



LIMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL - MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Limpsfield Parish Council held on Monday 11th December 2023, 7pm at Limpsfield CofE Infants School.

In attendance: Cllrs Thomas Briggs (Chair), Ann Osborn, Mark Wilson, Bob Harvey, Tony Taylor, John Thompson, Jenny Williams.

Cllr Cameron McIntosh, Cllrs Ian Booth and Claire Williams.

Clerk: Sophie Martin.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Bernie de Haldevang, Sophie Kemp

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE INTEREST

None

3. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Signed with amendments regarding 93 Bluehouse Lane, as circulated.

4. PUBLIC SESSION

None

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

Claire Blackwell

- AONB boundary review. Has been delayed until next year (probably February 2024).

Ian Booth

- Hillview Farm – application was turned down at appeal.
- BH would like to ask why the street signs have been changed in terms of style / font (the new sign at Titsey corner). CB / IB are not aware. IB says he will look into it but suspects this is simply down to cost.
- Jenny Williams would like to know if there has been any update on The Studio conditions. Ian Booth says that the planning officer has said that he would be consulting with Highways on the submitted Travel Plan. CMcl says he will follow up with Highways as to whether SCC will have any more input. JW reminds CMcl that we have asked the planning officer for an onsite evaluation of the transport. IB says that the planning officer did not expect a decision to be made this side of Christmas.

Cameron McIntosh

- Highways: Itchingwood Common Road and Dwelly Lane is being pre-patched ahead of surface dressing. Grants Lane may be included as well. CMcl is also quite hopefully that Pebble Hill will also be done in the coming financial year.
- Parking Review: Report is out and has been circulated. The lining works will be carried out in the summer. There is some confusion over the final decision regarding what will be implemented, particularly for Detillens Lane. CMcl says that as far as he understands re Detillens Lane, what Highways advertised originally is what is going to happen due to safety aspect. CMcl says he will confirm this after the meeting.

- Level 2 County Deal has been given the go-ahead. CMcl says this is a positive step forward and will mean that SCC has more of an oversight of some skills and some more services. Timing: CMcl understands this should be implemented in 2024. Full Council meeting tomorrow for budget setting.
- Bob Harvey raises issue of uncollected roadworks signs at various points around the parish. CMcl says that they can/should always be reported online initially, and if they aren't collected within a decent amount of time, they can be removed.
- AO thanks CMcl for raising the funds for the additional aggregate for the access pathway across the Glebe Field.

6. CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

6.1. Final decision on GACC membership for information on Gatwick expansion.

JW/ MW suggest that one of the planning committee councillors joins personally to gain access to the information without registering the council as a body. In that way there can be no misinterpretation as to the council taking a formal stand for or against the expansion.

7. HIGHWAYS (Cllr Bob Harvey) – any updates/issues. No further following above updates from Cameron McIntosh.
8. CHART PLAYGROUND (Cllr Bob Harvey) - Condition report. Inspected today and all in good condition. BH as reported to Jim Lewthwaite (forwarded to Ian Hudson) at TDC that there have been some comments about potential slippery surfaces on the bridge/walkways when it's wet. He could not verify this himself but has asked TDC to have a look.

9. PLANNING

9.1. Any urgent planning applications for discussion None

9.2. Recent determinations of note Covered above

9.3. Final decision on GACC membership regarding proposed 2nd runway *As above 6.1*

9.4. Update on outstanding applications & other applications of note

- Chichele Road development: We will be discussing the Chichele Road, Oxted application at the Planning Meeting in January.
- Anthony Taylor asks about the email from TDC requesting suggestions for developable Brownfield Sites in the district. CB does not believe there are any in Limpsfield that would comply for development.
- Tatsfield Neighbourhood Plan – Reg 16 Consultation has now been implemented. MW says there are two points: 1. that there is an issue in that in the consultation they have said The Grasshopper is a pub when it is not. 2. They make no reference to the sandpits. MW says we should make comments to TDC and Tatsfield ASAP. **Action: MW, JW and AT work up a response to TDC/Tatsfield.** TB would like to know what the implications are for them listing the Grasshopper as a pub. MW says this is just to keep an eye on that area that might get overlooked by Tatsfield and it is important as it is on our border.
- BH mentions that a resident complained to him about the state of the Grasshopper (following mention in the Newsletter) and regarding the demolition of part of it that “was Grade II Listed”. CB notes that despite public belief and while it is a building of local interest, it was not Grade II listed. We have responded to all applications for this site and await further progress on the current application (to which we have objected).

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

10.1. Any updates

Aggregate will be done on the golf course path tomorrow as agreed in the last meeting.

10.2. Footpaths: Glebe Meadow Gate proposal

BH has spoken to Amanda Skinner (leaseholder) who is in agreement in principle for a gate between Glebe Meadow and the Glebe Field if the Parish Council were to fund it, but would prefer not like a mobility gate. She would also like the council to repair the fence either side of the gate. AO said she would be pro a mobility gate because it works for parents with buggies. Amanda Skinner also stipulated that there are dog poo signs.

AO believes that the leaseholder can give permission to install the gate. MW is concerned that the landowner needs to give permission and would like Strutt & Parker to be consulted (directly or via the Leaseholder). AO agrees this is the way forward. TB reiterates that we need to get written confirmation from Amanda Skinner and Strutt & Parker (landowner's agent) needs to be informed about the plans.

Proposal is for an installed kissing/mobility gate for £1465 (inc. VAT).

AO proposes, TB seconds. 6 for, one abstention (BH).

10.3. Biodiversity update

AO has circulated a proposal for an initial round table discussion, to be held on 25/1/24 at The Carpenters. This will be to get-together with landowners/farmers, and potential working group members for some ideas to put forward as a biodiversity strategy.

CMcl said he will get SCC biodiversity contact to be invited to the meeting.

Sophie Kemp and Maggie Morgan are keen to get experts involved.

The circulated proposal is an idea of potential activities and budget, but these are yet to be discussed or properly costed.

AO says there are various residents who are interested in being part of biodiversity working group, which is great news.

BH mentions that there are also grants (DEFRA) for farmers for biodiversity projects. Tony Wilkins at Stockenden Farm already does a fair amount of work towards biodiversity with govt assistance.

TB suggests that in the plan we could offer grants for small items *that aren't covered by DEFRA*.

AO hopes that a lot more detail will come out of the meeting.

Immediate proposal is to allow expenditure of maximum £300 for initial round table meeting. AO proposes, TB seconds. All agreed.

11. CAAMP

11.1. Any updates

- We now have new heritage streetlamps in place on Hookwood Park and Sylvan Close and they look very good.
- Ironstone: The test area for ironstone steam cleaning and grouting outside St Peters/Stanhopes is almost done and looks very good. JW mentions that we may also request a grant for additional works. AO says that Bryan Williamson can also do some repairs with ironstone that JW has in her garden, but we do not

know at this point how much this would cost. AO says she/JW can come back to the meeting in January with a better idea of cost. ***MW suggests we agree a budget in principle of up to £1000 (inc VAT). JW seconds. All agreed.***

12. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

- 12.1. Note of Balances at end of November 2023 - noted
- 12.2. Note/Approval of December 2023 payments – noted, all upcoming payments approved.
- 12.3. Any requests for budget/grant – as previously discussed above.
- 12.4. Draft Budget 2024/5 for approval

MW proposes we accept the core budget of £25,060 general running costs – all agreed; Asset Maintenance - increased to £3,750

Additional expenditure projects:

- AT would like to note that Memorial Stores is 25 this year. Could we look at giving a grant to the stores for expansion of the Post Office.
- JT mentions Community Speedwatch scheme (led by MW) and whether we should look at the potential to fund a potential speed survey. He is keen to continue to look at traffic/parking solutions. *[As previously discussed, Highways / LPC will review improvements or changes following implementation of Parking Review measures]*
- Clerk to recirculate the discussed core budget, which is agreed in principle pending discussed amendments.

Project outlines discussed and agreed in principle for specific proposed budgets (to come from CIL). These will be noted in the budget outline for more detailed and costed proposals in the new year:

- CAAMP Projects (excluding ironstone maintenance) £9,220
- Biodiversity projects £8,220
- Footpaths & Bridleways (not LW/LC) £4,000
- Pebble Hill Footpath Clearance £8,000
- Security & Crime £3,000
- Earmarked reserve - LW maintenance fund (accruing) £2,400

12.5. ***PRECEPT: MW proposes no change to precept for 2024/25. TB seconds. 6 agreed. JT abstains. Clerk to return precept form accordingly.***

13. AOB

- JW notes that she believes there has been a land survey carried out around the Church Hall Car Park and land. She does not know for what specific reason, but assumes it is to do with ongoing plans for the Church Hall.
- The Clerk will be away in January for the meeting and proposes her colleague Kirsty Merritt take the minutes of the meeting. All agreed.
- JT says that the newsletter has been very well received and believes we have an outstanding parish council newsletter.

Meeting ends 9.13PM
Thomas Briggs, Chair

