

East Lavington Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 16th November 2020
by 'Zoom' video conferencing

Also available at www.eastlavington-pc.uk (This meeting was recorded)

The meeting started at 6.37pm

Present: Cllr Charles Britton, Cllr Barry Gosden, Cllr Will Yates, Cllr Patrick Limpus and Cllr Simon Longman.

In Attendance: Amy Harte (Clerk), Cllr. Allan Sutton (District Councillor).

1. Welcome

140/20 Chairman Charles Britton welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies

141/20 Cllr. David Bradford (County Councillor)

3. Declarations of Interest

142/20 None

Cllr Gosden Joined the meeting 6.39pm

4. Minutes of Last Meeting

4.1. Approval of September 2020 Minutes.

143/20 The minutes of the meeting of **21st September 2020** were RESOLVED to be approved. Cllr. Britton verbally agreed to sign 'draft' copy of the minutes. **(ACTION C. Britton)**

4.2 Report on action points from the last meeting.

4.2.1. Acceptance of Office, Code of Conduct and Register of Interest forms

144/20 Register of interests received from Cllr. Limpus, still required from Cllr. Yates. **(ACTION W.Yates)**

4.2.2. Website Email Address & 4.2.3. Website Accessibility Statement Update

145/20 Cllr Longman has contacted John Uphill from Graffham Parish Council and has offered his services to maintain the Website. The difficulty at present is gaining access to the email accounts so Cllr Longman and Cllr Limpus will both contact Tom Richardson to try to resolve this. **(ACTION S. Longman & P. Limpus)**

4.2.4. Broadband progress update (S.Longman)

146/20 Cllr. Longman reported that responses from 51 residences have been sent to Openreach, of which 32 do not have the minimum of 10MB so should all be eligible for the funding. Cllr Gosden and Cllr Longman discussed the Southern Water sites in the Parish as they are served by the Petworth exchange and may have a fibre supply that perhaps could be useful. Cllr. Gosden will ask his contacts at Southern Water. **(ACTION S. Longman & B. Gosden)**

4.2.5. Planning Consultation Changes

147/20 The Government's Proposed Planning procedure changes were discussed and responses from both CDC and SDNP were thought to be very good and robust, the general feeling being that the proposed changes will not solve the problems that they are trying to solve. Cllr Britton thanked Cllr Gosden for putting together the response on behalf of the council.

5. Visitors' Questions:

None.

6. County Councillor's Report (Cllr. David Bradford)

148/20 D. Bradford sent his apologies and a report by email. All Councillors confirmed that they had read the report. Attached as Annex A.

7. District Councillor's Report (Cllr. Alan Sutton)

149/20 Cllr. Sutton sent reports for both November and December by email. All Councillors confirmed that they had read the November report but not the December one. Both attached as Annex B. Cllr Sutton summarised his

December report giving some further detail in terms of support available for local tourism businesses from The Great Sussex Way, the Covid 19 testing sites, a campaign to shop local and his work with the District's homeless charities.

Cllr Sutton left the meeting 7.01pm

8. Planning Issues: New / Recent / Ongoing

8.1. SDNP/20/03743/HOUS Highfields Farm Norwood Lane East Lavington Petworth West Sussex GU28 0QG Removal of existing conservatory and erection of single storey sun room. **Approved.**

150/20 The council submitted a response in support of the application and the application has been Approved.

8.2. SDNP/20/00072/LIS & SDNP/20/00071/HOUS Beech Cottage Beechwood Lane East Lavington GU28 0NA Single storey timber extension. Comments submitted – **Application in progress. Extension of time agreed.**

8.3. SDNP/19/05363/HOUS & SDNP/19/05364/LIS Northwood Barn Graffham Road East Lavington GU28 0QF Proposed single storey rear extension. Comments submitted – **Application in progress. HBA suggested design improvements.**

9. Finance

9.1. Approval of accounts to 16/11/20

151/20 Accounts were reviewed and RESOLVED to be approved for period ending 16th November 2020

9.2. Approval of Clerk's Salary and Expenses:

9.2.1 24 hours @ £15.78 + backdated increase (38p per hour for 78 hours) £29.64 = £408.36 + £40 office allowance. **£448.36**

152/20 Salary and Expenses RESOLVED to be approved

9.3. Income/expenditure

9.3.1. Insurance payments Zurich £19.29

9.3.2. Insurance premium Parish Protect £234.08 (Both to be Ratified as already paid)

9.3.3. Graffham Parish Council 50% contribution to Website hosting cost £76.65

153/20 All above payments RESOLVED to be approved.

9.4. Budget Setting

154/20 A draft budget was circulated with the financial summary and the council felt that overall this was adequate and that given the levels of reserves it would not be necessary to increase the precept request for the coming year. The Clerk asked councillors to give some thought to any other additions that might be required to the budget. **(ACTION All Councillors)**

9.5. Other Financial Issues

None

10. Correspondence & Invitations received since the last meeting

10.1. Circulated by email

10.1.1 Climate Change Response from WSCC

155/20 A response is required by the 6th December 2020. Cllr Britton agreed to draft a response, circulate and then submit on behalf of the council. **(ACTION C. Britton)**

10.1.2 Draft Constitution of CDALC

156/20 Cllr Britton will look into this and report back to the Council. **(ACTION C. Britton)**

10.1.3 WSALC Value for Money Review

157/20 There has been much correspondence regarding this matter, It seems that WSALC is asking if member parishes feel that SALC provides value for money. Cllr Britton asked for the views for the Council and it was generally felt that they provided support and training that were valuable to this Council. Cllr. Britton will formulate a response and circulate before submitting. **(ACTION C. Britton)**

10.1.4 Standards in Public Service NALC Survey

158/20 Cllr. Britton will answer this survey and send a draft round for amendments before submitting. **(ACTION C. Britton)**

10.1.5 Parish Workshops SDNP Wednesday 2nd November CB, PL & BG

159/20 It was RESOLVED that Cllr B. Gosden and Cllr. P Limpus attend in a contributing capacity and other councillors can view the live stream. **(ACTION B. Gosden & P. Limpus)**

11. Reports re: attendance at meetings etc.

160/20 Cllr. Britton reported on the meeting he attended via Zoom which focused on policing on traffic, antisocial driving and noise. He was impressed by the efforts made by the police and felt they were trying to combat an exceedingly difficult problem well.

12. Parish Matters

12.1 Minerals & Waste

161/20 Cllr Gosden informed the council that there is a soft sand review which mentions Coopers Moor and Duncton Common which came up to our boundary and that of the National Trust. It is unlikely to be considered but as it is mentioned this requires a response to the review, particularly in relation to the possible impact on highways etc. **(ACTION B.Gosden)**

12.2 Rights of Way & Highways.

162/20 Highways have resurfaced some areas Cllr Gosden had registered complaints about which is positive. The area at Cathamgar lane junction is prone to flooding and Cllr Gosden will lodge a complaint and try to clear the leaves from the gullies in that area towards the campsite. **(ACTION B.Gosden)**

163/20 There have been reports of a tree that is coming down at Norwood Lane triange. Some discussion took place as to whether or not this was on private or Council land. Both Cllr Britton and Cllr Limpus will take a look and try to get this issue resolved. **(ACTION C. Britton & P.Limpus)**

13. Date of next Meetings –

Monday 18th January 2021

Monday 15th March 2021

Monday 17th May 2021

Monday 19th July 2021

Monday 20th September 2021

Monday 15th November 2021

The meeting finished at 7.32pm

I confirm this is a true record of the meeting:

Chairman, 18^h January 2021

Annex A

Parish Council Report For November 2020

From WSCC Cllr David Bradford

I will try and add something useful to all the things you already know from the News reports

Firstly, if you are aware of anyone who needs help during lockdown then get in touch with the COMMUNITY HUB at West Sussex. Or even me if you hit a problem. The County is very sympathetic to anyone in need

West Sussex has a county-wide community hub which is available seven days a week and staff will be on hand to respond to enquiries between 8.00am-8.00pm. A dedicated telephone helpline is also available for residents who are unable to go online: 033 022 27980.

People like Meals on Wheels are still available doing their usual excellent work. We have also now spent over £400,000 on 'hardship families' and this work will never stop. We are strong supporters of the Citizens Bureau in West

Sussex and I speak as a former Director in a neighbouring county; there are times when we all need expert advice, usually free

Congratulations to our schools who have just achieved 93% attendance compared to the national average of 89%. Children need the interaction and support for their wellbeing.

Our Children Services operation is being closely monitored but will probably go into a separate Trust. Improvement is needed but I can assure you that progress is being made. We also have a very enthusiastic Youth Cabinet if any teenagers wish to take part.

On a personal basis I took a quick break in the Canary Islands and came back to Lockdown which had been announced while we were away! West Sussex only has a low covid level and I wonder whether we are over-reacting? Do we really need to stop kids playing football?

I have just come back from my daily walk in the park and noticed twelve adults having a few cans of beer in a side road! At least the children's swings and roundabouts are still allowed (as I speak). Fresh air is good for most of us.

My pet hate is the stupid temporary cycle lanes and I am pleased to report that most are being removed. This was a National not a County initiative and it shows how taxpayers money can be wasted irresponsibly. I do appreciate that there are some keen cyclists out there (I set up a cycling club when aged 12), but 90% of correspondents wanted them removed.

I sit on the main Pensions Committee and generally our results are very good. However, there are times when we need to make changes and we do not hold back if improvements are needed; green issues are a hot topic right now and we are very keen to balance performance (i.e. the size of your pension) with social responsibility.

I will be retiring as County Councillor next April; so put your name forward if you think you can do a good job (the same for District Councils as well of course). However it is not a cushy number and taking all my interests into account (Family, County and Personal) I came home to 500 e mails after being away 10 days!

Councillor David Bradford

Annex B

Parish Council Report For November 2020

From CDC District Cllr. Alan Sutton

The 2020 Winter preparation plans are firmly in place. However this year it is likely that we will experience a triple hit due to

- Covid 19
- Winter Flu
- Brexit Transition period ends

The CDC recovery groups, which are looking at the operational side of the council's activities, has reported to Overview & Scrutiny Committee and reports that cover the progress and work relating to Covid 19 have been produced. The biggest problems that we face are due to the unknown factors attached to all three. Having said that; our business continuity plans are in place and robust.

Currently the economic impact to CDC has not been as bad as expected which puts us in a stronger position financially but there are high risks going forward and so we are planning for reviewing the finances. Services cuts appear to be inevitable but we are not likely to recommend or implement any until the picture becomes clearer and where possible we will consult as part of our recovery plans.

Covid 19 cases are still rising and new advice and directives are coming thick & fast. CDC is still considered to be on top of information and will provide help & assistance through our website & officers to offer help & support where it is needed.

At the request of the NHS A new walk through testing site for C19 has been set up on the North Street car park at Chichester (Appointments only) and as a result the Sloe Fair has been cancelled. A single "attraction", although closed to the public, was sited there to make sure that the fair can be held in future years under the charter.

CDC grants are still available relating to Covid 19 for businesses and community groups and the deadline has been extended. The funds are limited so anyone thinking of applying should do so ASAP.

Other than this I have attended meetings with the SDNP and a review of Serious Organised Crime including county lines activity hosted by WSCC. I have also brought forward and had approved a new Events Strategy & Policy for land under CDC control. The Great Sussex Way has also gained funding support from us to introduce a free membership scheme for businesses serving our visitors and to market our District as open for Events.

Our MP has picked up the ball for me on anti-social riding and driving and asked a question of the Home Secretary in the house. This is about as high as he can go on this. He also secured a debate about changing the legislation regarding altered number plates, which is seen as a major step forward in reducing evasion of enforcement.

Finally the merger through acquisition of the Brighton University Hospitals Group by the Western Sussex NHS Foundation Trust continues at pace. It has recently gained approval from the NHS to proceed and will happen quickly (planned now for April 2021) There is an online survey for the public to raise concerns or questions. I would encourage anyone to join the trust. It is free, has benefits and ensures that you get the most up to date information regarding our acute hospitals at Worthing & Chichester.

Alan Sutton
Cabinet Member for Housing, Licensing, Communications & Events
Fittleworth Ward
Chichester District Council

District Councillor Report – December 2020

The Great Sussex Way launches soon. This is the new branding for “Visit Chichester” It will provide marketing and other support for businesses involved in visitors and tourism. Membership will be heavily subsidised, free in some instances to encourage local businesses and community organisations to gain support from the Great Sussex Way to encourage visitors to our district to be aware of their offering. More information to follow.

CDC continues to support WSCC during the lockdown and has for example set up a walkthrough Covid Testing site in our Chichester North street car park. (Appointment only –referred by the test & trace system) CDC is also involved with the local Test & trace system which will supplement the national one going forward. See our website for further information going forward,

CDC is also launching two initiatives;

- Local Christmas support using the strapline **Shop Local, Visit Local, Support Local this Christmas**. Of course this needs to be flexible due to the uncertainty over the success of the current national lockdown. This includes parking incentives in council owned car parks and a flexible approach to local markets.
- This winter we have launched a campaign helping us to make lasting change for our homeless and rough sleepers called "**Make your Change Count**". Generous people in our area want to give money to people in the street, but unfortunately this can have unforeseen consequences. We are asking instead for donations to me made to Stonepillow, Heart Chichester or Four Streets Chichester so that the money given DIRECTLY helps these people to get the help and expertise they need.

Finally I would draw your attention to the excellent Initiatives magazine which has all the information you need regarding this and many other things that CDC are doing currently – it even tells you when the bins are due to be emptied over the holiday period !!

Alan Sutton
Cabinet Member for Housing, Licensing, Communications & Events
Fittleworth Ward
Chichester District Council