

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at Kirdford Village Hall on Monday 15th September at 7.30pm**

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

In attendance: Cllr Mr G Evans

382. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Mr T Piedade (family commitment)
Cllr Mr P Flint (absent)

383. Disclosures of Interest:

Cllr Mrs A Gillett, Cllr Mr T Piedade (in absence) and Cllr Mr A Persson declared an interest in item 9 as a neighbouring properties to Herons Farm.

384. Public Participation:

There was one member of the public in attendance. The Chair of CAGNE gave an update on the proposed second runway at Gatwick Airport.

385. Approval of Meeting Minutes

To resolve that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st July 2025 be signed as a correct record.

386. Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Gareth Evans / Cllr Charles Todhunter

Local Updates

Crouchlands Farm Lagoon 3 – We are very pleased to be able to share that the Environment Agency have recently authorised that the top layer of liquid waste from ‘Lagoon 3’ at Crouchlands can be spread on nearby fields for the benefit of agriculture. The permit is for 1 year and the local Parish Councils will be consulted before work begins. This is a positive first step in ensuring the lagoon is emptied and removed and the Council will continue to use its powers to ensure the Enforcement Notice is complied with.

Loxwood Budgens – We are also delighted that the Budgens Shop at Nursery Green in Loxwood is now open for business. Please do pay a visit to this much-requested local facility which has received very positive feedback so far!

Land at Loxwood Place – An outline application has been lodged by Martin Grant homes for 223 homes, a children’s Nursery and Café at land behind the Old Post Office / Loxwood Farm Place in Loxwood. As Chair of the CDC Planning Committee, Cllr. Charles Todhunter is unable to comment on the application publicly at this time, but Cllr. Gareth Evans has joined locals in objecting to the proposals. Whilst it is recognised that Loxwood has been allocated additional housing in the new Local Plan, the Parish Council has not yet finished updating their Neighbourhood Plan which will

allocate the site and the number of homes applied for in this case is far in excess of the village's allocation.

Local Plan - The Local Plan was formally adopted at an Extraordinary Full Council Meeting on 19th August and now sets out the vision for the District's economy, transport and housing needs, environmental and historic protection, community health and wellbeing and cultural development. Officers at the Council are currently working through the implications of the new Local Plan on existing planning applications and we will share any updates when we can.

CDC Wide Updates

Local Government Reorganisation: The Council will meet on 23rd September to vote on its preference for the structure of what our local government will look like in future, once a Sussex Mayor is in place. Following a survey earlier in the year, there look to be two options emerging: a single Unitary Authority that covers all of West Sussex or two smaller Unitary Authorities. Each Council in West Sussex will vote on their preferences in September and then letters will be written to the Government who will decide the next steps.

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:

The next series of surgeries are as follows:

Saturday 13th September – Kirdford Stores, Kirdford (TBC)

Saturday 27th September – The Stag Inn, Balls Cross

Saturday 4th October – Ifold Stores, Ifold

Saturday 18th October – Old Mill Café, Wisborough Green

Saturday 1st November – Northchapel Club, Northchapel (1pm-3pm)

If these dates and times do not suit it is also possible to arrange home visits, telephone calls or zoom meetings.

387. Correspondence None

388. Chairperson's Announcements

The Chair thanked those who helped with the clear out of the Village Hall roof space on 18th August.

Arrangements to be made for the hedges to be cut at School Court during the playground remedial works.

The Lawnmower racing weekend in Glasshouse Lane had raised some concerns by residents.

389. Finance

- a) Bank Reconciliation – this was approved
- b) Summary of receipts and payments – this was approved
- c) Payments for approval – these were approved
- d) External Auditors' Report and recommendations were noted.
- e) Playground Repair Quotations. It was agreed to opt for Contractor 1, RJ Playground Services, as it was considered a more value for money quotation.
 - i. Monies to come from Village Improvement Fund and Playground Maintenance Budgets
 - ii. Move the remainder of the VE Day budget to the Village Improvement Fund Budget
- f) Grant – Chichester District Foodbank. A grant was awarded in the sum of £420

- g) Grant – Ifold Cubs. A grant was awarded in the sum of £2,000 towards the provision of new camping equipment
- h) Contribution towards Defibrillator maintenance. It was agreed to provide a contribution towards regular checks and maintenance of the Recreation Ground Defibrillator
- i) Revised Financial Regulations – Revisions to Procurement. These were noted and agreed.

390. Planning

SDNP/25/02224/FUL New agricultural building for storage use. | Battlehurst Farm A272 Wakestone Lane To Croucham Lane Kirdford West Sussex RH14 0LJ. Comments submitted under scheme of delegation – no objection.

25/01785/PLD | Proposed replacement wider front door and panel for disabled access. Replacement Heritage style windows and doors. | Mayflower Cottage Village Road Kirdford. Comments submitted under scheme of delegation – no objection.

25/01573/FUL | Change of use of agricultural barn to a mixed use of equestrian, farrier/forge use and agricultural use and the erection of a lean-to, installation of a chimney and water storage tank. Creation of a manage (part-retrospective application) | Land North Kirdford Road Boxalbrook Farm Wisborough Green West Sussex RH14 0JH. Comments submitted under scheme of delegation – no objection.

25/02002/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 from planning permission KD/23/01717/FUL - Alterations to the screens/shutters to the permitted fenestration). | Chandlers Barn Skiff Lane Wisborough Green Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0AA. No objection

25/01834/DOM | **25/01832/LBC** Construction of freestanding aviary structure. | Herons Farm Village Road Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0ND No objection.
No objection to this application other than consideration of the size and potential impact on a farm setting and in the context of a listed building.

DECISIONS

KD/25/01090/DOM 24 Bramley Close Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0QH. Installation of 4 no. velux windows. **PERMIT**

SDNP/25/01398/HOUS Single storey extension. East House , Hawkhurst Court, Kirdford, West Sussex, RH14 0HS **WITHDRAWN**

KD/25/00358/FUL Land North Of Slifehurst Farm Scratching Lane Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0JN Demolition of the existing light industrial building and erection of a self-build dwelling with associated parking.

REFUSE

SDNP/25/00804/HOUS Bartholomew Hurst , Glasshouse Lane, Kirdford, West Sussex, RH14 0LN Proposed first floor side extension, integral garage conversion, replacement of existing conservatory with single storey extension and timber summerhouse in rear garden. **PERMIT**

Enforcement Notice – none received.

391. IT Policy

The IT Policy was agreed.

392. Great Common Pavilion Update

The Chair and Cllr T Brooks had met with the architects to obtain plans and specifications.

393. Village Sign

The sign had been repaired and installed. The bench slats were being replaced.

394. Drains, Grips, Ditches & Gullies

No update.

395. Footpaths

No update.

396. Speed Limits Plaistow Road

Cllr Campbell would contact West Sussex Highways and voice the parish's concerns that speed reductions on Plaistow Road and Village Road were not considered appropriate and the application had failed the TRO Moderation.

397. Bonfire Night

The bonfire and fireworks would be held on Wednesday 5th November. The bonfire build would be on Sunday 2nd November at 10am.

398. Health & Safety

It was reported that several setts had become dislodged. This would be reported to Highways.

399. Public Participation

No further participation.

400. Date of next meeting: 20 October 2025 at 7.30pm

401. Matters for Consideration at the Next Meeting

Policy review.

402. Confidential Matters

The NALC statutory pay award was noted.

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Chairman

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Date