

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at Kirdford Village Hall on Monday 16th September 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Mrs A Gillett
Cllr Mr T Brooks
Cllr A Campbell
Cllr N Goddard
Cllr J Nicholls
Cllr Mr A Persson

In attendance:
Cllr C Todhunter

151. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Mr A Vernon (family commitment) Cllr T Piedade (family commitment)
Cllr Mrs J Duncton, Cllr Mr G Evans.

152. Disclosures of Interest:

None received

153. Co-option of Councillor

One application had been received to fill a casual vacancy. It was unanimously agreed that Mr Peter Flint be co-opted to fill the vacancy.

154. Public Participation:

There were no members of the public in attendance.

155. Approval of Meeting Minutes

To resolve that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th July 2024 be signed as a correct record.

156. Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Janet Duncton

Well after a very busy August and now well into September as I write this I can only hope that Council and South Downs work slows down somewhat.

A few words about South Downs NP. A lot of my time in August was taken up with appointing a new Chief Executive. It involved reading a quite large amount of applicant CV's and then the shortlist and interviews in person. A very interesting process but also takes a lot of time.

However at the end of the process I am pleased to say that we have appointed a new Chief Executive and he will join us late in November so exciting times ahead. In the meantime Tim Slaney is continuing to do a sterling job as our interim CEO.

I attended the Youth Council and never fail to be pleased with how lively and well informed the Youth Council members are.

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This time we were presented with their manifesto and different members took responsibility for different issues.

You won't be surprised to hear that the top of the list was safety which of course took into consideration the terrible amount of knife crimes that we hear about. They are a really responsible lot of young people.

One disappointment I do have though is that the Youth Council does not seem to attract students from our part of the County which is a shame because the rural areas have issues to that need discussion. They took my comments on board and the Chairman said she also came from a small rural community so she knew the issues and would discuss it in their meetings. I still wish that say Midhurst or Billingshurst had representatives but they will try.

Our children's homes have had their OFSTED inspection and as ever nearly all outstanding. One that has always been outstanding before had some issues and these have been dealt with and is now worthy of the Outstanding label again.

Trading Standards as ever have been busy. There seems to be many places that think they can get away with selling illicit tobacco products but Trading Standards are very diligent and certainly uncover many outlets.

The Fire & Rescue Service continues to make any improvements where necessary and I can't stress enough what an excellent Service they give. Sometimes they have to deal with horrific events and sometimes just a chimney fire say but whatever the problem it's dealt with efficiently and professionally. A credit to West Sussex.

I don't know how many are interested in the history and family records. I say this because West Sussex at the Records Office in Chichester is one of the top records office in the Country and many of it's items can be seen on the website. It's an amazing place to visit.

Finally the plea as ever. We are always in need of foster parents. Please, if interested look at the web site. There are more and more young people looking for good homes sometimes for short periods and sometimes for a longer time. Not always easy but can be very rewarding.

The highways team have been very busy over the last few months and I know nothing is perfect but in my division they have certainly made an impact and actually resurfaced many of the roads with more in the pipeline for either later this year or in the 2025 plans. I continue to report every problem that comes to my notice either by the Parish's or ones that I see for myself whilst driving around.

Janet Duncton
County Councillor Petworth division
West Sussex County Council

Cllr Gareth Evans / Cllr Charles Todhunter

Local Updates:

Crouchlands Development – No further updates at this stage. We understand they have found a venue which is the Avisford Park Hotel in Arundel and will start on 1st October and is scheduled to last 11 days.

Local Plan – We have now been given the indicative timeline for the Hearing Sessions of the Local Plan Examination. These will be held in the Committee Rooms at Chichester District Council from the 1st to the 8th of October. Anyone who commented on the Local Plan at the Regulation 19 consultation stage should have been informed of this and anyone who sought to change the plan has a right to appear before the inspectors at these hearings. Anyone is able to attend as an observer.

Many of our Parish Councils across the Loxwood Ward have registered to appear before the inspectors and Wisborough Green PC are asking their residents to complete a short survey on the housing

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allocations before 29th August. This can be accessed at the following link:
<https://www.wisboroughgreen.org/local-plan-petition/>

Hawthorn Cottage (Loxwood) – The application for 19 houses on this site off the Guildford Road has now been validated and is opposed by the Parish Council on several grounds. We are supporting the Parish to negotiate improvements to the scheme with CDC and the developer, but it remains to be seen if this proposal could gain support.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund – Kirdford Village Hall has received funding for Solar Panels and battery Storage

CDC Wide Updates

Cabinet Change – Following Jess Brown-Fullers election to become the new Chichester MP she has stepped down from Cabinet where she held the portfolio for Culture, Sport and Events. She remains as one of the District Councillors for Midhurst. Announcement as to who will take the Cabinet portfolio will be announced at the next District Council meeting on 1st October.

Surgeries

Cllr. Gareth Evans is available to meet residents face to face via one of his regular surgeries. Gareth will be available at the advertised venues from 12pm-2pm:

Saturday 7th September 2024- Kirdford Stores, Kirdford

Saturday 21st 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

157. Correspondence

The Chair had received an update letter from the local MP.

158. Chairperson's Announcements

The Leconfield Estates had agreed to share the cost of the clean up at Great Common. It was also agreed to fit telescopic bollards, inside the gates to Great Common and the Recreation Field, to act as a deterrent for future traveller incursions.

159. 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.

160. Planning

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

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

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It was noted that a further extension of time was granted to 21 December 2024.

Decisions The following decisions were noted:

24/01197/FUL | Replacement dwellinghouse (alternative scheme to class Q notice 19/00484/PA3Q and extant planning permission 20/00389/FUL). Construction of basement. (Variation of condition 2 of permission 23/01717/FUL - amendments to basement and ground floor). | Lower Barn (Near Chandlers Barn) Skiff Lane Wisborough Green Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0AA **PERMIT**

24/01064/ELD | Existing lawful development - change of use of land as part of the domestic curtilage. | Great Slifehurst Farm Scratching Lane Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0JN **REFUSE**

KD/24/01531/TCA Mr Tim Williams Mayflower Cottage Village Road Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0LX Notification of intention to reduce height by 1.5m, reduce widths by 1m (all round) and crown thin by 10% on 1 no. Holly tree (T4). **NOT TO PREPARE A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER**

KD/24/01078/FUL Mr Ian Crouch Sussex Game Farm Scratching Lane Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0JN Replacement of existing 1 no. light industrial building (retrospective). **PERMIT**

KD/24/01793/PNO Marshalls Farm Glasshouse Lane Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0LN Excavation of slurry manure store for storage of farm slurry manure, to be used to fertilise the crops in the surrounding fields. **PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED**

161. Neighbourhood Plan – no update.

162. Recreation Ground and Pavilion Upkeep – Update

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

163. Great Common Pavilion Update

The HRA report was awaited from The Ecology Co-op.

It was agreed that quotes should be obtained for the resurfacing of the car park.

164. Village Hall Refurbishment

Roof repairs would be completed over the Summer/Autumn. There was a slight delay due to a large amount of vermiculite being present.

165. Drains, Grips, Ditches & Gullies

No update.

166. Footpaths

It was noted that there was a broken stile on the footpath through Crouchlands. This would be reported to Darryl Hobden.

It was agreed that the Parish Council could make repairs to the footpaths adjoining Herons Farm to ensure their accessibility to residents. It was noted that the occupants of Herons Farm had undertaken a lot of work to keep the footpaths clear.

A landowner had asked for the provision of more dog waste bins on the footpaths, but this was not considered viable owing to the emptying of them.

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167. Speed Limits Plaistow Road

Cllr Campbell was preparing a submission to Highways regarding the speed limits on Plaistow Road and Village Road. He had obtained supporting notes from local businesses and residents.

168. Bonfire

The bonfire and fireworks would be held on Tuesday 5th November. The bonfire build would be held on Sunday 3rd November at 10am.

169. First Aid Refresher Course

It was agreed that a first aid course would be arranged for October.

170. Health & Safety

Nothing reported.

171. Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance.

172. Date of next meeting: 21 October 2024 at 7.30pm

173. Matters for Consideration at the Next Meeting

None raised.

174. Confidential Matters

None

Amanda Gillett *21-10-24*
Chairman Date