



***Draft Minutes of Limpsfield Parish Council monthly meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023, 7pm at Limpsfield CofE Infants School***

*Attending: John Thompson (Chair), Ann Osborn, Bob Harvey, Bernie de Haldevang, Jenny Williams, Laila Turner, Mark Wilson, Philip Bailey, Thomas Briggs  
Also TDC Cllr Ian Booth and SCC Cllr Cameron McIntosh. Clerk – Sophie Martin.*

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Claire Blackwell

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE INTEREST

PB declares interest on Red Lane Farm planning application (known to the applicant).

3. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Mark Wilson 7.1.4. to add “in this instance” with regards to waiving £1000 threshold for quote for playground repairs.

Signed with changes as above.

4. PUBLIC SESSION – *Members of the public are invited to attend - 15 minutes total with 5 minutes maximum for any one person. Please contact the Clerk if you wish to attend.*

[clerk@limpsfield.org](mailto:clerk@limpsfield.org)

4.1. St Peter’s Church Hall Committee presentation

The Church Hall was built to last around 25 years and has long outlived expectations but is now costing increasing amounts to maintain.

The plan is to build a new hall on the Glebe Meadow, temporarily moving Panda and Limpsfield Fitness during the build. They would then be incorporated into the new 2-storey building. The existing hall could still be used in the meantime, so as not to lose current customers. JW asked the rector and Dominic Campbell whether Panda Nursery and Limpsfield Fitness had been advised of the plan and whether they were happy. They affirmed both.

There would effectively be a land swap between St Peter’s Church and the Diocese, with St Peter’s to take ownership of the Glebe Meadow and the Diocese to gain ownership of the current hall site. LT is concerned about parking and whether the development will put more strain on already busy carpark area. Would like to make sure adequate parking is considered, with some temporary parking on the Glebe Meadow on the border with The Rectory. MW and AO believe that it is not possible to put parking on a local green space (LGS). LGS has the same protection as green belt and lasts indefinitely.

MW would like to know about potential for housing. The Diocese would likely sell on the land to a developer. HC very keen for the Church and Parish to work together. DC is very keen to create a proper community space that will really benefit Limpsfield as a whole and incorporate permanent businesses as well as temporary/ad hoc tenants.

CMcl supports the proposal but said that there may be a difficulty in funding three community halls within a few miles of one another.

CMcl suggests that the committee look towards Tatsfield and Titsey and also consider the point of difference between Master Park Pavilion and Hurst Green.

PB would like to make the point that it would be very important to consider the character and design of a two-storey building, which will be located in an open green space and be seen from many angles. This could increase costs and that should be taken into consideration.

This is currently an initial proposal to gauge support in principle. There is a lot of work to be done to gain funding in the first instance. The Church Hall Committee will keep the LPC informed of progress.

## 5. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (Cllrs Claire Blackwell/ Ian Booth and Cameron McIntosh)

### Ian Booth

- Wolf's Row. A representative of Titsey told IB on site that the land is to be laid to grass with small scale farming or horticulture planned. Councillors have been approached by residents who are concerned about the possibility of development of the site. While this is private land, it is designated Green Belt, so development would be difficult. No application has been submitted at this point.
- AONB – public consultation starts 7 March.
- Gaywood Solar – not aware of any formal discussions with Sevenoaks. Extension to April.
- 82 Granville Road – Cllr Claire Blackwell (CB) is chasing this.
- The Grasshopper site enforcement – **TDC** has taken enforcement action in an attempt to tidy the site.
- There has recently been refusal (of prior approval) for a phone mast application in Hurst Green - **Barnfield Way. 2022/1643/T** MW would be interested to know more about the circumstances of this.

### Cameron McIntosh

- SCC passed its budget on Tuesday. Just under £1.1bn in spending. Council Tax to increase by 2.99%. Of that, 0.99% is an increase in general council tax, with the remaining 2% ringfenced for adult social care (ASC). SCC has not gone for the maximum 4.9%. Highways has been budgeted with £1.5bn over 5 years. Increases also for Libraries. This is a Balanced budget. CMcl is pleased that there will be more investment – especially in Capital Works.
- CMcl notes that TDC has also set its budget. This was not discussed.
- Parking Enforcement is going back in-house from District Councils from April 2023. AO would like to know how we can request attention be given to specific areas. CMcl advises this should be possible to request online and believes it will be a much easier process.
- Grass Cutting & hedges already being done by SCC in Tandridge and will now be taken over throughout the county.

- LED streetlight roll out. This has been done in Oxted already. All lights will be replaced with LED, district by district, County-wide. There may be decisions to allow for some streets to have lights on all night again, which would be good for safety. As LEDs, they can be dimmed via a central management system.
- ULEZ looking at extending the area to the greater London boundaries (zone 6). SCC has issued a statement expressing strong concerns about various aspects of the proposed ULEZ expansion and how it will affect neighbouring areas over the Surrey border. There has been a lack of proper consultation and thought given to how this will work. SCC is proposing “turnaround routes” to allow Surrey residents a route out of the ULEZ and concessions for hospital visits etc. SCC has asked for the zone 6 to come to Oxted to allow for people who work in the new areas, who can therefore get public transport even if they have older cars. Statement from SCC is online: <https://news.surreycc.gov.uk/2023/02/03/statement-surrey-county-council-expresses-disappointment-and-frustration-at-proposed-expansion-of-londons-ultra-low-emission-zone/>
- A25/Pebble Hill is up for re-surfacing – from Limpsfield traffic lights up to Grub Street.
- Kent Hatch Road will also be resurfaced in the coming year and Wolf’s Row is due for 17/2. Closing the road the day before to remove the dead tree on the corner of A25.
- EV Charge points – Highways are responsible for this on the highways. Looking at some potential sites at the moment. It is noted that TDC will be looking at EV charging points in carpark sites within Oxted & Limpsfield (TDC, TLC and Ellice Road).
- Parking Review – JT would like to know if there is a date yet for officers to review Limpsfield High Street. There will be opportunity for a councillor to attend. CMcl to advise.

## 6. CHAIRMAN’S NOTE

JT discusses that he has contacted all councillors with regards to whether they will re-stand for election in May. Laila Turner and Philip Bailey confirm they will not be re-standing at the end of this term.

## 7. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE (Cllr Mark Wilson)

7.1.1. Payments / Receipts February 2023 – Balances to end January and February payments as circulated (attached). NB. Awaiting EDF confirmation and NEST payment confirmation due to some confusion over NEST contributions. Clerk’s January salary was cashed in February due to payment by cheque, hence not on the January summary. Payments approved.

7.1.2. Limpsfield in Bloom grant request Cllr Ann Osborn

MW questions whether there will be any other funding available. LT concerned about increasing costs. Very easy to spend £500. MW BdH seconds. All in favour. Expenditure approved.

7.1.3. Coronation / community event funding (Cllr Ann Osborn).

Richard and Nila Spiller have volunteered to organise a bring your own picnic lunch in the Glebe Meadow on Sunday 7 May for all the community. Entertainment will be provided

which requires funding. Rev Helen Cook would like to know if the parish council would wish to support the event with some financial contribution.

MW proposes that the Parish Council allocates £1000 to Coronation activity in general, with £500 allocated to the event on the Glebe Meadow on 7 May. PB seconds. All 9 councillors in favour. Expenditure approved.

7.2. Request for funding from Christopher Pendred re. "Limpsfield Chart in History"

PB gives a brief background on the book and its predecessor. The Council is in support of such projects in principle, but recognises we need to look at this in a lot more detail with view to costs and how we might look at support for funding.

JW concerned that we might be setting a precedent for other local books and authors as it is a commercial enterprise and not a community endeavour, despite being not-for-profit and with donation towards Friends of Limpsfield Common.

PB offers to look into some of the details in terms of financing, print run, costs etc. The councillors all agree that PB should have further discussions with Chris Pendred. There is a strong interest from a community basis, but a concern about the risks on a commercial / financial basis.

7.3. Online banking update – MW now has online banking access and can now initiate payments to the clerk.

7.4. Making Tax Digital update - only Parish Council. Recent update from auditors confirms that only non-VAT registered parish councils are required to carry out their accounting via online software with regards to MTD regulations. We are therefore not required to use online software.

7.5. Note on VAT reclaim - Just to note that the Clerk recently sought advice from auditors to confirm we were able to claim back VAT in full for our current non-business community projects, due to a query on thresholds. Auditor confirms we are able to claim all VAT in full.

7.6. Email voting process. Clerk has sought guidance from SALC for clarification that there is no opportunity for email voting for any reason. Councillors may only vote at a face-to-face council or committee meeting. No proposals may be brought to the council in any other forum than a council or committee meeting. The Clerk may be delegated power to bring a matter to conclusion outside of a meeting with some agreed revisions. The clerk notes it may be useful to draft and agree a scheme of delegation. This could be discussed at upcoming Finance & Governance meeting. Following question from Bob Harvey regarding quorum on votes, it is confirmed by MW and Clerk that the Parish Council meetings are quorate with 3 voting members.

## 8. PLANNING (Cllr Jenny Williams)

8.1. Any urgent Planning applications for discussion/note

- 2022/1620 Magnolia Cottage, High Street, Limpsfield – in the conservation area. Chris Reynolds has been involved with this application. To be discussed at Planning meeting on 21/2/23
- 2022/1546 Red Lane Farm, Red Lane, Limpsfield (PB declares interest – owner is known to him, but this will be discussed at Planning Meeting on 21/2/23 without PB present).

8.2. Recent determinations to note:

29 Granville Road annexe/garden office - has been dismissed on appeal.

8.3.AOB

8.3.1. AONB review – date for consultation 7 March.

8.3.2. Local Listings are being finalised at TDC. Awaiting formal publication.

9. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (Cllr Ann Osborn)

9.1. NP Committee meeting on Thursday 16 February 4.30pm. Rob O'Donovan has provided a quote to do Biodiversity Study on the Glebe Field and Brook Field. To be reviewed at the LNP committee meeting.

9.2. Parking Review. Following last month's meeting, PB moved to submit an alternative proposal to that of JT, discussed at the last meeting to exclude additional bays at Memorial Stores and the need for a Disabled parking bay.

The new suggested submissions (attached) are proposed by PB; seconded by BH. 5 for, 4 against. The council therefore resolves to submit the new proposal to Highways.

10. CAAMP (Cllrs Osborn and Williams) – update

JW is working on Ironstone renovation proposal, with three quotes having been submitted for review. These have been discussed by the Planning Committee. She will revert with more thoughts on funding the works for next year.

Milestone will be ready soon.

11. HIGHWAYS (Cllr Bob Harvey) – No updates from Bob Harvey. Looking forward to Kent Hatch road being resurfaced.

12. CHART PLAYGROUND (Cllr Bob Harvey) - condition report. Safeplay Ltd has carried out the repairs on the playground as highlighted from the previous report, and all appears in good condition.

13.AOB

13.1. Noticeboards - Clerk/BH to liaise with Barry Chandler regarding renovation of The Memorial Stores board and for BC to look at locks of Chart boards which need replacing.

13.2. Health centre – BdH had useful meeting with Mr Borer – PPG Chairman. The PC will continue liaise with the PPG – BdH to join the PPG - and may look at a poll as previously discussed. Clerk notes that the health centre has begun a communications campaign to educate about its services and how to access them. The new call-back telephone system has now been activated.

*Meeting ends 9.14 PM.*



*John Thompson, Chair.*