

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held at Kirdford Village Hall on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7.30pm**

**Present:**  
Cllr Mrs A Gillett  
Cllr Mr T Brooks  
Cllr J Nicholls  
Cllr Mr A Persson  
Cllr T Piedade  
Cllr Mr A Vernon

**In attendance:**  
Cllr Janet Duncton  
Cllr C Todhunter  
Cllr G Evans

**130. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr A Campbell (work commitment) Cllr M Osborne (family commitment)  
Cllr N Goddard (family commitment)

**131. Disclosures of Interest:**

Cllr J Nicholls and Cllr A Vernon declared an interest in the planning application for Brownings Wing as they were both neighbours.

**132. Public Participation:**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**133. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

To resolve that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024 be signed as a correct record.

**134. Reports from District and County Councillors**

**Cllr Janet Duncton**

Well, so far the summer hasn't been that great weather wise but I guess as ever we just get on with doing all the Fetes and other things we do to spite the weather. Jolly good they are too and a rich source for meeting those I don't often get to chat with.

Quite a lot of Fire and Rescue issues this month but all good.

First of all our brand new Fire Station at Broadbridge Heath has won a Heritage building award and in my opinion very well deserved.

We have a new second in Command Fire Officer Gary Ball who has been with West Sussex for some time and having worked with Gary I know he's a good choice.

Still with Fire and Rescue. Our Chief Fire Officer Sabrina Hatton-Cohen has been in conversation with Prince William discussing his Charity that he set up to help the homeless. Sabrina herself had a short time as a homeless person so a good choice to discuss this issue with the Prince.

✓ AG .

For the Parishes that have some highway and drainage issues there is still a fund available for them to apply for Watershed money. Over the years this has provided a way for Parish's to sort out some of their drainage etc problems and is a good fund to use.

Woodlands Mead in East Grinstead, the special needs School we have been building is now, at last ready to start taking its Pupils. This School will be able to take about 500 special needs Pupils and is now a fine building for them to progress in.

We do have to be a little concerned with both special needs Schools and indeed the other Schools should some parents thinking of Private education for their children decide that VAT if implemented on Private School fees is too much, we may well get a surge of places in our Schools. We shall see.

With elections etc nothing too exceptional has taken place at County Council but all our duties have been continuing as usual and of course the ever present work on the next Budget and workshops are already arranged for us Councillors. It is not going to be easy but is it ever.

A quick word on the National Park and indeed County. We have both been getting new Chief Executives. County I think I mentioned before have Leigh Woodhouse who was with Surrey County Council and is now working with us in West Sussex. With regards the South Downs National Park we are still in the process of shortlisting candidates as I write this and if all goes to plan we will have a new Chief Executive Officer in situ by late August.

Let's hope for better weather for the rest of what's left of summer and you never know we may get a good autumn.

Janet Duncton  
County Councillor Petworth division  
West Sussex County Council

**Clr Gareth Evans / Clr Charles Todhunter**

**Local Updates:**

**Hawthorn Cottage (Loxwood)** – An application has now been submitted and is awaiting validation. Charles and I are keeping close contact with officers and will update as and when it is validated. The developer has also been in contact and is keen to work with the community to ensure it is a development in keeping with the village. Until full plans are seen we cannot comment further but will work in the interests of the whole community.

**Loxwood Shop Development** – The shop development has now begun and as previously reported is under offer. Lots of rumour circulating on social media as to what the shop will be. As far as we are aware it is still a grocery store but have asked officers to maintain contact with the developer for clarification. We will update as we know more.

**Northchapel Shop** – Great news that the local shop in Northchapel opened back up on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June. Residents are delighted with this news, and it appears the new owner has worked closely with the community to provide the type of shop it needs. There was a great local turnout for this at the grand re-opening. We wish the new owners much luck and happiness on their new venture in Northchapel.

**Crouchlands Development** – As anticipated an appeal has gone in for the refusal on the two housing developments and non-determination on the farm regeneration application. We are currently awaiting further information on this appeal which officers are hoping to hold locally and is likely to take up to two weeks for the hearing. The key issue is finding a venue which can hold the number of

✓ Aa

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2024 - The Stag Inn, Balls Cross

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024- Kirdford Stores, Kirdford

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2024 - Old Mill Café, Wisborough Green

Should the suggested dates not be suitable for you or there are any other reasons preventing you from attending then it is possible to arrange home visits, telephone calls or zoom meetings.

Cllr Gareth Evans

Cllr Charles Todhunter

**135. Correspondence**

None received.

**136. Chairperson's Announcements**

It was noted that a resilience meeting had taken place on 25<sup>th</sup> June and a further meeting would be arranged for early Autumn.

**137. Finance**

- a) Bank Reconciliation – this was approved
- b) Summary of receipts and payments – this was approved
- c) Payments for approval – these were approved

A budgeting meeting would be organised for October.

**138. Planning**

**CDC Local Plan Update** – there was no update at this time.

Environment Agency

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Environment agency regarding borehole licenses.

**21/00466/OUT** | Outline application (with all matter reserved except Access) for the development of up to 70 new homes, of which 30% would be affordable, new community sporting facility, new vehicular access and associated parking and landscaping. | Land West of Cornwood Townfield Kirdford West Sussex

It was noted that a further extension of time was granted to 27 September 2024.

**KD/24/01078/FUL** - Case Officer: Freya Divey Sussex Game Farm Scratching Lane Kirdford Billingshurst Replacement of existing 1 no. light industrial building (retrospective). O.S. Grid Ref. 499884/127903

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

**SDNP/24/02249/HOUS** Installation of a vehicle crossover. Brownings Wing Glasshouse Lane Kirdford West Sussex RH14 0LW

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

AG.

**Decisions - None received**

**139. Neighbourhood Plan – no update.**

**140. Recreation Ground and Pavilion Upkeep – Update**

Finishing touches were due to be complete in the next couple of weeks.

**141. Great Common Pavilion Update**

A Water Neutrality report had been prepared, but this needed some minor alterations before submission.

**142. Village Hall Refurbishment**

Roof repairs would be completed over the Summer.

**143. Drains, Grips, Ditches & Gullies**

No update.

**144. Footpaths**

It was noted that footpath 606/2 had been cleared of overhanging vegetation.

**145. Speed Limits Plaistow Road**

Cllr Campbell was preparing a submission to Highways regarding the speed limits on Plaistow Road and Village Road.

**146. Health & Safety**

Nothing reported.

**147. Public Participation**

No members of the public were in attendance.

**148. Date of next meeting: 16 September 2024 at 7.30pm**

21 October

18 November

**149. Matters for Consideration at the Next Meeting**

Bonfire; SDNP; First Aid Refresher Course.

**150. Confidential Matters**

None

*Amanda Gilbert* 16.09.24  
Chairman Date