



## LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



### UNADOPTED Minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 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 and Cllr Poore.

3 members of the public present

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

*A member of the public spoke in favour of the cycling and walking consultation and, as a keen cyclist is conscious of the cycle and walking route from Laughton to Ringmer and how limited it is and that he would be interested in connecting the routes. He asked if it would be possible to respond to the consultation as a whole parish.*

*Cllr Dart asked if the resident shared his response with the Parish Council, they will echo the views of the Parish and submit the Council's response.*

*Cllr Crozier emphasised that due to the increasing number of cyclists on the roads since lockdown, this issue needed to be addressed. Cllr Bennett, whilst supporting any initiative to improve the roads for cyclists, pointed out the financial and administrative problems involved in this.*

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

*Apologies were received from Cllr Hallam.*

#### **3. To accept the minutes from the meeting held on Wednesday 21st October 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.**

*None*

#### **6. Consideration of co-option candidate**

*Mr Austin Young gave a small speech outlining why he would like to join the Parish Council. Cllr Dart proposed Austin Young to be co-opted. All councillors agreed the co-option. Mr Young signed the declaration at the zoom meeting visibly for all members to view.*

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

*ESCC- Cllr Bennett submitted a report in October and recently sent an update which the Clerk will circulate.*

*Cllr Dart reported the Parish Council had received a letter from Laughton Village Shop Association regarding flooding outside the shop. Cllr Dart explained they have contacted Highways and believe they are going to clear the ditches. However, if this does not solve the issue are what would be the next step.*

*Cllr Bennett explained this is a problem which is being looked into as a matter of urgency and said he would do what he could to get the matter resolved.*

*Cllr Weller raised concerns that the flooding has been apparent for a while and the conduit is not big enough to cope with the amount of water. There needed to be two channels.*

*WDC – Cllr Watts reported the Wealden Parish Conference was held today and very well attended. Inspector Jon Gross outlined what is going to happen in the sector.*

- He also reported the hub at Wealden is still working and the emergency number is still available. If any one is in need of advice please direct here where they will guide them to the relevant department.*
- £41 million in the form of grants have been given out to help and aid businesses and people effected by Covid-19, lockdown and restrictions.*
- Cllr Watts spoke to Inspector Gross in regards to the slip road by the shop and a Sergeant will visit and see if there is a way forward.*
- The conference recording and slides will be available on the website, Chris Bending gave a good presentation on the Local Plan and the future of planning.*

*A member of the public entered the meeting*

**Standing orders were suspended so a member of the public could discuss their concerns.**

*A small discussion took place with residents, members of the Parish Council and Cllr Bennett in regards to the flooding outside the shop and on the B2124 and the fact that the current conduit was not able to cope with the excess of water. In addition, it is thought that of the two pipes which are supposed to lead the water away one may have collapsed or be blocked.*

*Cllr Dart asked the residents to email all the relevant information to Cllr Bennett and to include the Clerk in any correspondence. Cllr Bennett will investigate this further and the Clerk will monitor the progress of the issue. Cllr Bennett will also ask for a survey of the area to be carried out.*

**Standing Orders resumed**

## **8. Planning and licence applications**

### **a) Plans**

**WD/2020/2105/F**- CHURCH FARM COTTAGE, CHURCH LANE, LAUGHTON, BN8 6AH  
SOUTH WEST GROUND FLOOR SIDE EXTENSION WITH DORMER WINDOW IN NEW ROOF TO  
CREATE ENSUITE. NORTH EAST FIRST FLOOR SIDE EXTENSION WITH NEW REAR ENCLOSED  
STAIRCASE.

*Laughton Parish Council accepts the principle of the extensions but has concerns  
about the modern design element for the enclosed staircase and the impact of this  
on the original dwelling. Also, there was some concern over the cumulative impact of  
the numerous extensions.*

**WD/2020/1816/F**- LAND OPPOSITE HOLLY COTTAGE, LEWES ROAD, LAUGHTON, BN8 6BL  
Description: A NEW RESIDENTIAL BUILD SINGLE DWELLINGHOUSE WHICH  
INCLUDES A CHANGE OF USE FROM AGRICULTURAL GRASSLAND  
TO RESIDENTIAL.

Amendments received in regards to - (1) alterations to the roof with removal  
of rooflights and sun tunnels; (2) alterations to the design and access  
statement (being more comprehensive).

*Laughton Parish Council continue to object to this application and the original comments as attached still  
remain.*

*(For a copy of these comments please visit the WDC website or 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

**APP/C1435/X/20/3257878** - Use of land for the siting of forty caravans for the purposes of  
human habitation with at least 27 of the caravans to be occupied for holiday  
accommodation in accordance with conditions attached to WD/2016/0604

WD/2020/1536/FR – Approved

WD/2020/1614/F – Approved

WD/2020/1808/F – Refused

WD/2020/1827/LB – Refused

WD/2020/1794/F – Approved

**These decisions 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/2020/1455/O

**This appeal was noted**

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*

9. 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.

- **November Payments** - *All members agree these payments*
- **CIL** – *Members noted the CIL funds received*
- **Budget 2020-21**– *Members had a small discussion regarding the budget and this was approved*
- **Budget 2021-2022**– *Members had a small discussion regarding the budget for 2021-22 and agreed to await the tax base before final approval.*

10. ITEMS FOR DECISION AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

**10.1.- Village Maintenance –**

**Fingerpost repair** – *All members agreed to ratified the cost of the fingerpost repair of £140.00*

**Ditches** – *Members had a discussion regarding the ditches that are need of clearing. Members will email the Clerk with areas of concern and the Clerk will collate and sent them to ESCC Highways.*

**10.2.- Playground Maintenance** – *The Clerk reported the caps have been received and they will be fitted as soon as possible. The Clerk is waiting for a date for the work to be carried out on the gate posts. A report will be given at the next meeting.*

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

*No further accidents to report.*

**10.4 – Christmas Festivities**

*The work has begun on installing the Christmas lights. Members have kindly donated towards the cost of the Christmas festivities. Members agreed to the costing of £1030.47. This is hoped to be the start of future festivities.*

*The cost of these lights will be partially offset by donations from parishioners.*

**10.5- East Sussex Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan –**

*Members agreed for Cllr Dart and Cllr Young to coordinate with Laughton Lodge and residents to form a response to the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council.*

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

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

- Community Hub Updates
- ESCC Updates
- Planning for the future
- Response from verge cutting department

**These Items were noted**

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

- Sports England return to play fund email
  - Customer service manager communications email
  - Looking for Town and Parish Council to help shape the future of transport in our region
  - Tree survey email
- Resident email regarding cycle consultation agenda

**These Items were noted**

12- REPORTS (by leave) NOT FOR DECISION

*Cllr Dart had recently attended a cluster meeting and gave a brief outline.*

*Cllr Weller made an observation about the speed limits in Shortgate Lane, how they are 60mph and its just too fast and no visibility. This will be discussed at the next meeting*

**Meeting closed at 20.45pm**