



LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

UNADOPTED Minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 28th April 2021 at 6pm. 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, Cllr Breeds, Cllr Crozier (After Item 6) , Cllr Hallam, Cllr Poore and Cllr Young and Cllr Watts (*Wealden District Council*)

2 members of the public present

Minutes

1. Public Session

None

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Crozier gave her apologies as she will attend after the planning application WD/2020/2617/FR has been discussed as she has a disclosable pecuniary interest and did not want to be present for the discussion.

3. To accept the minutes from the meeting held on Wednesday 17th March 2021,

All members agreed these minutes and they 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 Crozier had emailed the Clerk before the meeting to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest as this is her application.

Cllr Dart has a personal interest in agenda item 9.3

5. East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council reports

ESCC – Cllr Bennett previously circulated a report, this will be placed on the website with the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting.

WDC – *Cllr Watts reported they are currently in an election period. The legislation to continue remote meetings was not passed. There is a strong support to change this, it is disappointing as some will face going forward into face-to-face meetings challenging.*

6. Planning and licence applications

a) Plans

WD/2020/2617/FR- BRIDGES FARMHOUSE, BRICKHURST LANE, LAUGHTON BN8 6BS

Description: RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION TO USE PART OF EXISTING STABLES AS HOLIDAY LET AND USE OF 'HUT' AS SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION.

Laughton Parish Council recommends refusal.

- the conversion of the stable block to habitable accommodation and the associated introduction of inappropriate glazing is unacceptable.

- the layout of the accommodation leaves scope for occupancy by more than one set of guests thereby resulting in more than one vehicle being associated with this holiday accommodation which could create unacceptable impacts on nearby residential amenity or the blocking of the bridleway.

-if approved, the parish council would like strict conditions imposed to control any future development of the hut and stable block and that the "hut" should not be categorised as a permanent structure because it is a shed. This is in order to control development in an unsustainable location and prevent further encroachment of residential paraphernalia into the Low Weald character landscape.

Furthermore, the accommodation should be conditioned to limit its use to short holiday lets and not for permanent residential occupation, nor allow its use as an annex. This is to ensure the facility remains available for tourism.

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

None

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.

-To Note - WDC - Direction of Travel Consultation – Members noted the summary report

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

None

Cllr Crozier joined the meeting.

7. 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.

- **April Payments** – *Members agreed to approve these payments*
- To agree Bank reconciliations for October 2020,
- To agree Bank reconciliations November 2020,
- To agree Bank reconciliations December 2020,
- To agree Bank reconciliations January 2021
- To agree Bank reconciliations February 2021
- To agree Bank reconciliations March 2021

Members approved the Bank reconciliations

8. Review and completion of audit – To sign the completed audit,

Section one – Annual governance statement - *Members discussed the previously circulated document and it was agreed the correct internal controls are in place. Cllr Dart and the Clerk will sign the statement accordingly under Covid 19 guidelines at the next opportunity.*

Section two – Accounting statement - *Members discussed the previously circulated document and it was agreed the figures were correct. Cllr Dart and the Clerk will sign the statement accordingly under Covid 19 guidelines at the next opportunity.*

- a) **Internal audit report** – *Members discussed the previously circulated report and reviewed the comments from the internal auditor. There are no significant actions to report or any recommendations for the clerk to action.*

9. ITEMS FOR DECISION AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

9.1- Village Maintenance – Ditches/Flooding update - This will be discussed at the May Annual General Meeting

9.2– Face to face meetings – Members agreed for the safety of the Councillors, Clerk and members of the public to cancel the June Full Council meeting and hold the next meeting in the hall in July.

9.3- Dangerous traffic on Shortgate Lane

Standing orders were suspended

A member of the public discussed the previously circulated report asking for the Parish Council to agree to ask ESCC to carry out a survey to assess the differing needs of the road users of the lane and asked for the Parish Council to pay for half the cost. The other half of the cost would come from members of the public who have already agreed to support this.

Standing orders resumed.

Members discussed the report and agreed the Clerk will ask ESCC to carry out a survey. The members agreed to pay up half of the cost of the survey. The survey will be on Shortgate Lane.

The Clerk will also contact ESCC and chase the response regarding the other measures being put on place on the B2124 and report back at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 18.57pm and the remaining following items will be discussed at the next meeting which is the Annual General Meeting on the 5th May at 7pm

10. ITEMS FOR UPDATING AND NOTING

10.1 – To note the resignation of Cllr Weller

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
- News from Nus Ghani MP – 24.02.2
- Civility in public life – Digital citizenship resources

11.1- Correspondence after the agenda was published –

12- REPORTS (by leave) NOT FOR DECISION