

## **ITCHINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022 in the David Francis Room of the Village Hall**

### **Present:**

**Cllr Penny Simpson - Chairman**

**Cllr James Sheppard – Vice-Chairman**

**Cllr Richard French**

**Cllr Brian O'Connor**

**Cllr Sarah Peay**

**Cllr Alan Peers**

**The Clerk Jan Critchley**

**County Cllr Amanda Jupp**

**73 Apologies for Absence** – were received from Cllr Sanjeev Joshi and District Cllr Tricia Youtan.

### **74 Minutes of the last Meeting**

The Minutes of the last meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 had been circulated to all Cllrs ahead of the meeting. The Minutes were then accepted and signed by the Chairman.

**Action**

### **75 Matters arising from the Minute**

1. Minute 47:1 – Fingerpost at the Top of Westons Hill – The new arm on the fingerpost is now in place and looks really smart. Thanks to Julian Francis for doing this.
2. Minute 70 – Queen's Platinum Jubilee – The Chairman reported that the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in the village were fantastic. Money donated by HDC has paid for the insurance needed for the lighting of the Beacons on Sharpenhurst Hill. The Parish Council thanks everyone who was involved in the organisation of the celebrations and the weather stayed fair. For a small village we do so much.

**76 Open Session for Members of the Public** – No members of the public were present.

**77 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/22/1040 – Stable House, Marlands Park, Itchingfield – Full planning application for the extension of residential curtilage and construction of a swimming pool at Stable House, Marlands Park.**

Itchingfield Parish Council has no comments

**DC/22/1070 – 3 Trout Lane, Barns Green – Two storey extension to the rear and side extension to existing semi-detached property.**

Itchingfield Parish Council recommends this planning application for approval.

**DC/22/1079 – 19 Smugglers Way, Barns Green – Single storey and part two storey extension to the rear with internal alterations.**

Itchingfield Parish Council recommends this planning application for approval.

**DC/21/1521 – Sumners Ponds Campsite and Fishery, Chapel Road, Barns Green – Siting of a Log Cabin style Caravan-lodge for permanent use by a Warden, their spouse and their dependants.**

Itchingfield Parish Council recommended this application for approval at its meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021, but Horsham District Council are recommending for refusal it at the Planning Committee North Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022, citing insufficient evidence that the proposed Wardens Lodge will provide meaningful extra security benefits. Horsham District Council claim that the other three Warden Lodges are only manned during the working day from 0800 to 1800 and that the proposed Wardens Lodge will not achieve any significant increase in security as staff will only be on duty during the day. Horsham District Council are completely ignoring the fact that the mere presence of an occupied building, the position of which, will enhance security and will enable a fast response to be made should an intrusion or other emergency arise from that vulnerable direction-

Itchingfield Parish Council would urge the Planning Committee to approve this planning application.

**78 Report by County and District Councillors –**

County Cllr Amanda Jupp gave the following report:

1. Amanda said that Adam Bazley, WSCC Area Highway Manager would be willing to attend our next Parish Council Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022. The Clerk to put this on the agenda. Cllr Richard French to co-ordinate questions for Adam.
2. Amanda said that she is aware of the on-going issues in at the Bashurst Hill/A264 Five Oaks Road junction. The verge has been cut back but has grown back again. Amanda said that she will go and Cut back some of the hedge herself. The main issue is that the verge cannot be cut back much further due to the metal fence which David Exwood does not want to remove so something more radical will have to be done and it is the responsibility of the landowner not the WSCC. Amanda is going to arrange a meeting with David Exwood.
3. Amanda said that she is aware that Cllr Richard French is in the process of submitting an application for a TRO for a speed limit of 40mph in Bashurst Hill. She said that she has also printed off a copy of the CPRE's guide for Quiet Lanes as this could be another way for the Parish Council to follow bearing in mind the changes to the Highway Code.

**Action**

**79 Highways**

1. Valewood Lane – urgent drainage issues: As HDC Environmental Services and the Environmental Agency are not taking any responsibility regarding the terrible smells that are emanating from the ditches near Greenfield Farm, it was decided that the Parish Council will request a test is done by a third-party contractor. Cllr James Sheppard to make enquiries. Cllr James Sheppard will also contact Michael Turner at the Environment Agency

**Action**

**80 Local Traffic and Roads**

Cllr Richard French gave the following update:

1. The proposed School Crossing feedback on the consultation has been submitted and Richard is awaiting WSCC's response.
2. The non-statutory consultation regarding reducing the speed limit in Bashurst Hill has resulted in 27 responses from Bashurst Hill residents which is encouraging.
3. The Bashurst Hill/A264 Five Oaks Road junction has already been mentioned above by County Cllr Amanda Jupp who is looking at a way forward.
4. Richard said that he had noticed a Facebook mention of an accident on the corner of Dog Barking Bend and wondered if anyone knew about any details but no-one present at the meeting did.
5. Richard is still waiting for a response from WSCC regarding the Parish Council's proposal for a SID Scheme in the parish.
6. With regarding to local traffic and roads reporting information, Richard said that he will be producing a leaflet to give out at the Annual Village Meeting. Richard said that he has been in touch with the Operation Crackdown team who will be revamping their website soon. He will also include information Regarding Electric Vehicle Charging points and Funding Opportunities.
7. Richard said that Paul Allen has been busy sending in reports to 'Love West Sussex' and some issues have been resolved.

**81 Annual Village Meeting – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

The Chairman said that items for the agenda will include:

1. An update on the Neighbourhood Plan by Ian Walker. There is to be a meeting with Norman Kwan at HDC prior to the Annual Village Meeting so hopefully we will know more about the Water Neutrality issue and the Referendum.
2. Ben Starns from Sussex Police will be invited to discuss anti-social behaviour in the parish – open session.
3. Update of Local Traffic and Roads by Cllr Richard French.
4. Update on Trim Trail by Ben Woodman.
5. Possibly an update on the Arboretum.

The Clerk to ask Simon Gale to see if we can borrow a couple of microphones for the meeting.

**Action**

- 82 Accounts for Payment**  
1. There are eight payments to be paid.  
£21.00 to Barns Green Village Hall in respect of hall rental for the May Meeting.  
£28.50 to EE Home Broadband in respect of the Internet Service for June 2022.  
£702.07 to WSCC in respect of the Street Lighting Maintenance Account for 2021/2022.  
£34.45 to HDC in respect of Emptying the Dog Bin for July, August and September 2022.  
£219.36 to Unity Insurance Services in respect of the insurance cover for the lighting of the Beacons for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.  
£100.00 to Pat Cochran in respect of Litter Warden duties for June 2022.  
£2,950.00 to the Barns Green Youth Club in respect of a grant from the precept 20922/2023 as agreed at the November 2021 meeting.  
£1,079.50 to the Clerk comprising of £1,004.95 salary for June 2022 and £74.55 expenses.
- 83 Finances**  
 At the AGM the Cllrs asked that the Clerk to circulate for this meeting, the terms and conditions regarding the PWLB Loan taken out by the Parish Council in 2018 and the Parish Council Summary of Year end Accounts. After a discussion, the Clerk was asked to contact the PWLB to find out the terms for paying back the loan early. **Action**
- 84 Correspondence**  
 There was no correspondence that required actioning.
- 85 Red Telephone Kiosk/Defibrillator – update**  
 The Defibrillator is to be moved to the Red Kiosk on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022.
- 86 AOB**  
 1. The Clerk to request that Roy Tingley strims the verge by the level crossing once again. **Action**  
 2. The Orchard owned by the Parish Council was being cut/strimmed voluntarily by a few residents of Ash Miles until recently and then it was noticed that the heavy-duty strimmer owned by the Parish Council was being sold off. However, the Chairman now has the strimmer back. It was decided to ask Roy Tingley if he would be prepared to strim the Orchard going forward. **Action**
- 87 Date of Next Meeting – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022.** There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.