



LIMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL - MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of Limpsfield Parish Council held on Monday 11th March 2024, 7pm at Limpsfield CofE Infants School.

Attending Councillors: Thomas Briggs (Chair), Mark Wilson, Bob Harvey, Anthony Taylor, Bernie de Haldevang, Ann Osborn, John Thompson.

District Councillors, Claire Blackwell and Ian Booth
Sophie Martin (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Jenny Williams, Cameron McIntosh. Sophie Kemp is absent.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE INTEREST

AO declares interest on Limpsfield in Bloom

3. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Approved as circulated.

4. PUBLIC SESSION

None

5. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (District/County)

Claire Blackwell/ Ian Booth

- Trevereux Stables – this application will be called in if officer is minded to approve.
- Orchard Cottage Farm – nothing more to date. Will be called in to committee if officer is minded to approve.
- The Grasshopper – has been called in to committee by Tatsfield district councillor.
- CB advises that disappointingly, AONB Boundary Review has been pushed back until May 2024.
- 6 Detillens Lane – has been called in to committee if required. LPC objected.
- TB asks about the property/land on A25 that appears to have fences removed. Is this a site up for planning? Nothing has been received. It could be works to remove Japanese knot weed.
- The Old Stables – none of the conditions have been met. LPC has sent in an enforcement. There is frustration that there appears to be no enforcement of conditions by TDC / Surrey and LPC. BH very frustrated that nothing is being done. Clerk to forward the latest enforcement we have requested to IB and any responses.
- Limpsfield Grange – there has been no application in as yet for the school. It is expected this month. However there has been an issue with some tree works, that did not end up happening. The developers/school circulated a note directly after the consultation to residents of Granville/Bluehouse that tree works would be done on 23 February (before any planning application submitted). There was then conflicting

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information on what the tree works were for – ash die back, highways scheduled maintenance etc. LPC planning committee sent a letter to the school, SCC/Highways and the developers asking for clarification. Received response from James Lehane at SCC and from Morgan Sindall.

Cameron McIntosh – sent via message:

- Getting ready for start of capital projects in April - Resurfacing of A25 will be major project.
- The Grange School – nothing to report pending planning application.

6. CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

6.1. AGM & Annual report overview of presentation/allocation of contributions

- SM has sent out draft agenda and outline.
- SM to circulate deadlines / content outline for receipt ASAP for presentation, newsletter and end of year report.

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

BH Reiterates importance of reporting potholes to SCC and is concerned about the state of A25 but hopes this will be done soon.

Great to see the gullies in Limpsfield village have now been emptied.

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

The broken horse in the playground - BH has chased TDC's Ian Hudson / Jim Lewthwaite. Councillors agree LPC can pay for the repair as this is what the Chart Playground fund is partially for. BH Will contact Ian Hudson again to say that we will pay for repair.

Otherwise, condition of the playground is good.

9. PLANNING

9.1. Any urgent planning applications for discussion – any notes from last Planning meeting 23/2/24 - NONE

9.2. Recent determinations of note – NO significant applications

9.2.1. Approval of Conditions for The Old Stables & enforcement update - as discussed above.

9.2.2. Update on outstanding applications & other applications of note - as discussed above.

9.3. Gatwick – Invitation to CAGNE Councils Forum (20/3) - Mark Wilson agrees to join the forum as a councillor on the basis this is not joining a lobbying group, but only the forum for the parish councils to discuss issues.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

10.1. Any general updates – footpaths, CCTV, planting etc.

10.1.1. Hexagonal seat at Pebble Hill is in disrepair and needs to be replaced. This is in visible position at start of the village. Quotes received by Barry Chandler and Andrew Wright: £600 inc. VAT for the new seat (timber only). £640 + VAT for the groundworks. £1400 total. Proposed BH, JT seconds. TB opposed.

10.2. Biodiversity strategy and associated budget requests - AO.

- AO has circulated Biodiversity Strategy. Is keen to focus on what we can do on a local level, that is in line with BNG and BOA, but not beholden to what the

District or County etc are doing for BNG and Biodiversity Strategy as this is a much more complicated and long-term process.

- AO would like to get a water quality survey done for Eden Brook.
- Another area is the Crooked River (south of the parish). Unfortunately, SK is not present to talk about it.
- AO mentions that gardens make up a larger area than all public area put together so it's very important to act on a small and local level.
- Balancing Pond M25 on the land off Titsey Road. National Highways installed it, but it had dropped off the radar and hasn't been cleaned for a very long time.
- There should be reed beds etc to cleanse it before it goes into the Eden. BH has arranged an on-site meeting with National Highways team to assess it.
- TB believes we should take time to reconsider the strategy document and look for connection between priority areas for the district/county - e.g. water quality, North Downs escarpment and Limpsfield Common – Greensand Ridge. We should identify some criteria by which the LNP/LPC selects projects. Would like to re-work the strategy.
- AO believes there is a lot we could be getting on with now before we look towards the district or county strategies.
- BH has installed an oil interceptor for run off from Titsey into the Eden. This needs to be cleaned out. TB believes this is the sort of project could be eligible for one of the grant.
- BDH would like Greensand Way to be included in activity.
- MW / BDH agrees there needs to be some criteria set for spending on biodiversity and biodiversity related grants.
- AO would like to get something agreed for the newsletter with Hazelwood School as this is timely. Would like to also publicise the fact that we have a fund for local groups to apply to.
- AO to get a quote for the clearing of the wildflowers area which can be done ASAP.
- TB offers to draft some criteria for spending/grants. Clerk notes that this is also important for auditing and transparency purposes.
- TB suggests giving Biodiversity working group spending discretion without Council oversight. MW opposed and suggested that Finance Committee consider Biodiversity spending oversight at its 4 April meeting.
- The biodiversity strategy outline was agreed in principle, with a total allocated budget of £8,300. The biodiversity working group – AO, SK, JT, with Maggie Morgan and Robin Masefield will oversee the budget and small grants from the £2,000. The working group will report to the LNP Committee, with the criteria for spend written by TB and governance by MW.
- In conclusion, the Biodiversity Strategy remains under the discussion to take additional time to consider. TB suggests approval of separate funding for B269 annual wildflower cultivation given urgency of March planting season. All in agreement, pending AO quote from Michael Butcher being of a reasonable amount.

11. CAAMP

11.1. Any updates

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- Ironstone cleaning test area has been done. Bryan Williamson is unwell and cannot continue. Chris Reynolds suggested another contact who has done similar in Bletchingley. AO would like to get approval to change contractors with no incremental cost. Hoping to get this done before 13th April when there is an AGM and visit of the Vernacular Society. All agreed.

12. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

- 12.1. Note of Balances at end of February 2024 and anticipated balances at end of FY24.
- 12.2. Note/Approval of March 2024 payments – all circulated expenditure items for March 2024 are approved with no queries.
- 12.3. Note of Internal Audit Date – May 1st – remote audit with Mulberry & Co.
- 12.4. Reminder of Finance Committee Meeting to be held on 4/4/24.
- 12.5. Any requests for budget / grants / s137:
 - 12.5.1. Limpsfield Village Fete £800 – Grant application for support of the annual Limpsfield Village fete (29.6.24). MW described the equivalent level of support provided to the Chart Fete. This is an important annual community event and councillors are very supportive of helping to fund it. MW proposes, AO seconds. All agreed.
 - 12.5.2. Limpsfield in Bloom £500 – Funding request for plants and seeds for this year's LIB entry. MW proposes, TB seconds. AO declares interest. All other councillors agreed.
 - 12.5.3. Chart noticeboard – £202.34 for rubber pin board to refurb the chart noticeboard. approved BH proposes. TB seconds. All approved.

13. AOB

- 13.1. Christmas Fair Day Sunday 1st December – Road closure discussion. As the courtyards are still available for use for this event, the council does not see the need to close the streets. Wickham's Courtyard will do their event at the same time. The stalls at The Cookery School are all contained in the courtyard. With the event held in the winter, there is very likely to be bad weather, so we would prefer to reserve street closures for key events (such as national or regional street parties, the Coronation / Jubilee etc).



Mark Wilson, Vice Chair