

LAMBERHURST PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held
on
Tuesday 10th March at 19:30

Members present:

Clr David Hurst Brown (Chair)	DHB
Clr John Uren (Vice Chairman)	JU
Clr John Francis (RFO)	JF
Clr Rolf Smith	RS
Clr Sam Nicholas	SN
Clr Dawn Beeby	DB
Clr Clive Stott	CS
Clr Steve Cannella	SC
Clr Denis Cruse	DC

In attendance:

Barbara Uren -	LPC Clerk
Tracey Dodd -	Deputy Clerk
John Mottershead -	Minutes Sec.
Sarah Hamilton	Borough Councillor (<i>arrived during meeting</i>)
PCSO Dave Jenkins	DJ
1 x Member of the Public	

Public questions:

There were no questions from the public.

DJ, the PCSO who was in attendance at the meeting gave a brief report that no crimes of note had been reported recently and that the monthly report is now included on the village website.

1. Apologies for Absence: There were none.

2. Declarations of Interest:
DB - Bee item under correspondence.

3. New Clerk/RFO: The Chairman welcomed the recently appointed Deputy Clerk – Tracey Dodd

4. To approve minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 14th & 30th January:
Meeting on 14th January – Minutes Approved
Meeting on 30th January – Minutes Approved

5. Updates from those Minutes (*formerly Matters arising*):

Correspondence: Page 3. 3. A meeting has been arranged with the NP group.

Representative Reports: Page 4. Parish Chairmen: There is updated information on the website concerning defibrillators in the area (3 within the Parish).

Events: The pallets have been burnt. Some concern was voiced over the quantity of pallet nails left behind following the bonfire.

6. Accounts:

The RFO reported that there were no surprises in the circulated accounts. A VAT Claim has been submitted.

Permission was sought to purchase office equipment for the new deputy clerk – This was Agreed, up to a sum of £1,500.

A payment of £619.66 was made to The Living Forest for emergency tree works.

A payment of £1350.94 was made to Commercial Services for grass cutting.

7. Common Land & Allotments:

Free Heath Road Flood Issues: A meeting was held to discuss flood issues at Free Heath Road: Proposals from KCC officers were: -

1. To repair the collapsed roadside over the PC's 'Drain' on the Common and add extra lengths of kerbing asap.
2. Obtain written permission from the landowner; then reinstate the pond and drainage exit on land belonging to adjacent farm at bottom of No. 2 Old School garden.
3. Clear LPC 'Drain' and investigate connection to the previously mentioned pond, if any, and remove silt.

Tree Warden Vacancy: An application had been received The clerk to follow this up and offer the voluntary position if the candidate is happy with the terms. - Agreed

8. Neighbourhood Plan:

SN reported that there will be a NP Steering Group meeting this Thursday (12th) to discuss regulation 15 of the NP submission.

Parking Issues: SN asked if there were any further statistics – Clerk to check HIP copy to be emailed by RS

The Parish Council will need to sign-off on the plan before it goes to submission – An extra meeting may have to be arranged for this item.

At this point Borough Councillor Sarah Hamilton arrived and the Chairman asked if she would like to address the meeting.

SH commented on the information being circulated within the Borough Council on the current Coronavirus outbreak. The advice given by the government and the NHS is currently the best advice available.

The Chairman asked Cllr DC to update Cllr Hamilton about recent local flood events.

The Clerk suggested that we bring up the subject of flooding at the Annual Parish Meeting (APM).

The Chairman thanked SH for attending the meeting this evening.

9. Correspondence:

1 & 2. The Chairman and Clerk will draft a reply to the e-mails received from a local resident regarding the site above the Brewer Street allotments.

3 & 4. Noted

5. There has been a request to site two bee hives on the allotments at Brewer Street. The Clerk will approach the allotment holders to get their opinion.

6. The problem with the leaking flat roof on the public conveniences is being addressed.

7. Noted

8. *Great British Spring Clean*: Noted: However Cllr DB is organising a village litter pick on Sunday 26th April.

9. Convex safety mirror to be erected opposite Down Avenue: The request should be made to Sarah Hamilton the Kent County Councillor as this is a road safety feature and would come under the Highway Authority banner but LPC will support.

10. The film club has requested a loan of up to £1500, in principle, for a new projector if it is found to be un-repairable. - Agreed

11. A donation of £350 to the Air Ambulance was proposed and Agreed.

Information: 1, 2 & 3 - Noted

10. Planning: Coggers Barn conversion Dismissed at Appeal.

11. Representative Sub-Group Reports:HIP/Highways: The proposed Gateway traffic calming features have been approved and are to be financed via the KCC Member Grant courtesy of SH.

Speedwatch: SN is looking for someone to take on the Speedwatch duties for the Parish. The Council feels that it is worthwhile and therefore supports a request for volunteers.

Footpaths:

Buses/Transport:

Police/Warden:

Hall: Hall Managers request for the Council to approve payment of grant of £1300.00 for a new door in the hall was Agreed.

Events: DB is organising a Litter Pick on Sunday 26th April and proposing a 'bug hunt' for the summer holidays. Is hoping to re-erect the Hopping Do in September and the Duck Race in June.

It was suggested that she liaise with GW of the Bonfire Society.

Website: 332 unique visitors generating over 1000 hits in two weeks since launch.

Business:

Housing:

Neighbourhood Plan:

MP Liaison:

KALC:

Parish Chairman:

School: Recent downpours had threatened to enter the building after flooding the playground.

- 12. LED Lights:** Proposal to re-assess lights as and when they need replacing. Agreed

- 13. Parish Council Elections 7th May 2020:** Nomination Packs are available from the Elections Office at the Town Hall. Close of nominations 4pm on Wednesday 8th April. elections@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

- 14. Annual Parish Meeting:** Tuesday 14th April at 8pm
Proposed agenda: Flood Issues, Scotney future Plans, & Neighbourhood Plan update.

15. Matters of urgency at Chairman's discretion:
The Clerk asked for it to be minuted that the signed minutes on file would begin at Page 1. as from January 2020.

Page numbers to be started from 'Page 1' in January 2020 Minutes.

Cllr Uren asked that it be put on record that the Council thanked the outgoing RFO, John Francis, for all his hard work over the past 20 years or so.

Meeting closed at 22.10

***NOTE: Agreed onbut not signed.
(Until the Council is able to meet again in person.)***

16. EXEMPT:

Addendum to Tree Safety Survey– Re-quotes to be sought if disposal or chipping is not included in the estimates otherwise cheapest quote to be accepted.

Village Clock – A local benefactor has offered to put funds into a Trust for the ongoing maintenance of the Village Clock attached to the Old School Tower, so long as the Trust has a clause that states that the fund can be used for no other purpose. He asks that the Parish Council put together a relevant document for him to have a look at. *JF, RS & JU to attend.*