



LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

October Minutes – 19th October 2016

Present: Cllr Miranda Dart, (Vice-Chairman), Cllr, Jackie Breeds, Cllr Alex Carey, Cllr Genesis Alexander and Cllr Mike Cook.

One member of the public present.

1. Apologies for absence – Cllr Chris Mortimer, Cllr Nick Bennett and Cllr Barby Dashwood- Morris Received

2. Election of Chairman – Due to no candidates wishing to take on the role at present. The election will carry on to next's month agenda.

3. Declaration of Members interest – None

4. To accept the minutes from Laughton Parish Council meeting held on the 21st September 2016. They were agreed a true record and signed by Cllr Dart.

5. Questions and statements from members of the public, relating to matters on the agenda – Mr Herdman the member of public present will contribute on agenda item 7.

6. East Sussex County Council and Wealden District council reports- Cllr Carey brought to the attention of the council that we have had no representative or information from Wealden District council for at least six months. The council felt this needed to be addressed. It was **Agreed** the clerk will contact the Democratic services team regarding the absence of Cllr Barby Dashwood-Morris and enquire whether they will send a representative to our Parish for the next meeting.

7. Playground School Equipment- Discussions took place on the various options for the position of the school equipment.

Agenda order suspended under standing orders, Mr Herdman brought forward the information he wished to discuss with the council.

Mr Herdman explained the preferred position for the table tennis table. A letter had been emailed to the clerk and was read out to the council by Cllr Carey. It explained the school would take on the responsibility of the maintenance, ground works and all other matters. This was appreciated however, the letter does not cover insurance and liability and the parish council feel these need to be clarified. The table tennis table was **Agreed** in position A on the ash felt. (A diagram is attached to the minutes) subject to absolute clarification on the insurance and maintenance of the equipment. Also the hours of use outside of school hours need to be verified and made available to all the community.

Another discussion took place regarding the position for the musical instrument equipment. Mr Herdman explained the preferred position. All **Agreed to position B** subject to the same conditions as above, clarification of insurance and hours of use. (A diagram is attached of the position)

A further point was addressed by the councillors that in future purposes please could there be more communication with the council. It would save time on all aspects of community projects.

Until the letter of insurance and maintenance has been received the equipment has not been agreed by the council to be erected.

Agenda order continued Member of the public left the meeting

8. Plans

a) Plans-

WD/2016/2251/LDE – PARKSIDE FARM, SHORTGATE LANE, LAUGHTON, BN8 6DG- STATIONING OF A MOBILE HOME FOR RESIDENTIAL USE.

Comments and observations:

Laughton Parish Council recommended refusal of this application for the following reasons

- *The continuing absence of employment records/utility bills/council tax/national insurance records.*
- *The changed affidavits.*
- *A local dog walking parishioner noticed that for considerable periods there have been no lights seen early in the morning or late at night.*
- *Another large static caravan, adjacent to Shortgate Lane, has appeared within the past year at the same property.*

b) To consider any planning applications that have been received after agenda has been published.

WD/2016/2479/F- 4 HOME FARM COTTAGES, LEWES ROAD, LAUGHTON, BN8 6BQ- A PROPOSED TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AND A SINGLE STOREY FRONT AND REAR EXTENSION- DECISION TO BE MADE BY EMAIL

WD/2016/6513/SO- PROPOSED SOLAR PV PROJECT ON LAND AT BROOHAM FIELD, WHITESMITH, EAST SUSSEX, BN8 6JG- DECISION TO BE MADE BY EMAIL.

c) Planning application refused, approved, referred, withdrawn or appeals.

Chelwood, Pound Lane, Laughton, Lewes, BN8 6BE- Notification to inform it is now a listed GRADE II building

WD/2016/2101/F- DEMOLITION OF CURRENT RESIDENTIAL DWELLING WITH REPLACEMENT DWELLING WOODSIDE FARM, BROOMHAM LANE, WHITESMITH, NR LEWES, BN8 6JQ- WITHDRAW

Cllr Cook informed that further replies are needed to follow up the objections to this application. Cllr Cook will write a letter and circulate to the councillors for approval by the set deadline.

d) To note approved responses to applications and appeals approved by email. None

e) Other planning matters – To discuss or note any other planning matters brought to the attention of the Parish council.

Emerging Arlington Ward no further report given.

9. Financial matters – A schedule of receipts and payments was presented at the meeting. It was all Agreed and signed. List of payments on separate sheet

10. Public Access Defibrillator- Cllr Alexander reported that after researching into the possibility of purchasing a PAD (public access defibrillator) for the community a few issues have arisen. The costs are more than expected. If you use BT to provide the PAD they provide free electricity for 7 years and the cost is roughly £1800.00 ex VAT. Or another provider is heart safe £1795 ex VAT and then you need electricity. Maintenance each year is £120.00 per year. After further research there have been reported various problems with the pads, cables and batteries failing in as many 40%. Also 40% fail to charge so they fail to work. Furthermore, there are the issues with insurance and liability. The unit they are stored in needs to be heated for 24hrs so further cost is incurred. Overall this seems to be an expensive proposition that has many problems. Discussion took place to whether it would be worth having as part of the parish for the community. Cllr Alexander will look further into other parishes who have a PAD and how worthwhile it would be for Laughton.

11. Power on the Green- It was brought to the attention of the council that at present no funding or donations have been received for the power on the green. Cllr Cook proposed to approach the Christmas tree working party and to consult the Roebuck about placing a Christmas tree at their premises and the council contributing towards this. As Christmas is fast approaching and procedures need to be started. This was **Agreed** by the council.

12. Playground Area Review- Cllr Carey explained the latest report from health and safety brought up problems with rabbits causing damage by digging holes. He spoke to Matthew Winter and he will look into ways to prevent this. There is a large bramble patch which could be attracting the rabbits so Jim Nightingale will cut this back to help the situation. There are also problems with the fixture and fittings on the scramble nets and multi play units. Cllr Carey researched through paperwork and spoke to Jill Watson from Playdale Playgrounds Ltd who will find missing safety protections and email the clerk with prices. Cllr Carey will report back the ongoing work on the next agenda.

13. Letter to Roebuck Theatre- The letter was **Agreed** by email and sent to the appropriate party.

14. Planting of the crocuses- Sue Redshaw contacted the clerk through email to convey change of position and plans. No further action is to be taken as they are no longer being planted on Parish Council Land.

15. Community hall- Cllr Cook has brought to the council's attention the community hall has not been advocating as a community hall. The body that are responsible for classes out of school hours are reappraising the charges, there has been no communication to the parish regarding the outcome of the funds received, no advertisement to encourage use of the hall or how the funds are being used. The school were given a grant by sports for all of £50,000 for the benefits of the community. However, at present it does not feel very accessible or available to the community. The council have **Agreed** to find out further information by writing a letter to the school asking what procedures they are carrying out and where the information is regarding this? The parish council are here for the community and feel the community hall should be made as such. Cllr Carey will draft a letter and it will be agreed by email by all the councillors before it is sent to the appropriate party. All **Agreed** this procedure.

16. Correspondence- The Plunkett foundation information was shown for any future propositions.

- Wealden citizens advice annual report- a copy will be placed on the website.
- East Sussex County Council permanent seasonal closure letter no longer required

a) Correspondence after the agenda was published

- Email from Michael Higgs Senior road safety officer contacting us asking if we would like some temporary posters to help against speeding on Shortgate Lane. All **Agreed** the clerk will response to this email and agree to these posters.

-Email from Kelly Burr in reference to the Pedestrian road signs, the signs will be completed but unsure of the timescale of this. All **Agreed** to follow up if timescale appears too long.

- Email from Sue Redshaw contacted the clerk requesting funds for the use of the Village Hall for the Vert Wood Community Woodland Public Meeting. A month has to be given before funds can be considered. The clerk will email a response to Sue Redshaw.

17. Outstanding Matters – Members noted the following items remain outstanding:

- a) Review of standing orders and financial regulations
- b) Review of parish council Risk assessment
- c) To carry out requirements from internal audit

These will be addressed by the new clerk, matters are being dealt with and they are an ongoing process. This was reported b the clerk.

18. Clerk Overtime- The clerk printed out the hours and work she had been completed over the last month. The overtime was **Agreed**.

19. Reports (by leave) not for decision – None

Meeting Closed at 21.28

October Expenditure 19/10/2016

1. Clerk wages – Mrs Fiona Hensher	£588.35	
2. Wealden District Association of Local Councils subscription	£16.00	
3. Lewes District Council Playground inspection (Se	£18.00	
4. Lewes District Council Playground Inspection (October)	£18.00	
5. Clerks expenditures stamps and postage £3.84 + £1.71		
£21.33 mileage to meeting total £26.88	£26.88	
	Total Cheques	£667.23
1 & 1 internet DD		£11.99

Two Cheques to be re presented

- Stoolball Cheque which was lost £350.00
- Plumpton College cheque needed a change of name. £348.00

