



LIMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL - MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of Limpsfield Parish Council held on Monday 13th November 2023, 7pm at Limpsfield CofE Infants School.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Jenny Williams

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE INTEREST

3. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

4. PUBLIC SESSION - *Any member of the public wishing to discuss an item in the public session, should email the Clerk in advance: clerk@limpsfield.org*

5. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (Cameron McIntosh, Claire Blackwell, Ian Booth) Claire Blackwell

- Honeypot Lane – an area of land has been parceled up for sale as separate plots. TDC has issued an article 4 direction to remove permitted development rights which will limit initial development. Sellers must declare there is an Article 4 at sale. This has to be published and formally served. This has been done in a bid to protect Green Belt.
- Gaywood Solar Farm has been refused by TDC. CB states that it has been refused on the basis of: Green Belt, visual impact on AGLV; heritage - impact on listed buildings' lack of evidence on impact on biodiversity; loss of trees and Highway Safety. SK, MW, CMcl had a meeting with highways today regarding transport / traffic management. Highways does not believe they can object on the basis that the long term traffic should not be much increased, but they would want to see a detailed traffic management plan/schedule for the construction period.
- BH raises issue of 93 Bluehouse Lane's planning application approval. LPC objected. BH had been asked by a neighbour (Old School House) why this didn't go to TDC planning committee. CB confirms that no-one asked for it to be called in and did not know there was any particular contention. She explains that the District Councillors do not see each and every application, nor does the planning committee. Applications are only called in if they are deemed particularly contentious. This was not the case in this instance. CB states that once a planning application has been approved, there is very little that can be done. She has also had a conversation with the neighbour in question and explained this to him. She urges any parishioner to get in touch if they have particular concerns

with an application so that the District Councillors can raise any issues and call in to planning committee if appropriate.

- Ward Boundary Review – This has now been determined and the Limpsfield boundary has not changed our boundary - we remain as a 2-member ward.

Cameron McIntosh

- Boundary Commission Division/County boundaries are due for results in January.
- CMcl has a meeting next week with the officers overseeing The Grange School consultation. Concerns are mainly around Highways issues, and CMcl will be having a meeting about that. LPC is able to write to SCC to voice concerns about any issues. TB notes that one of the main issues will be managing the construction traffic and the school is aware of this as well as the need to create more on-site capacity to bring taxis and drop off/pick up traffic off the road.
- The Glebe Fields / access gate. TAG has put in a grant application to the LPC for a contribution to give further support for the access path across The Glebe Field. ***Proposal to contribute £530 towards the improvement of the access pathway. AO proposes, MW seconds. All in favour.***
- MW raises the note about the meeting held on Friday with the Police Commissioner/Claire Coutinho, Lyndsey Whatley Borough Commander. CMcl suggests the LPC keeps writing to the PCC. TB and MW suggest we keep on top of this and looking at what we can do as a council in conjunction with Oxted PC and Oxted BID and any other parish councils.
- MW raises the overflowing of the gully/stormwater drain in Limpsfield High Street that is full of gravel. CMcl advises reporting again and that more money is going to be put into gully cleaning.

6. CHAIRMAN'S NOTES – none specifically.

7. HIGHWAYS (Cllr Bob Harvey) – any updates/issues.

Nothing to report. But please remember to report any potholes or obstructions on the Surrey website. BH/MW reported blocked drain in Limpsfield High Street. But nothing been done since.

8. CHART PLAYGROUND (Cllr Bob Harvey) - Condition report all good.

9. PLANNING

9.1. Any urgent planning applications for discussion

9.2. Recent determinations of note

9.3. AOB

- The Studio transport management plan has been received. LPC will be looking at evidence of the management plan and will submit a detailed rebuttal.
- Gatwick ACC - MW proposes that we might join in order to receive information. BdH notes that you would not get neutral information from the subscription. TB says he would be happy to subscribe as long as it is clear that the council does not necessarily object to the expansion and would not want to be listed as an objector. BdH suggests that we look at the terms of membership. Other councillors agree. ***Action: TB to look into the terms of membership.***

- Quarry Development – TDC is concerned that this application is not in control of the application as the planning authority which sets a dangerous precedent. TDC will be sending a letter requesting no decision is made before the Judicial Review. CB maintains that as there are 75 houses proposed, with highways issues and infrastructure, it should not come under the County. TDC will take the application to Planning Committee.
TDC cannot do anything until the new system/plan information is published. TDC has done an interim planning statement to go ahead with some of the sites that had been proposed in the plan that the inspector did not have issues with in the old local plan. This will demonstrate there is a strategy for development in lieu of a new plan.
SK would like to know to what extent these developments will be affordable houses. CB responds that TDC requires 34% of development over a certain size as affordable homes. That is set at national level. CB notes that TDC also has a council house building programme.
SK would like to know what extent is solar energy encouraged on new development.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

10.1. Any updates

- Biodiversity: AO/SK and Maggie Morgan are still planning to hold a round table discussion on biodiversity strategy. AO is also going to try to get a meeting with Tim Elton, principal ecologist at TDC. AO will be meeting with Conor McNeil at NT and is looking at walks with biodiversity educational value.
- CAAMP – a quote has been received with regards to the partial steam cleaning of the area, but we don't yet know if this will require a permit from Highways. AO has approached SCC with regards to permits and licensing, but has had no definitive response. The general consensus of those councillors present is that we should go ahead, as long as the contractor has the necessary public liability insurance etc.
- With regards to weedkilling and cleaning of the rest of the high street, CB suggests emailing Barbara Moore (Environmental Health) and copy Jim Lewthwaite at TDC.
- MW suggests that we focus on getting the high street into good shape.

11. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

- 11.1. Note of Balances at end of October 2023. Total balances to end of October are £104,673.
- 11.2. Note/Approval of November 2023 payments. All approved for scheduling.
- 11.3. Note of Q2 Reconciliation – recommended for approval by Finance Committee of 19/10/23.
- 11.4. Note of Q2 VAT claim – Claim has been put in at £1,977 and has been received already.
- 11.5. Note of confirmed CIL received in October - £7,360.
- 11.6. Requests for budget/grant
 - Air Ambulance - £300 (S137) **MW proposes BH seconds. All agreed.**

- TAG pathway improvements contribution – £530 (S137) **Approved as above**
- GACC (Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign) subscription - £10 per year Clerk/Planning Committee. (See above)
- Christmas trees and decorations - £250. 3 Christmas trees: one for the parade at St Peters, large one in village and one on the chart (pending NT permission). **MW proposes. TB seconds All agreed pending volunteers to install and decorate.**
- Footpath 40 LW/Golf Course - £4,080 INC VAT. 25m stretch. Proposal for the expenditure for aggregate to reduce the flooding on the LW section of path alongside the golf course at 5-6 to stop walkers avoiding the area by walking onto the fairway. Also motion to waive the necessity for two quotes (over £3K), because we have to use an NT approved contractor, it being NT land. **Motion to accept the quote for £4,080 from the LW maintenance fund and waive need for second quote: AO proposes, TB seconds - All agreed.**

11.7. Draft Budget 2024/5 for review

MW would like to ask members to look at potential spend projects for next year.

TB proposes maintenance should be increased slightly to include more line items for regular maintenance of ironstone etc as well as parish assets (benches, noticeboards, shelters and grass areas – orchard, village, the pound etc).

TB suggests the following areas should be considered:

- Biodiversity
- CAAMP projects
- Pebble Hill clearance
- Security & Crime prevention

MW suggests we could look at any items of kit for Oxted Health Centre.

AO would like to note that we should be letting parishioners know that the majority of the funding for projects will be from CIL money and not from precept.

TB to circulate draft budget with view to voting on it in December meeting.

11.8. Review and approval of minor amendments for FY24 to:

- Financial Regulations – main change is clarification of the number of quotes to be obtained for levels of contract. £1-2,999 = one quote; £3,000 to £10,000 requires 3 quotes.
- Banking Resolution – Proposed change is that the amount of online payment is increased to £10K from £2K with two authorised signatories required to approve payments. Antony Taylor will also be made a signatory as he is on the Finance Committee (total of 5)
- Risk Assessment – reflects changes in the Banking Resolution and Financial Regulations.

- Standing Orders – no changes.

MW proposes to approve the changes to the above documents. TB seconds. All agreed.

12.AOB

None.

Meeting ends 21.10.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Briggs". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned in the center of the page.

Thomas Briggs, Chair