

DRAFT
To be approved
at next meeting

LAMBERHURST PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held in Lamberhurst War Memorial Hall (*Side Hall*)
At 7.30pm on Tuesday 10th September 2019

A 15 minute session was set aside at the commencement of the meeting to enable members of the public attending to make points or put forward questions regarding items on the Agenda.

Members Present	Cllr David Hurst-Brown (Chair)	DHB
	Cllr John Uren (Vice Chair)	JU
	Cllr Denis Cruse	DC
	Cllr Rolf Smith	RS
	Cllr Sam Nicholas	SN
	Cllr Steve Canella	SC
	Cllr John Francis	JF
	Cllr Clive Stott	CS

In Attendance	Parish Clerk – Barbara Uren	BU
	Linda Hall – Borough Cllr	LH
	Minutes Secretary – John Mottershead	JM
	5 members of the public at this meeting	

Public Question Time:

Concerns were expressed regarding the current terrible state of The Chequers and its surrounds. The Clerk replied that Shepherd Neame (SN) have been informed of the latest complaints and a response has just been received.

The Clerk was asked if the Chequers was on the TWBC List of Community Assets The Clerk replied that it was not.

A question was asked regarding the bonfire recommendations sent to allotment holders. Have there been any further complaints?

The Clerk – Nothing further had been received.

1. Apologies for absence:

DB – Sent apologies

2. Declarations of interest: *In accordance with the Current Members' Code of Conduct in respect of items on this agenda.* None

3 To approve minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th July 2019

Proposed JF Seconded CS – Minutes Approved Unanimously

4 Matters Arising from those minutes. None

5 Accounts

The RFO reported on payments made since the last meeting – with only one out of the ordinary expenditure for the new hall doors of £13,323.63, much of which is covered by grants.

6 Common Land & Allotments:

A walk-about inspection was carried out by the Common Land Group. Some of the issues raised will be covered in a later item.

There have been some problems with the mowing contractor recently. They are not completing the work they are contracted for. There is a new person in charge of the area; and the problem seems to be on their side.

The Chairman – Suggested obtaining alternative quotes for comparison.

The Clerk – Addressed a member of the public regarding an issue with a fence on the allotment. They requested the permission of the council to affix a fence. *Agreed in principle - JU & BU to meet allotment representatives on site.*

The Down area of Common Land is also due an inspection – Date to be arranged

7 Correspondence

1. Open Spaces Society - Restoring the Record Training Day, Monday October 14th at Sevenoaks Community Hall, TN14 5DN: ***PROW's that are not on the Definitive Map by the cut-off date in 2026 will be lost forever.*** Tel: 02476 840515 or email: access@bhs.org.uk for further information. SN to see if anyone on NPG would be interested in attending the training.

2. Ccd copy of a letter sent to KCC & TWBC Highways Depts. Missing footpath from The Brown Trout to the doctor's surgery at Down Avenue corner. DC believes that this problem has been addressed several times in the past.

The clerk instructed to reply that the Council fully supports any endeavour to have a footpath installed around this dangerous corner and that it might be a good idea for the respondent to copy the letter to her County & Borough Councillors.

The Chairman – Suggested that LH (who was in attendance) might care to visit the site to get an idea of what is under discussion.

3. Electric Charging Points: An e-mail has been received asking if the council would consider having an electric car charging point in the village, possibly at the village hall. *DHB suggested that we reply to this by saying that we do not have any available land for this at the moment. However, we are aware of the problem and it is under investigation.*

LH – Noted that Cranbrook have installed 6 points and we could ask them for advice.

4. Common Land PROW/access – See Exempt.

5. Email from a rambler: Concerned about the poor condition of some of a PROW that links the village with the country to the north. He suggested an improved link on WT312 at Windmill Farm and asked if the Parish Council would support it.

Clerk instructed to reply that the PC would support any improvements to links to the wider area.

6. Email from a resident in Farthing Lane: Concerning a recent flooding issue from the road across the common land affecting, his and his neighbours, property. *Passed to the common land group to be addressed.*

7. Recieved too late for inclusion with the working papers.

Quote for replacement LED streetlight @ £350.00. *Agreed*

At this point the Chairman invited LH to give her report.

Lh - Notified the Council that the Appeal for the Fairfield site had been dismissed. The historical development pattern of Lamberhurst played a significant factor in the decision.

Edmund Hastie will be doing another sponsored bike ride; and would like to know if there are any projects he could raise funds for. *The Bowls Club was suggested as a possibility.*

The Chairman asked LH to convey the council's thanks for the bench that EH donated.

The public exhibition about TWBC's new Draft Local Plan will be held in the War Memorial Hall on Friday 4th October from 4pm to 7pm. Officers will be on hand to answer questions.

LH – At the next full Borough Council meeting, the decision will be discussed whether to go ahead with the new civic centre or not.

8 Planning:

JU gave a brief overview - nothing of particular note other than Appeals:

Free Heath, chicken shed conversion to Holiday Let – Allowed.

Fair Field, off Spray Hill, development – Dismissed

Horizon Kennels, Chalet Bungalow – Dismissed

Down House, Dance Studio – Allowed.

9 Representative/Sub Group Reports:

Bewl Water:

HIP:

Buses/Transport:

Police:

Hall:

A monthly report has been received from the PCSO

RS – For information: A discussion was had regarding the conversion of one of the toilets into a mixed gender facility. This would free up some space for storage which is desperately needed. Permission will be required from the PC for the conversion.

BU – Suggests putting this in writing for discussion at the next meeting.

Highways:

Footpaths:

Events:

SN – Possibly consider moving the 'Hopping Do' to the village hall for next year.

Website:

Progress is being made on this but DB believes there is no sense in rushing things.

DC – Expressed concern over the tone of some content that has been submitted to the draft.

DHB – Not to worry all content will be checked and agreed before the site goes public

Business:

Housing:

Neighbourhood Plan:

The consultation period has now finished and responses are being reviewed.

MP Liaison:

KALC:

10 Highway Improvement Plan: (HIP)

RS – Gave a brief report on the highlights from the initial KH officer response. This will be an ongoing item, and will be on the agenda for the next meeting if any further news is received.

11 Matters of urgency at Chairman's discretion:

Concerns have been raised regarding the deteriorating state of The Chequers. As the Chequers is not currently listed as a Community Asset the Clerk was instructed to apply to have it added and to let SN know of the Council's intention. RS to speak to his contact at SN.

The Planning Group brought to the Council's attention an email, received to late for inclusion with this meetings working papers. The email, from a developer, included indicative drawings ref. the Allotment site at Brewer Street. The developer is asking if the Council would consider swapping the allotment site for an area of land included in their ownership. So that they can include the allotments within the proposed development and also provide areas for parking for Brewer Street residents. *The Planning Group were informed that the Council does not wish to swap any land and to pass this information to the developer.*

Clerk instructed to arrange a budget meeting prior to the November meeting.

12 Exempt Items (if any): *It is proposed that pursuant to Section 100A (4) of the Local Govt Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act.*

Meeting closed: 21.40

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th November at 7.30pm

COPIES OF DRAFT MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE ON LAMBERHURST VILLAGE WEBSITE

Or, by appointment with the Clerk

B.J. Uren