffic mirror had been installed in the village. Clerk to contact highways.

It was noted that the Plaistow Road post box had been replaced with a modern pole box.

Cllr Osbourne to contact the Post Office to see if the Victorian box could be reinstated.

The beacon design and cost needs to be chased up.

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Village History sign should be postponed until after the coronation.

174. 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.

It was agreed that an amount of £5,000 would be budgeted for the Coronation celebrations.

It was agreed that provision should be made for the 2023 local elections. Amount to be decided.

175. Planning

KD/22/02047/FUL - Case Officer: Sascha Haigh Mr Ethan Gentle Bridgefoot Meadows Glasshouse Lane Kirdford West Sussex Change of use of agricultural land to provide 1 no. Gypsy/Traveller pitch consisting of a static mobile home, parking for 1 no. tourer and 2 no. vehicles, with the laying of hardstanding and associated works. O.S. Grid Ref. 501520/126160

It was agreed that the Parish Council were minded to object to this application for the following reasons:

- there is no mention of potable water supply or the consequential water neutrality. If water is brought to the site, then where does it come from?
- the site has not been occupied since the applicant's parents won their appeal in 2008.
- - the 2008 appeal was permitted with an important emphasis on the fact the parents were homeless and in need of health services. The applicant, his wife and children currently live in a house in Swanley, Kent. There is no family connection to Kirdford, other than inherited title of this small parcel of land.
- the applicant has expressed a wish to return to their cultural roots, even though they have not lived as travellers for an extended period of time.
- none of the conditions of the 2008 appeal have been satisfied. Additionally, hedging and trees were never planted. The site remains exposed and strongly visible from the road and adjacent public right of way and is considered a harmful visual site.
- the site is at the southern entrance to the village conurbation, in an unsustainable location located next to a series of historic character stone cottages, one of which is heritage listed.
- there is an extant enforcement notice that was due to be completed by November 2021. A condition of the appeal grant was that the site must be cleared following the departure of the applicant's parents in 2009, and was not carried out.

22/02155/LBC – (C) Kirdford KD/22/02154/FUL - Case Officer: Louise Brace Mr Tim Jones Foresters Arms Village Road Kirdford West Sussex Rear extension with associated internal reconfiguration and works to external front and rear trade areas including new fence and double gate. O.S. Grid Ref. 501693/126892

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It was agreed that the Parish Council would re-submit their original objection to this new amended application.

SDNP/22/04599/HOUS - Change of loft space to habitable accommodation with front and rear dormers. Internal and external alterations
Woodside Cottage Hawkhurst Court Kirdford West Sussex RH14 OHS

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

Decisions

Kirdford KD/22/01677/DOM PERMIT Mr Graham Lord Robin Cottage Plaistow Road Kirdford West Sussex RH14 OJY Two storey side/front extension.

KD/22/02205/TCA Mr Kevin Twelvetrees Foresters Arms Village Road Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 OND Notification of intention to fell 1 no. Ash tree. **NOT TO PREPARE A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER**

SDNP/22/03495/HOUS - Approved

Mr Gerald Hunt Erection of close board fencing above existing 11m long low stone wall to the side of house. Replacement of existing side metal gate with wood gate. The Old Coach House , Hawkhurst Court, Kirdford, West Sussex, RH14 OHS

Enforcement Notices: None received.

176. Planning Enforcement / TPOs

Cllr Nicholls and Cllr Brooks to apply for TPOs on various trees adjacent to the Plaistow Road development.

177. Consultation on the draft Chichester Infrastructure Business Plan (IBP)

It was agreed that Cllr Brooks would look at the plan and update CDC

178. Business Continuity.

Cllr Brooks had arranged a business continuity session on power outage, to be held on 29th November at 7pm.

179. Neighbourhood Plan – Update

Cllrs Piedade and Irwin had been liaising with Troy Hayes Planning to formulate a timetable to update the Neighbourhood Plan. This would be undertaken in two stages:

- 1) Update the parts of the plan around design and vision for the village;
- 2) Once CDC have produced their plan and allocated housing numbers, the second stage would be to complete the Kirdford Neighbourhood Plan.

180. Common Land

It was agreed to send any Deeds of ownership of Kirdford Parish Council to the solicitor.

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181. Recreation Ground and Pavilion Upkeep – Update

Cllr Goddard to contact the surveyor to progress.

182. Village Hall Refurbishment

Deferred to the November meeting.

183. CAGNE – Response to CAGNE Gatwick 2 Consultation.

Cllr Persson had attended several CAGNE zoom meetings on behalf of the Parish Council.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to CAGNE informing them that Cllr Persson was acting as Kirdford Parish Council's spokesperson.

184. Bonfire

It was agreed to ask Richard Sheppard to make reparations to Butts Common after the bonfire (including re-turfing) to ensure that the green is in good condition prior to the Coronation on 4th May 2023.

185. Health & Safety

Cllr Persson agreed to undertake any repairs to the bus shelters.

It was noted that the Recreation Ground Committee had received several complaints about dog waste being left in the grounds. Notices had been placed in the recreation ground reminding dog owners to remove dog waste or the grounds would be closed to dog walkers.

Employ Richard Shepard to replace both posts to the broken Village Sign by the stud.

186. Date of next meeting: 21 November 2022 at 7.30pm.

16 January (to be held at Tustin Chapel)

20 February

20 March

17 April

15 May

19 June

17 July

18 September

16 October

20 November

187. Matters for Consideration at the Next Meeting

Village Beacon.

Amanda Gillett

Chairman

21.11.22

Date