



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.45PM
AT LINGFIELD AND DORMANSLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present:

Vivien Hepworth – in the chair
Cath Hearnden
Graham Marks
Camilla Downing
Ron Coleman
Liz Lockwood
Andrea Watson

District Cllr Mark Ridge
District Cllr Sir Nicholas White

In attendance

Fay Elwood, Clerk

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 Apologies for Absence

None.

1.2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hepworth declared an interest in items 2.4 and 3.2 because her husband is Chairman of Lingfield and Dormansland Community Centre.

1.3 Minutes of meeting held on 28th January 2020

These were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

2 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Finance Report

Members approved the Finance Report, including cheques for payment. Cash at bank on 10th February 2020 amounted to £49,346. The following cheques were approved for payment:-

Date	Cheque	Description	Amount £
03/02/2020	1095	R.V. Deller - Pond etc	540.00
04/02/2020	1096	F. Elwood - Knowhow Cloud	40.00
10/02/2020	1098	F. Elwood - Salary	1,077.11
10/02/2020	1099	HMRC	157.28
10/02/2020	1100	P.Homewood	400.00
10/02/2020	1101	Surrey Pension Fund	291.42
		Total	2,505.81

2.2 Chairman's Report

The Chairman thanked Cllr Hearnden for chairing the parish council meeting in January and said there is nothing to report this month that is not on the agenda.

2.3 Annual Parish Assembly

The Annual Parish Assembly will take place on 20th April 2020 at Lingfield and Dormansland Community Centre. The format will be the same as last year, with printed reports being distributed at the meeting and a panel of parish council members available to answer questions. Wine and snacks will be served after the meeting. We will not have a speaker. Members decided who will receive the community award and this will be announced at the Parish Assembly.

Action: The clerk will compile the report and arrange publicity.

2.4 Lingfield and Dormansland Community Centre

Members discussed a suggestion from Cllr Marks that LPC should have a representative on the management board of Lingfield and Dormansland Community Centre.

Resolved: Whilst members understood his reason for making the request they felt that regular copies of the minutes from the management meetings would provide sufficient scrutiny.

Action: The clerk will request copies of the minutes from LDCC Management Board meetings.

3 GRANT APPLICATIONS

3.1 Grant expenditure 2019/20

Members noted that LPC has spent a total of £9759.00 on grant funding in the year 2019/20. This includes both regular and discretionary grants. There is £1340.20 remaining in the budget until the end of March 2020.

3.2 Lingfield and Dormansland Community Centre

Members considered a grant request for £750 from LDCC to pay for sound proofing work to part of the Jennings Hall.

Resolved: Members approved a grant of £375 and suggested that Dormansland Parish Council should be asked to contribute the balance.

Action: Clerk to pay the grant and pass on the suggestion

4 PARISH FACILITIES

4.1 Tree at Lingfield and Dormansland Community Centre

LDCC Management has applied for permission to reduce the height of a Cypress tree in the car park. We received this notification in our capacity as landlord.

Resolved: Members have no objection to the proposed tree work.

4.2 Repointing at war memorial

Members noted that repointing work to the base of the war memorial will be delayed until April to reduce the potential risk of damage being caused by frost. The Heritage Officer has approved the mortar mix to be used.

4.3 Retention of allotment at The Pollards

The clerk has received a request from an existing tenant to retain their allotment, despite moving to temporary accommodation in Hurst Green. As they are hoping to be rehoused in Lingfield or Dormansland, members agreed to make a special case by

allowing this person to continue with their allotment whilst living outside the parish. It was emphasized that this will not set a precedent. We will continue with the current policy of letting allotments at Centenary Fields to Lingfield and Felcourt residents and allotments at The Pollards to Lingfield, Felcourt and Dormanslad residents.

Resolved: The tenant who has moved into temporary accommodation in Hurst Green will be allowed to continue with her allotment in 2020.

Action: The clerk will inform the tenant.

4.4 Benches and Road Signs

Cllr Coleman will be starting on the bench outside Coughlans next week and the bench outside Sote the following week. He hasn't yet completed the survey of road signs but will approach this when the weather improves.

5 COMMUNITY EVENTS

5.1 VE75

Flix in the Sticks has agreed to show two films on Sunday 10th May with a theme appropriate to commemoration of the end of WW2. There will also be a cream tea served between the films. People will be able to book for one film and the tea or for the whole event. In addition, LDCC management team is organizing a special event on Friday 8th May. This will be a performance from a swing band playing 1940s music. There will be an admission fee for both events. Cllr Marks expressed disappointment that the events would not be free of charge.

Resolved: We will request that residents over the age of 75 be admitted free of charge.

Resolved: LPC will make a contribution of £500 towards the cost of the two events.

Action: The clerk will pass on the request to LDCC.

6 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

6.1 Expenditure

Nothing to report.

6.2 Progress Report

Several documents have now been completed and the Strategic Environmental Assessment is being prepared to send to statutory bodies. The Site Assessments Report is finished. Cllrs Hearnden and Lockwood will be meeting on 3rd March to discuss the Village Design Statement. The steering group aims to hold the public presentation mid to late Spring. A progress report will be supplied for the Annual Parish Meeting and an article will be placed in the next issue of Community News.

Action: The Clerk will ask the Neighbourhood Plan Group to provide a progress report.

7 HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENT ISSUES

7.1 Updates

Moor Lane is due to reopen on 2nd March. Traffic lights will be in place to enable SES Water to finish the water main upgrades.

Network Rail has reported that the land slip between East Grinstead and Dormansland will mean rail replacement buses will be in use until at least 30th March. The footpath between The Star and Lingfield Station has been blocked by a

fallen tree. This has been partially cleared and the footpath is passable with care. Footpath Closed signs are still in place because the tarmac lifted when the tree fell and this is causing an obstruction for people with pushchairs/wheelchairs.

Action: The clerk will ask SCC when the footpath will be fully open

7.2 Gun Pond

The clerk has received confirmation from Mark Bristow that the s106 money from the 'Occasionally Yours' development can be used towards the refurbishment of Gun Pond.

Action: The clerk will invite quotations from contractors

8.12pm Meeting suspended to receive comments from District Cllr Mark Ridge

8.13pm Meeting reconvened

Cllr Coleman is continuing to research alternative options for disposing of the silt. The fire service may be willing to pump the water from the pond and Mark Ridge has reported that Lesley Steeds has agreed permission with Southern Water to discharge the water into the surface drains.

Action: Clerk to ask for written confirmation

7.3 Skate Ramp

A meeting was held on 24th February, with officers from Tandridge District Council, to discuss the future of the skate ramp at Jenners Field. The ramp has been fenced off for a year and we are keen for it to be back in use. TDC has received three different assessments of what is needed, but the true extent of repairs will not be known until the structure is dismantled. Nic Martlew advised us that TDC has approved a budget of between £60,000 and £80,000 to replace the ramp. He believes this is the best value for money and offers a longer term solution than extensive repairs. Before a design is agreed he would like to carry out a consultation with potential users. Jacqui O'Sullivan (the fund raiser for the current ramp) agreed to contact local schools to start the consultation process. Because it is likely this process will take several months, Nic agreed to carry out repairs to the current ramp (up to a total cost of £4200) so the ramp can be reopened whilst the consultation and bid process is underway. Nic asked for help with the consultation but does not require any funding from LPC at the moment. A progress meeting will be held at the beginning of April.

8.20pm Meeting suspended to received comments from District Cllr Mark Ridge

8.22pm Meeting reconvened

7.4 Parking Enforcement

Cllr Lockwood reported that Sevenoaks District Council has been taken on as the new enforcement agency for parking. The new contract is more flexible than the previous one with Redhill and Reigate DC.

Action: Cllr Lockwood will request that special attention is given to the following areas:-

Outside Co-Op

Slip road to Newchapel Road

Outside Lingfield Primary (at school drop off and pick up times)

Vicarage Close

Old School Place (during school drop off and pick up times)

7.5 Gatwick Airport

The clerk has written to Gatwick Airport questioning whether Lingfield Parish Council should have received an invitation to complete a Land Interest Questionnaire. The response was to say that any land we own is not directly under the flightpath so we will not be invited to participate.

Action: The clerk will reply requesting a map showing which property owners are consulted and make the point that we should be included in the consultation because of the residents we represent.

7.6 Tree planting in East Grinstead Road

Members noted that permission to plant a tree outside the dry cleaners has been refused by Surrey County Council due to the location of underground services.

7.7 Trees on land owned by Lingfield Park Racecourse

Lingfield Park Racecourse has felled some damaged and diseased trees near to the footpath which leads from Lingfield Station to the Racecourse. Cllr Lockwood reported that some of these trees were protected by TPOs and there is no evidence that permission was sought. Cllr Lockwood has asked the tree officer at TDC if an emergency order was granted.

Action: The clerk will send a letter to Lingfield Park Racecourse requesting they plant some replacement trees.

8 TRAINING, MEETINGS AND EVENTS

8.1 GACC

Cllr Lockwood attended the GACC AGM but was not elected to the committee. 30 people resigned their membership at the meeting because they felt GACC is no longer representing their local area.

Resolved: LPC will resign as members of GACC

Action: Cllr Lockwood will draft a letter of resignation for the clerk to send with copies to County Cllr Lesley Steeds, our local MP and CAGNE.

8.40pm Meeting suspended to take comments from District Cllr Sir Nicholas White

8.46 Meeting Reconvened

8.2 Gatwick Airport

Members noted two further dates for 'Discover Gatwick' events – 18th March and 29th April 2020. Anyone who wishes to attend should book direct with Gatwick Airport.

9 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

9.1 Tree Planting Guidelines

Members noted receipt of a letter from Matt Furniss, Cabinet Member for Highways, on the subject of tree planning guidelines.

9.2 Lingfield Chamber of Commerce

Members noted receipt of minutes of a meeting of Lingfield Chamber of Commerce held on 3rd February 2020.

9.3 GACC

Members noted receipt of Newsletter number 111 from GACC.

9.4 CAGNE

Members noted receipt of the February newsletter from CAGNE.

10 CURRENT CONSULTATIONS

None.

11 MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Resolved: Minutes of the meetings of the planning committee held on 28th January 2020 and 11th February 2020 were approved.

12 MATTERS FOR REPORTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDA

12.1 Flags for Lingfield Park

Lingfield Park Racecourse is seeking permission to use the Christmas tree brackets on the front of shops in the High Street to display flags advertising an upcoming event at the racecourse.

Resolved: If advertising is allowed LPR should make a contribution towards the cost of the Christmas lights.

Action: Cllr Lockwood will check whether they need planning permission and will advise them accordingly.

8.55pm Meeting suspended to take comments from District Cllr Mark Ridge

8.56pm Meeting reconvened

12.2 Lingfield Station Temporary Car Park

Network Rail has installed a temporary car park in Station Road to deal with the additional demand on commuter parking caused by the recent landslide in Dormansland. Trains are starting and terminating at Lingfield until at least 30th March 2020.

12.3 Accident at Lingfield Station

Members noted a recent accident where a rail replacement bus collided with a second bus causing it to mount another vehicle. We understand no-one was seriously hurt.

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 31st March 2020

Meeting closed at 8.57pm