

# **LODSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

**DRAFT Minutes of a meeting held at Lodsworth Village Hall**

**On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**Present:** Councillors Justina Leitao, Charles McKee, Caroline Neville (Chair), Paul Phillips, James Rees, Tom Richardson and Jim Summers.

**In attendance:** Mrs Helen Cruikshank, Parish Clerk  
District Councillor Francis Hobbs

## **PARISH COUNCIL AGENDA**

### **Comments and Questions from members of the Public**

There were no members of the public present.

### **17/18 To note apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from County Councillor David Bradford.

### **18/18 Code of Conduct/declarations of interest**

The Chairman reminded members of the code of conduct.

### **19/18 Co-option of Councillor**

There was no co-option.

### **20/18 Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record.

### **21/18 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting which are not included on this agenda**

There were no matters which weren't covered on tonight's agenda.

### **22/18 Reports from the elected representatives of Chichester District Council and West Sussex County Council**

District Councillor Francis Hobbs spoke of the recent issue at the Scout hut in Easebourne. It had failed its electrical inspection and the organisations which use the hut are desperately trying to raise money to help fund the repairs. Tom Richardson said he knew of someone with electrician skills who potentially may be able to help.

Francis Hobbs reported on the planning application for 10 tree houses proposed by Cowdray in Easebourne on the right-hand side of the A272. He suggested the Parish Council build a relationship with the Estate and the SDNP in order to gain an understanding of what the ultimate aim for the area is. Cowdray Estate have a number of plans for the area and it is imperative they take the community with them. A vast number of houses are required in the SDNP and it is essential these houses are affordable and include local employment opportunities. There had been good progress with Visit Chichester with a £50,000 grant from CDC to help increase visitors to the Chichester District. He encouraged the parish to send him a list of the local B&B's so Visit Chichester can help increase their usage by promoting them.

<http://www.visitchichester.org/>

Any queries of a District nature, please do not hesitate to contact Francis Hobbs fhobbs@chichester.gov.uk or 07968 027833

There was no County Councillor report. Any issues of a County nature then please do not hesitate to contact David Bradford on davidbradford@westsussex.gov.uk or 07922 865735

### 23/18 Working Party reports

- **Highways:** Tom Richardson reported that the road repairs near to Barnett's Bridge in Selham were getting there. The Water board had done their job and the surface repairs were now waiting to be done by WSCC Highways. The road signage is still there. There were numerous potholes throughout the parish which had been reported but were awaiting repair. Tom Richardson is keen to get the speed limit reduced on the Selham roads as currently it is 60mph throughout. The Clerk advised him to contact David Bradford as the County Councillor for his support and advice. Caroline Neville suggested attending the next North Chichester CLC meeting where there were often highways officers in attendance. With regard to the parking issues in the centre of the village, it was agreed the Parish Council would erect a no parking sign near to the junction to get the ball rolling. Tom Richardson to speak to the local sign-makers for prices. Jim Summers agreed he would liaise with the pub owners to get an update on the other measures discussed at the last meeting. Clerk added that she had reported the broken railings at the Lickfold Bridge and this has been passed to the highways routine maintenance team for repair. Anyone is able to report potholes or highways problems on <http://love.westsussex.gov.uk/reports/home>
- **Speedwatch:** Charles McKee reported there are now 10 plus volunteers. Clerk to update list and send out a reminder to those who haven't yet finished their training.
- **Footpaths, Hedges and Rights of Way:** James Rees stated the next inspection was due in May but he had yet to have a date confirmed. He had received a list of all the works carried out in the parish over the past 12 months.
- **Playground:** Charles McKee said he had looked at the play area this morning and unfortunately the molehills were back. He suggested that every 3 months the Parish Council should employ someone to see to this as it was becoming a regular occurrence. Justina Leitao said she would speak to Roger Coomber about sorting out the current problem. The ground seems to be holding up well, it is a bit scuffed up under the zip wire and swings but this would be re-assessed when it dries out a bit. He added the ground anchor will also need to be put in to help stabilise the zip wire. Paul Phillips said he would speak to Neil Pearman about whether he wishes to continue to cut the grass at the play area for the forthcoming year.
- **Allotments:** Paul Phillips said that all allotment plots were now rented out. Clerk to send through her latest list so it can be updated before the allotment invoices for the season go out.
- **Parish repairs:** Tom Richardson reported that WSCC Highways were not happy with the location for the proposed new bus shelter, opposite the current one due to sightlines. It was suggested that the proposed bus shelter be sited further up the A272 and proposed the bus stop be relocated. Tom Richardson to feed this back to WSCC Highways. Clerk to keep looking for grants for this project.
- **Winter Plan:** Justina Leitao reported that Lodsworth parish really got away quite lightly with the amount of snow it had a couple of weeks ago. She suggested that the Parish Council should consider purchasing more grit bins going forward and there should be some revisions to its winter plan.
- **Lickfold Bridge flooding:** Jim Summers had looked through the findings and recommendations from the survey which CBEC had carried out last year on the Lickfold Bridge flooding (funded by the Operation Watershed scheme as a joint venture with Lurgashall Parish Council). There appears to be no definitive answer and realistically to fix the problem would mean re-doing the bridges and flood defences which would be incredibly expensive, unachievable and totally uneconomical. He said he was happy to carry on although felt if pursued on the basis presented, the economics were simply not viable particularly at a time when there were many other outstanding and financially more justifiable demands pending along the Parish highways. It was agreed that Jim Summers would speak to Dr Wilding at Lurgashall Parish Council to discuss this.
- **Planning:** Since the last meeting the Parish Council has discussed the following planning applications:

SDNP/17/06434/TPO

Location: Lodsworth House, Gills Lane, Lodsworth

Proposal: Removal of 50% Laurel and Holly trees

SDNP/17/06435/TPO

Location: Lodsworth House, Gills Lane, Lodsworth

Proposal: Fell 3 no trees and 4 no shrubs

SDNP/17/06537/TCA

Location: Netherfield, Vicarage Lane, Lodsworth

Proposal: Notification of intention to coppice 1 no Cortinus coppingria and reduce height of 1 no Pittosporum tenuifolium tree

SDNP/18/00103/HOUS and SDNP/18/00104/LIS

Location: Holly Cottage, The Street, Lodsworth

Proposal: Demolition of greenhouse and replace with garden shed

SDNP/18/00450/CND

Location: Whispers, The Street, Lodsworth

Proposal: Change of glazing

SDNP/18/00762/TCA

Location: Hollist Arms, The Street, Lodsworth

Proposal: Notification of intention to fell 1 no, Red Horse Chestnut tree

SDNP/18/01369/TPO

Location: Lodsworth House, Gills Lane, Lodsworth

Proposal: Reduce heights by 6m (circa 25% reduction) and crown raise northern sectors by 6m (overhanging Gills Lane) on 5 no Chestnut trees and 1 no Oak tree.

Since the last meeting, Chichester District Council/South Downs National Park has made the following decisions:

SDNP/17/05960/HOUS

*Location: Bramble Cottage Surrey Road Lodsworth GU28 9DP*

*Proposal: Replacement single storey extension and proposed new roof, pitched roof to existing garage.*

*Decision: Refused*

SDNP/17/06109/HOUS and SDNP/17/0610/LIS

*Location: 1 Gibbs Cottages Surrey Road Lickfold Lurgashall GU28 9DX*

*Proposal: Two storey rear extension and associated alterations.*

*Decision: Refused*

SDNP/18/00103/HOUS and SDNP/18/00104/LIS

*Location: Holly Cottage, The Street, Lodsworth*

*Proposal: Demolition of greenhouse and replace with garden shed*

*Decision: Approved*

SDNP/17/06537/TCA

*Location: Netherfield, Vicarage Lane, Lodsworth*

*Proposal: Notification of intention to coppice 1 no Cortinus coppingria and reduce height of 1 no Pittosporum tenuifolium tree*

*Decision: Raise no objection*

SDNP/17/06434/TPO

*Location: Lodsworth House, Gills Lane, Lodsworth*  
*Proposal: Removal of 50% Laurel and Holly trees*  
*Decision: Approved*

*SDNP/17/06435/TPO*

*Location: Lodsworth House, Gills Lane, Lodsworth*  
*Proposal: Fell 3 no trees and 4 no shrubs*  
*Decision: Approved*

*SDNP/1800212/DCOND*

*Location: Well Cottage, The Street, Lodsworth*  
*Proposal: Discharge of conditions 3, 4, 5 and 9 from SDNP/14/00498/HOUS and SDNP/13/04797/LIS*  
*Decision: Approved*

*SDNP/16/03531/PRE*

*Location: Rose Cottage, The Street, Lodsworth*  
*Proposal: Revised design of outbuilding following SDNP/16/00628/HOUS.*  
*Advice provided*

**24/18 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**

James Rees had attended the SSALC Spring Conference where he had spoken to a Data Protection Officer. There are several external companies offering this service for parishes. Clerk to investigate. Tom Richardson said he would continue looking into getting all new emails for the Parish Council members. Clerk reported that there was a new data protection fee which will come into force on 25<sup>th</sup> May at £40 per year.

**25/18 Annual Parish Meeting 2018**

It was agreed the Annual Parish Meeting would be on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm. This would follow on from the Parish Council AGM at 7pm. Clerk to ask the SDNPA Dark Skies member to be the speaker.

**26/18 Financial Matters**

- The Councils current financial position of £16,283 was noted.
- The bank reconciliation at Appendix 2 was noted.
- The schedule of accounts submitted for payment at Appendix 3 was noted. Payments were authorised for WSCC (Clerk's January & February 2018 Salary plus WSCC payroll admin charges @ £922), Business Stream (allotment water @ £72), DSG Retail Limited (PC laptop, software etc @ £653), Mr Niel Daubeny (reimbursement of website annual charges @ £68) and SSALC Ltd (Spring conference @ £54). The DSG Retail Limited cheque was paid for by a NALC transparency grant received last year.
- Clerk had carried out a VAT return and confirmed that £3,369 had been received today.
- Letters of thanks had been received from most organisations who had been given grants and donations. Clerk said she had received a request from the Lodsworth Larder committee requesting funding support in 2018/19. The Parish Council agreed the shop was a good resource but would like to see a specific request with detailed costings before it made a decision to help financially.

**27/18 Reports back from meetings attended by Councillors**

As discussed under item 24/18, James Rees had attended the SSALC Spring Conference. Paul Phillips had attended the Midhurst Area Cycling (MAC) meeting where he had raised concerns about the danger of cycling from Lodsworth to Midhurst and asked whether the Midhurst cycle path could be extended to include Lodsworth.

**28/18 Clerks Report including any correspondence**

Clerk reminded member of the following meeting:

- All Parishes Meeting –25th April at 7pm at East Pallant House. Please let the Clerk know if you would like to attend so she may RSVP.

Clerk has received the new Mobile Library timetable from 1<sup>st</sup> April which she would put up on the notice boards and website. She had some dog owner responsibility flyers for distribution.

Following Francis Hobbs' suggestion of building a good working relationship with Cowdray Estate, James Rees agreed to be the Parish Council liaison.

**29/18 Items to be included on the next agenda**

Co-option

Please let the Clerk know of any additional items for the agenda by Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018

**30/18 Date of next Parish Council meeting (AGM) – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7pm.**

*The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm*