



## LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

### **UNADOPTED Minutes**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 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 and Cllr Poore.

3 members of the public present

#### **1. Public Session**

*None*

#### **2. Apologies for absence**

*Apologies were received from Cllr Bennett (County Councillor) and Cllr Watts (Wealden District Council)*

#### **3. To accept the minutes from the meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 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.**

*Cllr Dart declared a personal interest in planning application WD/2020/1614/F*

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

*Members agreed items 9.9 and 12 to be held confidentially*

#### **6. East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council reports**

*No reports*

*Cllr Watts emailed to suggest members are aware of the community hub information and relevant numbers.*

#### **7. Planning and licence applications**

##### **a) Plans**

WD/2020/1501/F- FIVE OAKS, LEWES ROAD, LAUGHTON, BN8 6BJ Description: CONVERSION OF GARAGE WITH EXTENSION INTO ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION.

*Laughton Parish Council has no objections. The application is effectively a resubmission of the previously approved WD/2014/2315/F so the Parish Council would like the same planning conditions applied if granted.*

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

**WD/2020/1541/F** - TOM THUMB BARN, LEWES ROAD, LAUGHTON, BN8 6BN. Change of use from agriculture/equine barn, now redundant, to a two-bedroom dwelling.

*Members agreed to discuss this planning application by email to allow members sufficient time to review the application.*

**c) Planning applications refused, referred, withdrawn or appeals**

WD/2020/0972/F – Refuse

WD/2018/2577/F - Approve

***These applications were noted***

**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.)**

WD/2020/1568/F

WD/2020/0972/F

WD/2020/1224/FA

WD/2020/1185/LDE

WD/2020/1614/F

WD/2020/1514/P14

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

**- Planning consultations to agree responses**

[Changes to the current planning system](#) (NALC deadline for responses 17 September)

[Planning for the future](#) - the planning white paper (NALC deadline for responses 15 October)

[Transparency and competition: a call for evidence on data on land control](#) (NALC deadline for responses 16 October)

*Members discussed how to respond to these consultations. It was agreed that Cllr Crozier and Cllr Weller would review the documents initially and circulate any relevant points for consideration. The Clerk will send the agreed response.*

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

*None*

**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.**

- August and September Payments – These payments were agreed
- Agree bank reconciliations for June, July and August – These were approved by members and the chair will sign them at the next available meeting.
- Internal Auditor – Members agree to appoint Andy Beams as the internal auditor for 2020/21

**9. ITEMS FOR DECISION AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES**

**9.1.- Village Maintenance** – *The Clerk reported she is still waiting for the fingerpost repair quote. Once this has been received the clerk will circulate for agreement.*

**9.2.- Playground Maintenance** - *Members discussed the increasing upkeep required for the playground and decided to investigate further into obtaining a grant to renew all the playground equipment. The Clerk will look into this further and report at the next full council meeting.*

It was agreed that a quote should be obtained for the replacement of the broken gateposts and for automatic spring closers instead of the existing latches.

**The playground will remain open until further notice abiding by government guidelines.**

### **9.3.- Speed Related Issues/concerns in Laughton & B2124**

*Cllr Crozier and Cllr Hallam reported on the meeting held with the highway steward. Various matters were discussed and it was agreed that a letter on the outstanding issues should be sent to Mr. Johnson, Traffic and Safety Manager. Cllr Crozier would draft this.*

*Cllr Hallam reported that the highway steward had agreed to clear the overgrown pavements and possibly cut back various hedges. Cllr Hallam will chase the highway steward. All agreed these actions.*

*All members ratified the letter sent Mr. Johnson following a recent serious accident on the B2124.*

**9.4.- Pelham Field** – *Cllr Dart explained all the relevant information relating to Pelham field had been discussed at the last meeting.*

*Cllr Hallam proposed to form a working party. Cllr Poore seconded the motion. A discussion took place followed by a vote.*

*2 Members agreed this proposal*

*4 Members were against this proposal*

*The formation of a working party was not agreed.*

*Cllr Dart proposed taking legal advice on Pelham Field. All agreed this action.*

**9.5 – PCSO Items** – *The Clerk circulated a list of concerns and members discussed these issues.*

*Members agreed any additional concerns should be sent to the Clerk by Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September. The Clerk will contact the PCSO with the issues raised and report back at the next meeting.*

**9.6- Rural tree survey-** *Members noted the information*

**9.7 – Village Planters** - *Members agreed costings of up to £350.00 for the volunteers towards the upkeep of the planters. All agreed this action.*

**9.8 – Meeting procedures** – *Members discussed the proposal circulated by the Clerk. It was agreed meetings would continue to be held virtually following government guidelines. Members also agreed to implement the suggested procedures that each agenda item would have a paper which would be previously circulated as well as being published on the website. All members agreed this action and this will begin at the next full council meeting.*

**9.10 – Christmas Festivities** – *Members had a brief discussion regarding the Christmas festivities and restrictions during the current pandemic. Members agreed Cllr Dart will discuss the issue with the previous working party and report back at the next meeting.*

## **10. ITEMS FOR UPDATING AND NOTING**

10.1- Water - Update on the recent progress - *The current work is on schedule and should be completed by mid-October.*

## **11 - CORRESPONDENCE - All correspondence will be circulated and noted at the meetings**

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

- Bus Service Changes
- Planning for a Safer Future response
- Ageing well festival
- CPRE Sussex: welcome to our Summer Newsletter
- The July Wealden Parish Bulletin
- Grey's newsletter
- Community Hub update
- News from Nus Ghani MP

**These were noted by members**

### **11.1- Correspondence after the agenda was published –**

- Email received by the Clerk from Cllr Bennett re safeguarding -

*This email was read out to all members. The Clerk explained she was not certain why she was being invited to a meeting about safeguarding and would seek clarification on this.*

**13- REPORTS (by leave) NOT FOR DECISION – None**

**These items were discussed confidentially and excluded to the members of the public**

**9.9 – Tree –** *Members agreed to investigate this further and report back at the next full council meeting.*

**12- To agree Clerk's salary in line with the NJC pay scale and pension – The Clerk left the meeting**

*Members agreed to the Clerk's salary increase from the 1<sup>st</sup> January to NALC PayScale 21 to equal the salary of the neighbouring parish. Members also agreed to the general rise set out by NALC. Members also agreed to consider a pension arrangement when further information was available.*

**The Clerk rejoined the meeting.**

**Meeting Closed at 20.53pm**