

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at Kirdford Village Hall on Monday 17th June 2024 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 C Todhunter
Cllr G Evans

109. Apologies for Absence: Cllr T Piedade (unwell) Cllr M Osborne (Family commitment) Cllr J Nicholls (work commitment)

110. Disclosures of Interest:

None received.

111. Public Participation:

There were no members of the public in attendance.

112. Approval of Meeting Minutes

To resolve that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th May 2024 be signed as a correct record.

113. Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Janet Duncton

It's been a busy time at both West Sussex County Council and the South Downs National Park but the strange thing is that there isn't a lot to report to all the residents.

First of all I would like to mention the 6th June and the 80th anniversary of D day.

We go over nearly every year because as some will know Petworth is twinned with Ranville the first village to be liberated on the 6th June 1944. It is we all know a long time ago but should never be forgotten as so many gave their lives for our freedom and as difficult as life gets for us individually every now and again these armed forces of World War 2 sacrificed their lives in hundreds and thousands for our and others freedom and I take pride in acknowledging that annually.

This year the County Council provided me with a wreath and the Mayor of Ranville always allows me to join in placing my wreaths on the memorial in the town when he does and a few others, usually relatives of past Veterans. We will remember them.

As ever a lot of my time is taken reporting issues with the highways and many will say it doesn't show but I would have to disagree. Nothings perfect yet and probably never will be but I know from our records of jobs completed that we are making rapid progress into the backlog of, in particular, Potholes but believe me there are many other issues that have to be sorted and among these are

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drain clearance and often jetties, fallen trees, slipped banks and other issues that can be a danger on the highway and it is our duty to try and keep the highways safe for the user.

We are in the middle of an election and although I am saying nothing about that I do want to assure residents that in these times all our other duties are going on as normal, nothing stops.

Recently I have said about the good reports we are getting now for our children's services. It has taken about 5 years but we are honestly getting there.

A children's home in Crawley has recently been inspected by OFSTED and has been awarded outstanding by them. This is a very happy outcome and we do aim to give all the children in our care the best of life that any child could expect in a family. Not an easy task but we really are making a difference now even with the ever rising numbers.

Our Trading Standards have again been busy and successful in prosecuting retailers who are still selling illegal products. We don't mention them much but they are constantly working trying to keep us all safe not just in retail but trying to educate people in recognising and not falling for scams. Not only that but we still get rogue building workers who charge way over the top for work and deliver very rarely do the job the householder thought they were getting. Recently one that has been doing just that has recently received a prison sentence.

A quick word on the South Downs National Park Authority. Now I really have been very busy here visiting whole sites that take the whole day, planning committee and probably most of all I sit with 8 other members and among other things we are now in the process of selecting for the position of Chief Executive. We hope to have a new CEO in August and as you may imagine a large number of applicants are expected. Watch this space.

Be assured that I continue to work for my Parish's and although it isn't easy I still do report all road issues that either I come across or residents inform me of.

James Dutton
County Councillor for North Division
West Sussex County Council

Cllr Gareth Evans / Cllr Charles Southam

Local Updates:

Countryside - We are pleased that CDE Planning Officers refused the two applications for 600 houses at Countryside Farm in Wiv. We have been working with the community to fight these applications for several years now, so this is very welcome news!

The 'White Farm Plan' application (comprising the rural enterprise centre, farm shop, glamping site etc.) is currently subject to an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate and we anticipate that the applicant is likely to appeal CDE's decision on these housing applications too. We will continue to work closely with the community, Parish Councils and CDE officers against these applications and will keep you updated.

Stable Field, Wisborough Green - We have been contacted by residents and the Parishes Wildlife Group regarding the recent approval of 8 houses and associated infrastructure and open space at this site in Wisborough Green. We are in contact with Senior Planning Officers to address their queries and concerns. This application was decided by officers under 'delegated authority'. You may be interested to know that only 6% of planning applications are decided by the Planning Committee and the remaining 94% are decided under these delegated powers.

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Supporting Local Events – Gareth and I have been very pleased to attend several of the recent Annual Parish Meetings to hear some very interesting presentations and chat with residents informally. I volunteered again to help at Loxwood Fete and had great fun manning the bungee run and skittles stalls whilst catching up with local residents. Gareth enjoyed running in RunWisborough's 5K race and seeing the community support for this event and then we were both wowed by the wonderful open gardens in Kirdford. We look forward to many other village events over the summer!

Unauthorised Developments – We regularly meet residents in the community who are concerned about unauthorised development impacting on where they live. Please continue to raise these with us and we can help explain any action that the Council may be able to take.

CDC Wide Updates:

Local Plan – The inspector was appointed on 24th May to review the submitted Local Plan. There will now be a period of some weeks whilst they conduct an initial assessment of the plan. Full details of the submission and latest updates on the timeline can be found on the CDC website here: <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/localplanexamination>

Pre-election Period – Following the calling of a General Election on 4th July, business at the District Council continues as normal.

Climate Change Consultation – Look out for our new Climate Change Consultation which starts on 1st July. We are encouraging everyone to complete this survey online, as we are using a new platform for responses which includes videos, photographs and mapping. A paper copy will also be included in the next 'Initiatives' Magazine, delivered to all households in July. You can also sign up to our regular Initiatives+ emails here: www.chichester.gov.uk/newsalerts

Council Meetings – the next Full Council meeting is on Tuesday 16th July at 6pm.

District Councillor 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 15th June 2024 - The Onslow Arms, Loxwood
Saturday 22nd June 2024 - Northchapel Club, Northchapel
Saturday 13th July 2024 - Plaistow Stores, Plaistow
Saturday 24th August 2024 - The Stag Inn, Balls Cross
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

114. Correspondence

A thank you letter was received from Kent Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Charity for the Parish Council's donation.

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115. Chairperson's Announcements

Councillors who had not undertaken any training should attend councillor training courses.

The Chair thanked all those involved with the very successful Open Gardens weekend held on 8th and 9th June.

The Orchard Park site had been cleared of debris.

The Chair thanked Councillor Brooks for raising the flags for the D-Day commemorations and for Sussex Day.

116. Finance

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

- i. Final Audit Report

- ii. Annual Governance Statement

- This was read out, agreed, and signed off by the Chair and Clerk

- iii. Accounting Statements

- These were approved and signed off by the Chair

- e) CIL Monitoring Report – this was noted.

117. Planning

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

Cllr Todhunter reported that The Chichester District Council Local Plan for 2021-2039 was submitted on Friday 3rd May to the Secretary of State for Examination.

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 21 June 2024.

24/01042/LBC | Repair 2 no. chimney/stacks (no.1-2), remove 1 no. chimney/stack (no. 3) and associated works. | Church House Glasshouse Lane Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0LT

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

KD/24/01197/FUL - Minor Dev – Dwellings

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).

Chandlers Barn, Skiff Lane, Wisborough Green, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 0AA

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

24/00520/FUL | Construction of one new industrial unit for B2 use. | Sussex Game Farm Scratching Lane Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0JN

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The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

Decisions

KD/24/00897/TCA Bridgefoot Cottage Glasshouse Lane Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0LP
Notification of intention to crown reduce by up to 2m on 1 no. Tulip (Liriodendron) tree (T1). Re-pollard down to 5m (above ground level) to last pruning points on 2 no. Weeping Willow trees (T2 & T3). Remove lowest branch on west sector (over driveway) on 1 no. Cedar tree (T4).
NOT TO PREPARE A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

KD/24/00192/DOM Hollands Heath Farm Plaistow Road Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0JU
Replace existing conservatory with orangery. **PERMIT**

Enforcement Notices:

23/02425/FUL 2 The Workshop, Village Road, Kirdford, Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0NW
Proposed Development: Erection of 1 no. timber workshop building on existing light industrial /commercial land - Removal of Condition 6 (water neutrality) and Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission KD/21/00427/FUL for revision to site plan omitting reference to the storage tank. **Application No: 23/02425/FUL DCLG Ref No: APP/L3815/W/24/3339109**

118. Neighbourhood Plan – no update.

119. Recreation Ground and Pavilion Upkeep – Update

Renovations were on schedule for the pavilion to be re-opened in late June.

120. Great Common Pavilion Update

Due to the previous water neutrality consultant being unable to revise the report, an updated water neutrality survey was awaited from a different provider.

121. Village Hall Refurbishment

The Village Hall Committee had accepted a quotation for the installation of solar panels which would be completed over the Summer.

122. Drains, Grips, Ditches & Gullies

No update.

123. Footpaths

Cllr Vernon had been in contact with WS Highways who informed him that there would be some maintenance taking place by contractors. There were no works planned for the footpath at Townfield Meadows.

Correspondence had been received from a member of the public raising concerns that some of the footpaths were very difficult to access due to the heavy rainfall.

It was agreed to write to the landowner regarding the footpaths adjoining Herons Farm.

124. River Kird Pollution

A member of the public from outside the Parish had contacted the Chair with regard to the possibility of pollution of the River Kird by Southern Water. It was agreed that this is a nationwide problem. Clerk to draft a response.

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125. Health & Safety

It was noted that the clappers in Glasshouse Lane were becoming unstable.

The Give Way sign near the Chapel in Plaistow Road was missing (possible due to the construction works at Orchard Park). Report to WS Highways.

Councillor Brooks had attempted to smooth out some of the splintered wood on the log seats at Butts Common, but this was proving too time consuming. It was agreed to investigate replacing the logs with an alternative.

126. Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance.

127. Date of next meeting: 15 July 2024 at 7.30pm

16 September

21 October

18 November

128. Matters for Consideration at the Next Meeting

Speed limits Plaistow Road

129. Confidential Matters

None

Amanda Gillett

Chairman

15th July, 2024

Date