



LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

UNADOPTED Minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 15th July 2020 at 7pm. Meeting held virtually. This virtual meeting is allowed under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings (England & Wales) Regulations 2020.

Present: (Chair) Cllr Dart, (Vice Chair) Cllr Weller, Cllr Breeds, Cllr Crozier, Cllr Hallam, Cllr Poore, Cllr Bennett (County Councillor) and Cllr Watts (Wealden District Council)

14 members of the public present (Estimated due to Zoom)

Before the formal meeting the Chairman read a statement on the background history and the facts leading up to the Parish Council decision on the school's request for fencing Pelham Field which was made at last month's meeting. This statement will be placed on the website.

1. Public Session

Members of the public were given the opportunity to express their views on the decision agreed at the last meeting regarding the fencing, and the decision process. The discussion was held in great detail with the councillors and members of the public stating their views for and against the Parish Council's decision.

Members agreed to bring 9.7 forward for discussion and decision

9.7 Pelham Field - Issues arising from Pelham Field decision making process.

Cllr Hallam proposed placing a motion on the September agenda to form a working party to move forward and work collectively with the school, the Parish Council and residents in the village.

It was agreed to place this on the next agenda.

Members agreed, due to the misleading and incorrect information which had been circulated, that the statement by the Chairman explaining the process undertaken should be placed on the website, and at the end of the minutes in order to allow all residents to understand the reasoning behind the Parish Council decision. A resident had emailed the clerk with emails from parents and others objecting to the school playground being fenced. The clerk will liaise with this member of the public to distribute the Parish Council statement to all those who had written.

2. Apologies for absence

None Received

3. To accept the minutes from the meeting held on Wednesday 10th June 2020,

The minutes were agreed and will be signed accordingly at the next available opportunity abiding by the social distancing rules set out by the government.

4. Declarations of interest. To receive notices of declarations personal and prejudicial, in respect of items on this agenda.

None

5. Members to agree confidential items on the agenda for the exclusion of the press and members of the public.

Members agreed item 10 to be held confidentially

6. East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council reports

ESCC – Cllr Bennet left the meeting due to technical issues and time but a report had been previously circulated.

WDC - Cllr Watts updated members that the media has been very misleading in regards to Covid. The situation is still very apparent and there are still restrictions in place.

WDC are still working from home and slowly departments are coming out of lock down.

Planning Committee meetings are being held remotely and working well with good Councillor attendance.

7. Planning and licence applications

- a) **Plans – WD/2018/0234/F & WD/2018/0235/LB** - CHELWOOD, POUND LANE, LAUGHTON, BN8 6BE
Description: SINGLE-STOREY EXTENSION TO PROVIDE GROUND FLOOR BEDROOM, UTILITIES AND KITCHEN/DINING SPACE WITH ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING TO PRIVATE OUTDOOR AMENITY. DOUBLE TIMBER FRAME GARAGE TO REPLACE EXISTING SINGLE GARAGE. REPLACEMENT OF UNAUTHORISED CLOSE-BOARDED FENCE WITH POST AND RAIL FENCE.

Laughton Parish Council object on the following grounds:

The new information in the Design and Access statement does not help the Parish Council's understanding of why the extension of this size is appropriate, nor how it preserves and enhances the listed building, nor how work by the unknown artist Hand G referenced in the statement helps explain the proposal. The method of removal of sewage / waste water / drainage has not been specified. Given the history of the site we believe this should be determined before any planning permission is granted.

Also, the trees and landscaping in the boundary needs further consideration.

WD/2016/2796/MAO Location: Hesmonds Stud, Waldron Road, East Hoathly, BN8 6QP Description: Outline application for demolition of equestrian workers dwelling, stables and horse walker. Change of use of equestrian land to provide up to 205 dwellings, access, landscaping and other associated infrastructure. **The Parish Council response was forwarded to the District Councillor Susan Stedman. For a copy of the comments please email the clerk.**

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

None

- c) **Planning applications refused, referred, withdrawn or appeals –
WD/2020/0505/PO4– Withdrawn**

- d) **To note approved responses to applications and appeals approved by email** – (These responses can be found on the Wealden District Council website or by request to the clerk.)

None

- e) **Other planning matters – to discuss or note any other planning matters brought to the attention of the Parish Council.**

None

- f) **Licence applications received before or after the agenda has been published.**

None received

8. Financial Matters – Authorisation of payments of accounts –To approve accounts for payment – (a schedule of receipts & payments will be presented at the meeting) – list of payments on separate sheet.

- July Payments – All payments were agreed and will be authorised online by Cllr Breeds.
- Agree bank reconciliations for June – This will be placed on the September agenda for approval.

- Review Budget – The budget was reviewed and no comments were made.

9. ITEMS FOR DECISION AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

9.1.- Village Maintenance – *Members agreed to replace the Pelham Field gate lock and chain. All parties who require the combination will be contacted. Cllr Crozier has the keys for the new litter bins. It was reported a fingerpost has been damaged, members agreed to place this item on the September agenda. The clerk will obtain quotes for the councillors to agree at this meeting.*

9.2.- Playground Maintenance – *Members discussed the current status of the playgrounds from the recent ROSPA annual report. Members agreed urgent work was required before the playgrounds could be reopened. Cllr Weller and Cllr Hallam will create a list of work required that will be agreed by email. The clerk will obtain quotes for the agreed work as soon as possible. The quotes will be agreed by email.*

Once the emergency work has been completed members will agree on reopening the playground by email.
A sign will be placed on the playground explaining to residents due to emergency work the playground remains closed.

All members agreed to a resolution to continue the meeting as the two hour limit on meetings had been exceeded

9.3.- Speed Related Issues/concerns in Laughton & B2124 – *Members reported there has been an increase of commercial vehicles speeding through the village. The Clerk was asked to contact Highways to continue the discussion Cllr. Hallam had previously had with a representative.*

9.4- Laughton Social distancing – *There was a proposal to organise a social event in the village, possibly on Parish Council land. A working party has been formed and the Chairman and Cllr Crozier will represent the Parish Council. The working party will report back if any further actions are to be taken. This has also been agreed to be completed by email if this is outside the meeting dates.*

9.5 – Laughton Greenwoods (formerly Vert Woods Community Woodland) – *It was reported that a statement on the Laughton Greenwood website implies Laughton Parish Council had granted money to the project. The Parish Council would like this misinformation corrected. The Chairman will draft a letter for all to approve for the clerk to send on the Parish Council's behalf.*

9.6 – Village Shop parking issues – *The Chairman approached the shop proprietor following the proposal at last month's meeting and discussed the "Keep Clear" sign that has worn off in the road. The clerk will approach the highways department and ask for the signs to be repainted.*

10. Clerk's Appraisal – *Members agreed for this item to be placed on the next full council meeting to allow time for the clerk to gather information required.*

11. ITEMS FOR UPDATING AND NOTING

11.1- Water – The work has begun and will be on going

11.2 – Footpaths: These have been reported but until Covid restrictions have been lifted footpath officers are unable to carry out site visits.

12 - CORRESPONDENCE - All correspondence will be circulated and noted at the meetings

For noting (Previously Circulated or request a copy to be sent)

- Bus service developments
- Community Hub Update
- Healthwatch East Sussex Newsletter

- Time to re-visit your favourite places in East Sussex
- Last chance to have your say - East Sussex and coronavirus
- Email received from Mrs West, Head teacher, Laughton Community Primary School

These were noted by members

12.1- Correspondence after the agenda was published –

- Community Hub update
- Salc training webinar
- fortnightly look ahead
- Emails from Parishioners relating to Pelham field

These were noted by members

13- REPORTS (by leave) NOT FOR DECISION

The Chairman reported she attended the most recent village hall meeting by zoom. The chair of the village hall committee explained they will look at reopening when they can.

The meeting closed at 21:27pm