

**LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 19TH MARCH 2014
AT LAUGHTON PARISH HALL**

Present: Cllr Nick Williams (Chairman) (NW), Cllr Jacqueline Breeds (JB), Cllr Alex Carey (AC) Cllr Mike Cook (MC), Cllr Miranda Dart (MD) and Vice Chair Cllr Julie Gill (JG)

Also present Clerk Mrs. Karen Crowhurst (KC)

Also in attendance

Cllr Dashwood-Morris (BDM) Wealden District Council

3 members of the public

Item	Subject	Action by
LP/14/30	<p><u>Apologies</u> Apologies received from: ESCC Cllr Bennett.</p>	
LP/14/31	<p><u>To accept the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 19th February</u> Resolved - to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record of the 19th February 2014. This was proposed by Cllr Breeds and seconded by Cllr Cook</p>	
LP/14/32	<p><u>Declarations of interest</u> Cllr Burbridge declared a prejudicial interest regarding the planning application WD/2013/2549/F.</p>	
LP/14/33	<p><u>Questions and statements from Members of the Public, relating to matters on this public agenda</u> As members of the public attending were in attendance regarding the planning application. The Council Chairman motioned that orders will be suspended when that item is discussed. The motion was carried.</p>	
LP/14/34	<p><u>East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council reports</u> The Clerk advised that when Cllr Bennett sent his apologies he also advised that he will be undertaking a site visit on Monday 24th March regarding HGV vehicles in Shortgate Lane. <u>Wealden District Council report:</u> Cllr Dashwood – Morris reported on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recent Cabinet meeting • The amendment to the Joint Waste Contract • The Forward Plan • Recently announced Planning changes regarding permitted development <p>Cllr Dashwood- Morris requested to contribute to items 6 & 7 on the agenda which was duly granted.</p>	
LP/14/34	<p><u>WDC Community Dividend Fund</u> Cllr Dashwood – Morris appraised Members about the fund provided by Kier as a result of the problems with the waste collection service last year. Wealden District Councillors are to be each given a Community Dividend to spend on projects in their Council wards. Cllr Dashwood – Morris requested that she give a short presentation at the Annual Parish meeting to get some ideas of what projects would benefit Laughton Parish for her consideration.</p> <p>Members agreed that this would be of benefit.</p>	

Planninga) **Plans****WD/2013/2549/F MARCHANTS HARDY PLANTS, MILL LANE,
LAUGHTON BN8 6AJ
CHANGE OF USE FROM BYRE TO SINGLE DWELLING**

7.47pm Cllr Burbridge left the meeting.

7.48pm It was **resolved** to suspend orders to allow members of the public to speak.

The applicant, a Laughton parishioner, explained how the application had been amended since the previous plans were considered by the Parish Council. The applicant indicated the amended provision for parking as well as highlighting other changes to the application.

Another member of the public attending raised concerns regarding the issue of parking with regard to the existing business, overdevelopment of the site and the close proximity of the Byre to the highway. The member of the public made reference to a recent neighbouring planning application which was not granted.

8.10 pm it was **resolved** to reinstate orders.

Comments and observations

The Parish Council recommends refusal. Whilst some details have been amended Members would like to raise the following points:

1. Insufficient Parking provision. Members consider the extended parking area proposed does not provide sufficient provision for the needs of the Byre. The main concern is that the provision of a parking space for the Byre will result in a loss of a parking space in the main car park for the garden nursery business. This is a successful business which on occasion has more customer vehicles than can be accommodated in the car park, resulting in vehicles parking on the narrow highway.
2. Members would like to have seen the purpose of use for the Byre outlined in the design and access statement. It is unclear if the Byre will be used for holiday letting or will have permanent occupancy. It is considered that the proposed use of the property will have a direct impact on the parking issues highlighted in 1 above.
3. Members are concerned at the close proximity of the structure to the highway. In particular, the potential risks to anyone living or sleeping in the Byre of a vehicle impact with the structure, given its proposed form of construction. The highway is used by large vehicles and although the site lines are reasonable, any collision with the property is likely to result in serious injury to anyone residing in it.
4. A design and access statement including drainage and sewage waste would be beneficial. Members would also like to know the realistic proposals for heating the byre.
5. Should this application be approved, Members would request that

	<p>a section 106 non-separation agreement be imposed as part of the approval in order to tie the byre to the main residence and prevent it from being sold off as a separate dwelling. Members would also want to see the any permitted development rights removed.</p> <p>b) To consider any planning applications that have been received after the agenda has been published None received</p> <p>c) Planning applications refused, approved, referred or appeals WD/2013/2264/MEA referred to Planning South WD/2013/2606/F LAUGHTON COTTAGE, BRICKHURST LANE, LAUGHTON BN8 6DD – Approved</p> <p>d) Consultations WDC Homeless Strategy East Sussex draft two-year road surfacing programme South Downs National Park – Options consultation</p> <p>Members considered as to whether to be participate in the 3 consultations and agreed not to at this time.</p> <p>Due to poor health Cllr Burbridge was unable to return to the meeting.</p>	
LP/14/36	<p><u>Improvements to the Village Green</u> The Chairman informed Members that an invitation has been extended to the Village Green Working Group to provide a presentation at the Annual Parish meeting outlining their proposals.</p>	
LP/14/37	<p><u>Pelham Field – update and actions</u> Cllr Williams reported that the Contractor has agreed to repair the fence at the bottom of the field and will be carrying out the work required in due course.</p>	
LP/14/38	<p><u>Play equipment – update and actions</u> Members discussed the items highlighted in recent playground inspection reports. Concerns were raised about the possibility of equipment users getting splinters, the need to replace the netting and the missing caps. Cllr Williams drew attention to the ROSPA report which showed no adverse comments regarding the splitting and cracking of wooden supports in the play area.</p> <p>With all this in mind, Members resolved1) to wait until the next playground inspection report has been submitted, once received to compare the report to the one prior and the ROSPA report. 2) For Cllr Williams, Cook and Carey to undertake a site visit to check the matters raised in these reports.</p>	NW MC AC
LP/14/39	<p><u>Annual Parish Meeting – date, format, invitations, catering arrangements</u> Cllr Williams confirmed attendance from an ESCC Officer who will sit on the panel and provide a broadband presentation. It was agreed Cllr Dashwood-Morris to have a time to inform those attending about the Community Dividend Fund. An Officer from ESCC Highways Department will also be a panel member. The Village Green Working Group will provide a presentation.</p> <p>Cllr Williams also reported that community groups and organisations will be invited to submit a report to the Clerk.</p>	NW KC

LP/14/40	<p><u>Financial Matters</u></p> <p>a) Fingerpost quotations Members considered the quotations provided, and agreed that, as one of the posts at the top of Shortgate Lane was damaged in a recent vehicle accident, to review the quotations after it has been established as to whether the Parish Council could make an insurance claim. It was also agreed that Cllr Dart would assume responsibility for obtaining the information for submission.</p> <p>b) Orders for payment The final Orders for Payment will be included as part of the end of year accounts.</p> <p>c) Bank reconciliation The Clerk advised that as there was only one transaction in the last month to defer the bank reconciliation. The final bank reconciliation will form part of the end of year accounts. Members agreed that this is acceptable.</p>	
LP/14/41	<p><u>Report from the Clerk</u> The Clerk reported that at the Clerk Networking Day she recently attended that Resilience Planning was a hot topic and the Parish Council may need to consider this in the near future.</p>	
LP/14/42	<p><u>Reports from Councilors'</u> Cllr Dart reported that a byway had been damaged by large vehicles even though a restriction is in place. Cllr Dart informed Members that she has reported this and the matter of the ditch by Canters in Shortgate Lane to the Highway Steward</p>	
LP/14/43	<p><u>Urgent items and items for referral to next agenda</u> There being no further items, the meeting closed at 9.20pm.</p>	
	<p>Date of next meeting. Wednesday 16 April 2014 at the Parish Hall.</p>	