



LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

April Minutes 19th April 2017,

Present: Cllr Miranda Dart, (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Chris Mortimer, Cllr Mike Cook, Cllr Jackie Breeds, Cllr Alex Carey, Cllr Nick Bennett and Cllr Ann Newton

No members of the public present.

1. Public Session – Due to no members of the public present no public session was held.

2. Apologies for absence – Cllr Genesis Alexander.

3. 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.

4. Declaration of Members interest – None

4. To accept the minutes from Laughton Parish Council meeting held on the 15th March 2017 –
They were agreed a true record and signed by Cllr Dart.

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

ESCC Reports None

Wealden District Council Reports- Cllr Newton informed the council that Kier who currently have a contract with Wealden district Council for waste collection will cease in 2019 and to dissolve to other parties.

The Wealden District plan has not been adopted but is noted, it will be taken to the next Wealden District Council meeting for adoption.

Cllr Bennett left the meeting

7. Planning

A) Plans- None

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

**WD/2017/0516/F – LAND AT WOODSIDE FARM, BROOMHAM LANE, WHITESMITH, BN8 6JQ –
ERECTION OF TWO DWELLINGS SERVED BY NEW ACCESS FROM BROOMHAM LANE (ALTERNATIVE
TO PLANNING PERMISSION WD/2015/2759/F)**

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

The general location of these dwellings is very rural, is bordered by trees and to the west by ancient woodland. Introducing a new access reduces a rural nature of Broomham lane. Laughton Parish Council request this access be refused and the original applications shared access be reinstated. This would have even less effect on the character of the area or impacting in a negative way on the

environment – as quoted in the statement (3.2) The access also leads and enhances accidents as it leads onto a classified road, not an unclassified one which is stated on the application and this will also have an impact on Broomham lane.

The property is unsustainable Broomham lane has no footpath and is used as a vehicular cut through. The nearest bus stop is a mile away from the property.

Laughton Parish Council endorse the Adjoining neighbour's concern the new dwellings are too close to the boundary and with a facing balcony. It is unreasonable in such a remote proximity to invade the privacy of neighbours. The new location of dwellings has no aesthetic reasons and spreads paraphernalia across the plot.

WD/2017/0409/LDE – WOODSIDE FARM, BROOMHAM LANE, WHITESMITH, BN8 6JQ – CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR- BEDROOM BUNGALOW AND ITS CONTINUED RESIDENTIAL USE.

Laughton Parish Council have been asked for their observations on the above planning application.

Laughton Parish Council observes that the LDE for the previous structure was granted on the 17th December 2012. It therefore seems quite remarkable that the previous structure was replaced and a new structure comprising 4 bedrooms, a self contained annexe, bathrooms, kitchens and extensive raised decking was inhabitable by January 2013.

Also, the accommodation in this new structure is far more extensive that that contained within the previous LDE structure and is more intrusive into the Low Weald Character Landscape and has involved significant removal of trees,

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

None

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

WD/2017/0480/F – LOWER FARM, TERRIBLE DOWN ROAD, HALLAND, BN8 6PJ – REPLACEMENT OF REDUNDANT BARN WITH A SINGLE RESIDENTIAL DWELLING AND RELOCATION OF ACCESS

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

The application is for a replacement of 'redundant barns with a single residential dwelling' – which isn't what is proposed. The new building is over 60 meters from the barns – so is hardly a replacement.

Laughton Parish Council would question the new building were in curtilage or on agricultural land. There is no indication in the application of where the curtilage boundary is – a land registry search would resolve this.

The proposed entrance for properties is sited nearer to a high speed corner, and in the centre of an area where there have been 4 'severe' accidents in 5 years. This seems a more dangerous position than the existing access.

The site is unsustainable – there is no footpath on the roadside, buses are very infrequent – not as the application suggests.

The property is sited very close to a 60mph road, which would be quite a noisy spot.

The design of the property is not in keeping with anything in the area, is ugly and seems low cost design.

Laughton Parish Council discourage demolition of barns.

Laughton Parish has no need for additional properties.

WD/2017/0285/F – LAND OPPOSITE OAK COTTAGE, 2/3 KINGS ROW, BRICKHURST LANE, LAUGHTON, BN8 6DU – RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION FOR A POLE BARN FOR STORAGE

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

Brickhurst pond is owned by Laughton Parish Council, the pond and surrounding area form a modest but significant part of Laughton's history. The pond is in a glade of mixed trees bordering ancient woodland. A barn of this design is out of keeping with the surroundings. It is important that the environment around the pond remains unchanged.

The title plan (File: WD/2017/0285/FR,_Site Plan_ WD/2017/0285/FR/015) clearly indicates a wide area of land between the title ESX348483 and the pond. This seems as wide as the lane to the East - 15-20ft. A public footpath (No21) runs along this piece of land. On site inspection suggests that this land has been occupied by the applicant except for a narrow margin by the waterside. Laughton Parish Council would urge Wealden District Council to investigate whether the pole barn is in fact within the cartilage and not on public land and also whether the landowner is occupying this public land.

Should the application be supported Laughton Parish Council would ask that it is made clear that the existing contents of the barn (several unroad worthy vehicles, fishing boat) be removed in order to fulfil the applicants intended use.

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

The clerk will email planning department and enquire to the progress into the investigation into the alleged unauthorised widening of a classified road at the highway verge opposite Greensted, shortgate Lane.

Cllr Newton left the meeting

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

9. Playground area review – Cllr Carey will continue to monitor and upkeep the playground. No further action required.

10. Village troughs in village center – Cllr Carey will investigate to look into other quotes for the village troughs will discuss the findings at the next Full Parish Council Meeting.

11. Pension working party- The clerk to action will complete declaration report.

12. Asset list – All agreed improvements to be reviewed annually.

13. To discuss the maintenance of the items on the asset list – Various maintenance is required the clerk to receive quotes for discussion in the next full council meeting.

14. Hire of village green and Pelham field – A letter was read aloud from the solicitor Mr John Anderson, a small discussion took place and Cllr Mortimer showed a map of Pelham field with the agreed parking areas. It was agreed the clerk and Cllr Mortimer would reply to the letter.

15. Agenda order – Cllr Dart proposed we keep the new order for a trial period, all agreed this action.

16. Power on the Green – Cllr Mortimer investigated and found we are eligible for the lottery fund. Cllr Mortimer proposed we apply for this grant. All agreed this procedure; Local organisations will be contacted for letters of support.

17. Ringmer Gliding Club – Cllr Cook discussed his concerns about the tugs above Laughton's houses and has been approached by other parishioners. The number of flights has increased and this is causing invasion of privacy. Cllr Cook will investigate further through Lewes District council to see the number of flights allowed and whether Sunday flights are permitted.

18. Correspondence

a) Correspondence after the agenda was published

The clerk brought to the attention any correspondence that had been received no action was needed, information purposes only.

19. 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.

20. Clerk overtime and training Clerk showed a time sheet with overtime of the hours covered in the last month and training course attended. All **Agreed** hours worked and to pay the clerk for hours undertaken in training.

21. Clerk Data Storage – The clerk recommended updating the backup system for the lap top and to buy storage boxes for storage of paperwork. All agreed this action backup system to cost up to £150.00. Cllr Mortimer will investigate into a backup system that will work with the lap top.

22. Postponement of Annual parish meeting - The Annual Parish Meeting was agreed to be postponed to a date in late May or June. The clerk will enquire to the availability of the hall and set a date with agreement from councillors through email. All agreed this action. Notification will be placed on website and on notice board as soon as possible.

23. Reports (by leave) not for decision – Cllr Carey reported there is to a Bridal Path inspection at Shortgate Lane two more post have been put in place to stop cars.

Meeting closed 21.42