

ITCHINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Virtual Meeting on Monday 22nd February 2021

Present:

Cllr Penny Simpson – Chairman

Cllr James Sheppard – Vice Chairman

Cllr Brian O'Connor

Cllr Sarah Peay

Cllr Alan Peers

Cllr Roger Pellow

Cllr Alan Strudley

The Clerk Jan Critchley

County Cllr Amanda Jupp

District Cllr Tricia Youtan

11 Apologies for Absence – None

12 Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated to all Cllrs ahead of the meeting. The Minutes were then accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Action

13 Matters arising from the Minutes

1. Minute 137:1 Vodafone Mast at Sumners – Simon Smith sent a copy of a letter to the Clerk, that he had received from Cornerstones Telecommunications Infrastructure Limited informing him of the intended works regarding the Vodafone Mast at Sumners. The Clerk had circulated the letter to all Cllrs.

Action

2. Minute 9:2 – Rubbish in Bashurst Hill and West Chiltington Lane – Paul Greenslade at HDC had written back to the Clerk stating that he had inspected the area and agreed that another litter pick is required even though HDC had carried out litter picks in early November and December. He said that HDC will do this in the next few weeks.

Action

Amanda Jupp joined the meeting at 7.45pm.

14 Planning Applications – Circulated to all Cllrs ahead of the meeting. All Cllrs were asked to look at the Planning documents for this meeting on the HDC Planning Portal ahead of the meeting.

1. New Applications

DC/21/0172 - Mr and Mrs Carpenter, 2 Trout Lane, Barns Green, Single storey extension to the side and rear, plus proposed room in roof conversion. Also, the demolition of the existing double garage to enable the above works.

Itchingfield Parish Council has no objections and recommends this planning application for approval.

DC/21/0187 - Mr Lee Goosens, Stable House, Marlands Park, Barns Green, Erection of a stable and hay/garden machinery store.

Itchingfield Parish Council has no objections as long as the proposed stable and hay/garden machinery store is ancillary to the Stable House, Marlands Park.

The Clerk to write to HDC Planning Department with the Parish Council's representations

Action

2. Kingfisher Farm - The Chairman and Vice-Chairman gave an update on the proposed action to be taken going forward. Legal advice has been obtained and that is for the Parish Council to lodge an Official Complaint with HDC regarding their lack of action on KFF. Following deliberation, the Chairman called a vote to ask whether the Parish Councillors wished to proceed with the barrister's draft letter to HDC to commence this process. All agreed. Cllr Alan Strudley added the rider that he was happy to support on the basis that he sees the communication. The Chairman to circulate the letter once finalised.

Action

15 Report by County and District Councillors –

District Cllr Tricia Youtan gave the following report:

1. Tricia reported that the lack of response from Police regarding anti-social behaviour at the local Village Stores recently was not acceptable. She will be having a meeting with Inspector Ben Starns and Sarah Ledbetter next week and further meetings have been arranged with the new Chief Constable Jo Shiner and the Police and Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne. The Chairman said that Katy Bourne will be contacting David Heritage at the Village Stores. The Chairman said that she would like to attend one of these meetings. Tricia to report to HDC Enforcement that parishioners believe that there are more mobile homes at Kingfisher Farm.

County Cllr Amanda Jupp gave the following report:

1. Amanda reported that the WSCC's budget was agreed at full Council on 12th February 2021. Apart from the 152m, an extra 12m has been agreed for Highway Maintenance for 2021/22. 10m will be put into the Green Energy and Carbon Reduction Programme and there is going to be an increased investment in Children's and Adult Services.
2. Amanda said that she had sent through the latest briefings on Covid and the Vaccination Programme. She said that the Vaccination Programme seems to be going very well and is on track.
3. With regard to the proposed new footpath and school crossing, Amanda said that if the Village Trust require any more details to contact her direct.

16 Accounts for Payment

1. There are five payments to be paid.

£28.50 to EE Home Broadband in respect of the Internet Service for February 2021.

£2,160.00 to DMH Stallard in respect of professional planning advice.

£22.99 to Amazon UK in respect of stationery.

£80.00 to Pat Cochran in respect of Litter Warden duties for February 2021.

£1,042.68 to the Clerk comprising of £977.68 salary for February 2021 and £65.00 expenses.

17 Correspondence

1. The Clerk had received a letter from Barns Green Tennis Club which she had circulated to all Cllrs. The Hon Secretary Chris Fisher said that with regard to a formal application to the Parish Council back in April last year, for grants towards the court fencing project and to get water laid on, the Club would now like to withdraw this application. Chris said that the Tennis Club was grateful for the Parish Council's continued support and said that it was the Club's policy to only approach the Parish Council for further grants if they have a shortfall in funds to prevent them completing a project and at the moment that is not the case.

18 Highways/Litter

Highways

1. Valewood Lane – urgent flooding and drainage issues – It was reported that our District Cllr Tricia Youtan has been continuing to chase up Marc Rankin and Penny Marsh, Environmental Officers at HDC and that our County Cllr Amanda Jupp has been continuing to chase up Tom King and Stephen Douglas, WSCC Highway Officers to get this urgent issue sorted. The delay is due to the fact that WSCC Highways cannot clear the ditches (the responsibility for this officially lies with the landowner) until the issue of sewage is sorted out by HDC. Tricia and Amanda will continue to put pressure onto HDC and WSCC respectively until this issue is resolved. The issue of where sewage is going needs to be urgently addressed by Greenfield Farm residents. If action is not taken soon then the next step will be to arrange an on-site meeting with HDC and WSCC Officers and local residents.
2. Proposed new footpath and school crossing – as mentioned in County Cllr Amanda Jupp's report, if the Village Trust require any further details to contact her direct. The Clerk confirmed that she had sent the Village Trust the full plans for the proposed scheme.
3. Traffic Survey in West Chilton Lane from Toat Hill Garage to Valewood Lane junction. The Clerk has sent off a copy of the Survey to County Cllr Amanda Jupp to ask her what are the next steps to reduce the speed limit as there are still too many vehicles travelling fast and too many large vehicles driving on this narrow road.

Action

4. Operation Watershed – the Clerk has written to Sue Furlong at WSCC for an update.

Litter

1. It was reported once again that the Litter Wardens are doing an amazing job within the parish. It was proposed by the Chairman that the rate of pay should be increased to £10.00 per hour, seconded by Cllr Brian O'Connor and agreed unanimously. The Clerk to give the Litter Wardens the Parish Council's thanks for all the work they do.

Action

19 AOB

1. Cllr Alan Peers said that the state of the roads in and out of the village is absolutely terrible. The sides of the roads are collapsing. Coming down Sandhills Road is really bad. He said he will report it on 'Love West Sussex'.

Action

20 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 29th March 2021. This meeting will be a virtual one. There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.11pm.

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