



LIMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL - MONTHLY MEETING

MINUTES of the meeting of Limpsfield Parish Council held on Monday 12th February 2024, 7pm at Limpsfield CofE Infants School.

Attending: Thomas Briggs, Mark Wilson, Bob Harvey, Anthony Taylor, Bernie de Haldevang.

Sophie Martin (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

John Thompson, Ann Osborn, Jenny Williams, Sophie Kemp
Ian Booth, Claire Blackwell, Cameron McIntosh

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE INTEREST

To note, MW, BH and BdH are shareholders of Memorial Stores, however they are not on the committee. AT is volunteer and shareholder at Memorial Stores. They may still vote on the grant application.

3. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Signed with 2 minor amendments.

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 (District/County) - Notes circulated by CB and IB.

- With regards to the (mobile phone) masts, we left it that when IB gets back he'll contact TB about potentially looking for suitable sites. However, the difficulty is that even if some were considered it still means the landowner would need to agree to have a mobile phone mast on their land. Then it means trying to contact mobile phone companies to see if they would be interested. Then the mast companies would have to review the sites to see if any are suitable and then a planning application would need to be submitted. Unfortunately, it doesn't mean the planning application would be approved by TDC. So, it's not a quick or easy fix but IB has kindly volunteered to work with the LPC to look into any suitable sites that might be located as a starting point.
- Treverex stables has been called in to committee by Ian Booth.
- Orchard Cottage Farm - this has been called in if the planning officer is minded to approve. There has been no update.
- No update on whether the applicant for the solar farm will appeal.
- Grasshopper Inn site - still being determined. Cllr Allen from Tatsfield has called this to committee if the officer is minded to approve.
- No further update on Chichele Road or the Chalkpit Quarry applications.
- The Old Stables/Studio (Limpsfield High Street – Conditions) Paul Batchelor has now told IB that the submitted (amended) travel plan has received no objection from

Surrey County Council. He went on to say that he was 'intending to determine the application towards the end of next week (Friday 16th Feb) and, at present, it is likely to be an approval (of conditions being met). Councillors are in agreement that this is very disappointing, particularly given and lack of control by TDC over the conditions process, lack of interest and understanding of the issues by SCC, and no response regarding our enforcement enquiry aside from initial acknowledgment. Clerk has requested an update on the enforcement.

Cameron McIntosh has sent apologies and SM circulated a memo including SCC's 2024/5 presentation slides.

- Drain/gully by Hookwood – CMcl believes a permanent fix has now been completed, this was initially a temporary repair that was carried out, but should now be resolved. He is yet to come to site, and asks councillors to let him know if there are still issues. See 7.1
- Limpsfield Grange plans – Initial consultation period has now closed (5 Feb). CMcl has seen some more detailed plans, but believes the Parish will have a chance to comment once the formal planning process begins. There is a meeting for public at the Library on 20/2.
- Kent Hatch Road (remainder of the resurfacing) – now complete
- CMcl notes that Ann Osborn has a list of sub-contractors for repairs on high street (unless these are deemed a safety issue and Highways will fix first). It's important to stress that AO/LPC is not the highways authority (decisions regarding repairs must be made/supported by Highways).

6. CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

6.1. TB would like to raise the need to look at crime and ASB in the area. Would like to ask CMcl about the Police budget for 2024/5.

6.2. SCC and TDC have declared climate emergencies. What is does a climate emergency mean? What in the budget is going towards this?

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

7.1. Gullies and Drains in Limpsfield High Street that are full of gravel – important to get this sorted. How can we do this? Would suggest that we follow up with SCC in early March with regards to how the issue can be addressed and what SCC's plans are. BH will follow up and will ask when the gullies were last cleared. BdH says these are tangible environmental concerns that should be addressed with regards to local stormwater drainage into fields and streams. He says that National Highways are no longer clearing the balancing pond from the M25. This affects the water in the Eden brook. MW suggests this is raised with regards to the proposed biodiversity strategy – water quality testing and air quality.

7.2. Ironstone Kerbstones outside the studio keep being upended. This will keep happening now with the minibuses, but it appears that the conditions. Action: if planning / conditions are formally approved, to send letter about this area of kerbstones, which needs to be properly managed or given a drop kerb.

Clerk also notes that the pavement outside of Detillens House and Detillens cottages is also in bad shape and we might look at that as part of CAAMP actions.

8. CHART PLAYGROUND (Cllr Bob Harvey) - Condition report. Condition is fine aside from one of the sprung horses has been broken. This has been reported to TDC, who have removed and secured the base. BH to follow up with Ian Hudson in terms of repairs/replacing the spring.

9. PLANNING

9.1. Any urgent planning applications for discussion – None – JBW circulated note (attached)

9.2. Recent determinations of note – None.

9.3. Update on outstanding applications & other applications of note

- Chichele Road development – response has been submitted by Planning Committee. See application documents on the TDC website.
- The Grange – public consultation 20/2/24, 2-7pm Oxted Library. Various councillors will attend the consultation afternoon and draft comments / response. Issues to look at include development with regards to AONB, positioning of the new driveway on Bluehouse Lane and ensuring the taxis are waiting off-site. Also need for a detailed construction traffic plan.
- Other applications, see above and attached.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

10.1. Any general updates

TB to follow up with AO regarding water quality in Eden Brook (see above 7.1) and other drainage issues in the south of the parish.

10.2. Biodiversity notes circulated by AO. The Biodiversity meeting on 25/1 was very well attended and provided a useful and informative discussion with input from many local stakeholders (farmers, council, landowners and school). TDC is also putting together a biodiversity strategy for Tandridge (with regards to BNG and general environmental policies) and LPC can look at working alongside that, but there are lots of activities that can be done independently. There is a meeting scheduled for 22/2 where a biodiversity strategy for LPC will be drafted for circulation. Robin Masefield has been co-opted to help with this as he has had experience writing a similar document in NI. BH would be interested to see the full notes from the meeting as only circulated to attendees so far.

11. CAAMP

11.1. Any updates – SM awaiting quote for weeding of high street; AO awaiting further dates for cleaning remainder of ironstone cobbles. See 7.2 above re ironstone kerbstones and pavement.

12. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

12.1. Note of Balances at end of January 2024 - SM to amend typo and re-circulate.

12.2. Note/Approval of February 2024 payments – approved final version.

12.3. Any requests for budget/grant:

- Limpsfield Village Stores Association (LVSA) – 25 years anniversary. To mark their anniversary, the stores would like to renovate the post office area which is now playing an increasingly important role in the village and

for the shop itself due to closure of banks and the “everyday banking” services provided by the post office. Until 2020 Memorial Stores received a fixed fee from the post office, now it is turnover based. This has been increasing year on year and contributes 35-40% of profit. LVSA is asking 50% of the cost of refurbishing the post office area (quote received in 2023 was £4500 inc VAT) up to a maximum of £2500 + contingency of 10% to cover increase in quote due to materials increase.

Accounts have been reviewed. Available online.

AT proposes to agree 50% of the project costs (including VAT) up to a maximum of £2750. BdH seconds. All in agreement. Proposal carried.

12.4. VAT reclaim to 31/12/23 for approval / signature – approved and signed

12.5. Q3 Bank Reconciliation for approval / signature – approved and signed

12.6. AOB - request for grant for the Summer Village Fete. The organisers (Limpsfield School / St Peters) have asked if LPC might contribute to the organisation costs of the summer community fete.

MW suggests the organisers submit a formal request for contribution for a key element, e.g. the Burger stand. This should be identified at the event as being Sponsored by LPC.

Chart Fair Committee – BH says the Coffee Mornings supported by LPC have been very successful and now include a wide range of attendees. The Councillors are invited to the anniversary coffee morning on March 6th, 10am-12pm. Clerk to forward email to all.

13.AOB

13.1. Telecoms/Mobile Mast: BH enquires about the issue of masts/lack of 4G coverage that has been raised by some Chart residents. Clerk is putting together notes / responses from SRN and Waldon re mobile network improvement process and what, if anything, can be done by residents, TDC, Parish Council etc. The Clerk is collating all information and looking at the process. She will put together page on the website with all relevant information for everyone to access. (Also see Minutes 5. above)

13.2. BdH mentions trees bordering the roads (particularly those on an angle up banks) that are losing footing and falling due to the wet weather. We should all keep an eye out for any leaning trees and report to Highways / NT etc.

Meeting ended 08.50.



Thomas Briggs, Chair