



LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

March Minutes 15th March 2017,

Present: Cllr Miranda Dart, (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Chris Mortimer, Cllr Mike Cook, Cllr Genesis Alexander and Cllr Ann Newton

5 members of the public present.

1. Apologies for absence – Cllr Jackie Breeds, Cllr Nick Bennett and Cllr Alex Carey.

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

3. Declaration of Members interest – Cllr Mortimer declared a personal interest to planning application WD/2017/0571/F & WD/2017/0485/LB

4. To accept the minutes from Laughton Parish Council meeting held on the 15th February 2017 – 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 –

- Sue Redshaw to present her tree warden report to the Parish

-Mr Herdman representing Laughton Primary School in regards to the 'Community Hall'

- Two members of the Parish to discuss the Village planters

6. East Sussex County Council and Wealden District council reports-

ESCC Reports None

Wealden District Council Reports- Cllr Newton informed the council the local plans have been published, housing numbers reduced because of constraints on the Ashdown Forest and A26 and A22. Evidence shows the traffic has had an effect on Ashdown Forest and the roads associated. The council are taking a pragmatic approach and setting up suitable measures. A question was asked by a member of the public, what is causing the damage? It was explained nitrogen deposition on the road is one of the problems. Cllr Dart enquired what this means for Laughton as 10 houses are still required to be built in Laughton, due to the new infrastructure it is unlikely any more houses will now be agreed.

7. Planning

A) Plans- None

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

WD/2017/2039/F AND WD/2017/0240/LB – THE COACH HOUSE, THE OLD VICARAGE, CHURCH LANE, LAUGHTON, BN8 6AH – CONVERSION AND EXTENSION OF THE COACH HOUSE TO FORM RESIDENTIAL ANNEXE.

Laughton Parish Council recommend approval for the change of use in the circumstances described in the application. Laughton Parish Council wish for a particularly careful development of this building in the light of the grade 2 status of the host property and the Grade 1 star status of the Parish Church which the Coach House is closest to. Because of this Laughton Parish Council request the design of the French windows and bi-folding doors be reconsidered, and that it is ensured that the dovecote does not change in outside appearance or usability.

WD/2017/0571/F AND WD/2017/0485/LB – HAMMONDS, COMMON LANE, LAUGHTON, BN8 6BY – SINGLE – STOREY REAR EXTENSION-

Laughton Parish Council recommended approval and have no objections to this application.

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

WD/2016/2577/F – CHANGE OF USE FROM PADDOCK TO RESIDENTIAL. DETACHED GARAGE WITH ANCILLARY ACCOMMODATION. GROUND AND FIRST FLOOR SIDE EXTENSION TO HOST PROPERTY. SUNNY SIDE, SHORTGATE LANE, LAUGHTON. **APPROVED**

WD/2017/001/F – PROPOSED NEW SINGLE – STOREY REAR EXTENSION, PROPOSED NEW REAR FLAT – ROOFED DORMER AND ALTERATIONS TO THE ROOFING OF THE 2 EXISTING FRONT DORMER WINDOWS. 3 EBENEZER COTTAGES, SHORTGATE LANE, LAUGHTON BN8 6DE. **APPROVED**

d) To note approved responses to applications and appeals approved by email.

NONE

e) Other planning matters to discuss any other planning matters brought to the attention of the council.

TM/2017/0068/TPO – PRUNE 3X TREES WITHIN TREE PRESERVATION ORDER (LAUGHTON) No19, 2005 THE WEALD, CHURCH LANE, LAUGHTON BN8 6AH – Laughton Parish Council supports the maintenance.

LW/16/0775 – EAST SUSSEX GLIDING CLUB PLANNING APPLICATION – Laughton Parish Council responded to this application by email.

8. Sue Redshaw Laughton's tree warden – Sue Redshaw Laughton's tree warden presented a report to the council. This report will be available on the Laughton's Parish council website.

Cllr Newton left the meeting and 1 member of the public

Agenda order suspended under standing orders, two members of the public brought forward to discuss information with the council.

13. Village troughs in village centre – A discussion took place in regards to the 9 village planters along the B2124 (near the Village shop and Village pub). It was agreed they were a good asset and need refurbishing and maintaining. Two members of the Parish are happy to maintain the planters once they have been planted. It was agreed assistance is needed three times a year to plant and preserve the planters. **Clerk to action - for next meeting 3 quotes for this work.**

3 Members of the public left the meeting

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

10. Public access Defibrillator – The Council have been informed a Public access Defibrillator is being placed at the school. No further action to be taken on this matter.

11. Playground area review – Cllr Alexander explained he had carried out repairs along with Cllr Carey and are awaiting further equipment.

Agenda order suspended under standing orders, Mr Herdman brought forward to discuss information with the council. Item 17 linked to item 12

12. Community Hall and 17. Pelham field and boundaries, use and access-

Having examined the Parish Councils Deeds, Licenses and historical correspondence Cllr Mortimer presented his findings on the following topics:

- Pelham Field Boundaries, licenses and access agreements
- Parish Council relationship with the Community Hall
- Playground and play area licenses

Based on this information all Agreed that a tree causing subsidence to an outbuilding at the school – was not on LPC land, and that the Clerk would inform the PC's insurance company.

The Council agreed for a letter to be written to Laughton CP School to clarify boundary, licence and access agreements to Pelham Field. The letter will be agreed by email. All **Agreed** this action.

14. Pension working party- The pension working party explained the parish Council need to ask the clerk if she would like a pension, if she replies yes then they have to help find a pension scheme. However, they do not have to pay into the pension scheme but can choose to do so if they wish.

15. Asset list – A few amendments were needed on the asset list, it would then be circulated and agreed by email.

16. To discuss the maintenance of the items on the asset list – It was agreed certain assets need refurbishing the clerk will obtain 3 quotes for the next parish council meeting.

18. Hire of village green and Pelham field – The clerk reported a letter, o/s map, description and photograph had been sent to Lord Chichester's solicitor. The solicitor will reply after he has presented all the information to Lord Chichester. At present we can proceed with renting out the field until further notice.

19. Agenda order – Members Proposed to try a new agenda layout at the next Parish Meeting, all agreed this action.

20. Notice board for Laughton parish council - Currently advertising signs are put on the Village Green to advertise events. However, there is no consistency and the village Green is a source of pride for the Village. It was recommended to create a form that is to be sent out to all who wish to advertise. The forms will be available from the clerk and on the website. All **agreed** this procedure.

21. To review risk assessment – The clerk will amend and resend by email for agreement.

22. To review financial regulations – All agreed the financial regulations and it was signed by Cllr Dart.

23. Correspondence

Letter received regarding Vert Woods Community Woodland – Letter was acknowledged by the council.

- a) **Correspondence after the agenda was published** – A letter was received from the insurance company regarding the recent claim, we have since closed the claim and no further action to be taken.

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

- a) To carry out requirements from internal audit

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

25. Clerk overtime- *Clerk showed a time sheet with overtime of the hours covered in the last month. All **Agreed** hours worked.*

26. Reports (by leave) not for decision – Cllr Mortimer discussed he had a site meeting with Gareth Dennis (highway steward area 8) in regards to the common lane flooding, at present a case is being built to deal with the situation.

Cllr Mortimer attended a SALC Conference recently gaining the knowledge of how to handle an appeal where a planning application has been rejected.

Meeting closed 21.38