

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held at Kirdford Village Hall on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr Mrs A Gillett  
Cllr Mr T Brooks  
Cllr Mr P Flint  
Cllr Mrs N Goddard  
Cllr Mr A Persson  
Cllr Mr T Piedade  
Cllr Mr A Renmant  
Cllr Mr A Vernon

**In attendance:** Cllr Mr G Evans

**248. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Mr A Campbell (holiday), Cllr Mrs J Duncton, Cllr Mr C Todhunter

**249. Disclosures of Interest:**

Cllr Mr T Brooks as a neighbouring property of Land West Of Cornwood Townfield.

**250. Co-option of Councillor**

It was agreed to co-opt Mr Adam Renmant to the position of Councillor. Cllr Renmant joined the meeting.

**251. Public Participation:**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**252. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

To resolve that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 be signed as a correct record.

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

**Cllr Janet Duncton**

Very sparse notes at the moment.

Things are going well as normal with Children's Services and Adult Services and as ever a plea that if you know anyone interested in Fostering we need them.

A lot of our meetings recently have been about the coming devolution programme and I am happy to verbally tell you exactly what is happening and where we are with it.

Highways as ever have been busy and I was hoping to have some notes on the success stories that we have with highways at the moment but the briefing paper did not arrive. /4 However I can tell you what I learnt from a verbal briefing last week.

It is a good news story and of course nothing is perfect but huge improvements have been made.

✓ AG.

Most of the reported potholes are getting attended to in ¼ days when they reach the 40mm depth. Jane will know that we had a very good quick result in Plaistow last week so long may this continue.

The other item I picked up on was clearing of gully's. This was a once in 4 years problem unless a problem arose but this has now been reduced to 2 years. I am sure you understand that we have many thousand to deal with across the County so this will be good.

Of course it's budget time and we have a County Council just for the budget next week. It will be a balanced budget with no cuts. We are of course waiting to see if Government is going to reimburse for the new NI tax that we will have to pay and this will take about 6 million from the budget. We have catered for this but still think we may get it back from Government.

I have no further news on Brewhurst Bridge I'm afraid although I have asked today but not as yet had a reply.

If you would like a brief resume on Devolution please ask me at the meeting.

Janet Duncton  
County Councillor Petworth division  
West Sussex County Council

**Cllr Gareth Evans / Cllr Charles Todhunter**

#### **Local Updates**

**Loxwood Shop** – This has been confirmed to be a Budgens and a licence was approved for the shop to sell alcohol until 11pm. This does not necessarily mean the shop will remain open until 11pm but it does mean that it gives it the best chance to be a viable business. The overwhelming message from the community is that they want a shop in Loxwood so it's important the council supports it to achieve that.

**Townfield** – Earliest it will come to the planning committee will be April. There is likely to be a period of further consultation following submission of further information from the applicant re water neutrality, land use plan and design and access.

**The Foresters Arms, Kirdford**– Reopening this month and delighted to see this community hub back in action and wish them the best in their venture.

**Fairhurst, Plaistow Road** – We were contacted about potential development without planning permission. CDC have confirmed this was not the case and the work is to remedy a fuel leak. The environmental agency went to review the situation on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January.

**Wisborough Green Street Naming** – We supported the Parish Council in overturning an officer proposal to create two street names on the Stable Field development which has 8 dwellings. We could not understand the need to create two street names on a small development site. Ultimately the officer agreed to the single name of Barnfield Shaw

**Neighbourhood Plans** – Parish Councils and community volunteers have started work on neighbourhood plans in several of our Parishes.

✓ AG

## **CDC Wide Updates**

**Local Plan**— We have now received the post hearings letters from the inspectors. The letter is positive news for the local plan but there is still work to do, particularly on modifications requested by the inspectors and subsequent consultations. We are hopefully the local plan can be adopted by the council in late summer.

**Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation** – We are awaiting the government's response to West Sussex, East Sussex and Brighton and Hove's request to become a strategic Mayoral authority. We will continue to update as information becomes available.

**Petworth House Laser Show** - On the 15<sup>th</sup> February there will be an exciting Laser Show and illumination at Petworth house. The two performances accompanied by music of around twenty minutes will start at 5.30pm and 6.45pm. Petworth House will also be free to visit on the day between 10.30am and 3.30pm

## **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 8th February, Stag Inn, Ebernoe, 12 to 2pm

Saturday 1st of March, Old Mill Café, Wisborough Green, 12 to 2pm

Saturday 15th of March, Northchapel Club, Northchapel, 12 to 2pm

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

## **254. Correspondence**

None

## **255. Chairperson's Announcements**

The toddler group held at the village hall had ceased operation. Investigate whether there was a need and search for volunteers.

A date to be organised to clear the loft space in the village hall in August.

## **256. Finance**

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

## **257. Planning**

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

**Neighbourhood Plan Timetable** - noted

A letter to CDC re Neighbourhood Plan drafted by Troy Hayes was agreed

✓ AG

**21/00466/OUT** | Outline application (with all matter reserved except Access) for the development of up to 50 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 this application was likely to go to Committee in April after review of revised water neutrality submission, land use plan and design and access statement.

It was agreed to obtain Counsel's Opinion.

**24/00073/FUL** | Proposed sports pavilion. | Sports Field Plaistow Road Kirdford West Sussex RH14 0JR

Cllr Brooks reported that the planning officer had contacted him with regards to the usage of the pavilion, with a mind to put a condition on the application to cap the usage as set out in the Water Neutrality Report submitted by the Parish Council.

It was agreed that Cllr Brooks would contact the planning officer to see if the condition could be reworded to say that usage would be dependent on the storage of water held in the tank(s), and once the level reaches a critical level the pavilion would be closed until the tank(s) had been replenished by rain water.

**KD/25/00242/PA11B - Prior Approvals Proposal:** Demolition of redundant lambing shed. Slifehurst Wood Farm, Scratching Lane, Kirdford, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 0JN

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

**KD/25/00195/LBC KD/25/00194/DOM** - Other Dev - LBC's Alter/Extend. Construction of single-storey extension (north elevation) as an alternative to approved under applications KD/22/00829/LBC. High Barn Farm, Plaistow Road, Kirdford, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 0JS

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

**25/00194/DOM / KD/25/00195/LBC** | Construction of single-storey extension (north elevation) as an alternative to approved under KD/22/00758/DOM. | High Barn Farm Plaistow Road Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0JS

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

**Decisions** The following decisions were noted:

**KD/24/02444/DOM** Church House Glasshouse Lane Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0LT  
Erection of a greenhouse. **PERMIT**

**SDNP/24/03422/FUL** Extensions to east and west elevations of existing agricultural building. Brownings Farm, Glasshouse Lane, Kirdford, West Sussex, RH14 0LW **PERMIT**

## **258. Telephone Box in Glasshouse Lane**

It was noted that BT intended to remove the telephony and seal the telephone box in Glasshouse Lane due to lack of use. Clerk to enquire about adopting the box.

✓ AG

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

The last works had been undertaken to complete the restoration. Cllr Goddard thanked the Parish Council on behalf of the Recreation Ground Committee for their support.

Drop down bollards had been installed inside the Recreation Ground gates to deter uninvited access.

**260. Great Common Pavilion Update**

It was noted that a revised quote had been obtained for resurfacing the parking area as Leconfield had cleared scrub and subsequently the area was enlarged from 200 square metres to 600 square metres. It was agreed to commence with the original quotation and make further arrangements later in the year.

**261. Village Hall Refurbishment**

No update.

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

Cllr Persson had cleared several drains in Glasshouse Lane which were filled with mud and leaves. The culvert at Isling Bridge was due to be cleared by WSCC.

**263. Footpaths**

Cllr Vernon reported had made temporary repairs to a finger post and had reported the need of a replacement to the Access Ranger at Highways.

**264. Speed Limits Plaistow Road**

No update

**265. VE Day Celebrations**

Arrangements were under way and it was proposed to hold a 1940s style afternoon tea in the Village Hall, with musicians.

**266. Commemorative Tree**

The fruit tree in Russett Place had been damaged during a storm and it was agreed to purchase a replacement in commemoration of Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh.

**267. First Aid Refresher Course**

It was agreed to postpone this course to a future date to be decided.

**268. Health & Safety**

Playground inspections to be shared between councillors. Cllr Brooks and Cllr Persson to show all councillors how to check and report on any defects.

**269. Public Participation**

No participation.

**270. Date of next meeting: 17 March 2025 at 7.30pm**

✓ AG

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

None raised.

**272. Confidential Matters**

None.

*Amanda Gillett*

Chairman

*17th March 2025*

Date