

# **LAVANT PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a Meeting of Lavant Parish Council  
TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 AT 7.00pm,  
Lavant Memorial Hall Green Room**

## **In attendance:**

Councillors Aldridge Kuchanny, Goldsmith, Newman, Quest, Pickford, Reynolds, Tucker.  
Clerk Dawn Salter, District Councillor David Palmer  
Public Present – none

## **Agenda Item 1: Apologies from Members. – Councillor Ings**

## **Agenda Item 2: Public Sessions - none**

## **Agenda Item 3: To receive and approve the Notes of Advisory Group Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

On a **proposal** by Councillor Newman and **seconded** by Councillor Tucker

It was **Resolved** that the notes of Advisory Group Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be accepted as a true record of proceedings. The papers were signed accordingly.

## **Agenda Item 4: Update on matters carried forward from previous meeting:**

- a) Footpath Village Green

Councillor Aldridge gave a short progress update regarding consent for the new bridge. To summarise: -

### **Bridge:**

Awaiting final design of the bridge. Discussions have been held with a local contractor/builder who will carry out the groundwork and build the bridge.

Councillor Aldridge had chased the Church Commissioners to progress the draft legal agreement concerning access to their land in respect of the project. It has been recommended at the Council meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 that in accordance with the estimate is £1,500 plus disbursements plus VAT, an amount of £1,800 be paid 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022 over to the solicitors Winkworth Sherwood.

I was RESOLVED To RATIFY the payment £1800 which has been made on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022 to the solicitors Winkworth Sherwood against future costs.. The project will continue to progress.

## **Agenda Item 5: -Report from County Councillor Jeremy Hunt**

Report is attached with thanks.

Appendix C

## **Agenda Item 6: District Councillors Report**

District Councillor was present but had no report to give.

## **Agenda Item 7: Chairman's Report**

- Lavant History Project  
Many congratulations were offered to Councillor Reynolds as the first information board has been erected by the volunteer councillors near St Nicholas Church The vote of thanks was extended to Councillor Goldsmith who had been instrumental in providing information for the board.
- Lavant School Project

This project is currently being worked on by Councillor Kuchanny. This is the first work the Council has undertaken outside the Neighbourhood Plan. This will be the next generation of projects that could use CIL monies, the Parish Council can work in partnership with West Sussex County Council. Councillor Kuchanny circulated the drawing showing a new layout 21 space car park, drop off area at the front and new footway subject to the landowner's agreement. Discussions have been had with the school head and governors. The next stage is to engage Highways and getting the stakeholders agreements.

- **Sewage**

Councillor Pickford continues to gather information slowly from Southern Water executive review team. The cause of the flooding of the Memorial Hall in 2020 is now known as being a 'Fat Plug' found at the junction of the main drain, Pook Lane and the main drain crossing the field. They confirm surveys and regular maintenance have been carried out. The questions regarding additional capacity required to allow the new developments of Eastmead and Pook Lane to come online is still outstanding. The Council would like some answers to feel confident that there would be no effects in the future. Residents are reminded to report any future incidents to Southern Water as a record. The Council's main concern was validated as a tanker was observed during January 22 when there has been small rainfall and the water table is low.

- **Platinum Jubilee Party 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**

Continuing with arrangements.

- **Raughmere Appeal APP/L3815/W/21/3284653**

A note of thanks to all who have helped prepare the presentation to be made at the Public Inquiry hearing which began today. This will be running for the next 10-14 days. The Parish did very well and gave a hard defence when the Chairman James Pickford gave a presentation in the allocated time regarding the major documents (10 reports) written by the Councillors which included the subject of noise, transport, community etc showing the effects on the proposals on the residents of Lavant.

A presentation was given by the Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Group giving its history the consultation involved and what the previous inspector from last inquiry in 2014 had concluded. An assessment of landscape was given by Mr Nick Reynolds Volunteer Consultant.

County Councillor Jeremy Hunt presented the Noise report evidence support from Goodwood Airfield presentation.

District Councillor commented that three-way presentation was brilliant fluent, and the speakers complimented each other. It showed huge local knowledge and preparation. It was noted that the developer's barrister did not come back with any questions.

#### **Agenda Item 8: Local Plan Review – Cllr Newman**

No report required on latest information circulated.

#### **Agenda Item 9 Goodwood Feedback**

Councillor Aldridge attended the zoom meeting regarding Eroica Britannica a cycling event being held at Goodwood 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> August 2022. The proposed routes were still to be finalised.

No road closures planned for Lavant but there will be a great many (up to 5000) cyclists riding through the village. The route map is on a fairly small scale so not very detailed, but he was hoping for more clarity in due course.

#### **Agenda Item 10 –Playground – Cllr Quest**

Councillor Quest, Councillor Goldsmith and Councillor Newman presented the chosen new supplier of the New Playground project using the repair, replace and upgrade solution. This project had proved to be the more sensible way to proceed providing new recycled 'safamulch' flooring. Due to prohibitive costs of the previous quotes received, this supplier has been chosen for quality of services as well as local and good value for money, meets our needs and is a very good piece of work. The aim is to provide some inclusive equipment to include roundabouts; picnic tables adapted for individuals with disabilities.

The final quote achieved for phase one is far less costly than the previous supplier.

The council RESOLVED to accept the quote for £47,325.00 – exc. VAT. The council instructed the Clerk to place the order with the supplier.

**Action: CLERK**

#### **Agenda Item 11 Sewage Update from Mid-Lavant – Cllr Quest**

The report from Southern Water has been circulated and the Council would like to address the issues arising.

Concern locally is mounting, around Lavant Down Road and Springfield area, where manholes overflow with raw sewage. The issue has been going on for years and there is never a solution in Lavant. In the initial planning report

This initial study indicates that there is an increased risk of flooding unless any required network reinforcement is provided by Southern Water.

Southern Water response for Eastmead APP/Y9507/W/20/3257831: Eastmead Industrial Estate, Midhurst Road, Lavant

(Planning Application SDNP/18/03162/FUL).

The Planning appeal imposed a series of conditions Conditions 17, 18, are required to be pre-commencement as it is fundamental to have these details agreed upfront prior to any works commencing on the appeal site. The Appellant has agreed to these conditions being pre-commencement.

Councillor Quest reported that she had read an article in The Times newspaper regarding illegal sewage discharges into rivers in the UK.

is appalling that in this day and age these situations, usually associated with 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries, occur on a daily basis.

It is horrifying to discover that The River Lavant is No 7 (147 spills) amongst the Top ten of rivers analysed for illegal sewage spills. Even more horrendous that the little river, a mere 9 miles in length, only flows for about 6 months of the year! The river flows according to the rainfall of a previous season. When the groundwater levels rise the river flows. The chalk scenery acts as a sponge soaking up the rainfall until it reaches tipping point. As the water level rises it fills the sewers. Hence the problems.

Residents in the lower lying estates regularly suffer from blocked sewers and overflows from manhole covers. The odours are unpleasant and there is never a solution in Lavant.

Tankers have been to Pook Lane / Sheepwash Lane in January 2022 and Lavant Down Road overflowed Christmas 2021. Inspections have been carried out in a selection of the pipes. Residents need to be encouraged to collate dates and report the occurrences to Southern Water with facts.

A suggestion has been given to request the Clerk to invite a representative to a Lavant Parish Council meeting.

**Action: CLERK**

#### **Agenda Item 12 Clerk Report / Summary of any correspondence received**

Council acknowledged the receipt of the correspondences as sent by the Clerk: -

- Any Training requirements required from Mulberry & Co
- Talk With Us – Forum to be held by Eventbrite in The Grange Community and Leisure Centre Midhurst 1<sup>st</sup> March members of public can talk with West Sussex County Councillors with local issues. All questions to be submitted 5 days before the meeting.
- Operation Watershed Grant requires x3 competitive quotes. Cllr Newman has already one contractor and has offered to meet the other and awaiting news from the 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- CDC Community Grant application has been completed regarding funds for furnishing the New Sports pitch
- Grants for Queen's Jubilee Celebrations application form has been received and will be completed in due course.
- Temporary License has been applied for from CDC on behalf of Fete Committee at the request of the Fete Chairman Sarah Pickford.

A request for spend cost £21 was put to council was approved to be paid by Barclaycard and a transfer from Fete Committee to cover the payment would be made.

#### **Consultations** -WRSE's emerging regional plan consultation – Cllr Aldridge

OFCOM Postal Regulation Consultation-Closing date 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

The Glover Landscape Review Government response and consultation – Closing date 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022

**Village Green Commemorative Tree.** – A commemorative tree application request has been received on behalf of two brothers who helped to build the extension to the pavilion. The request was put forward to gain permission from the council with a plaque in memory of both gentlemen. The request has been taken forward by Councillor Tucker & Councillor Aldridge

**Action:** Cllr Tucker

#### **Agenda Item 13: FINANCE Accounts**

The accounts for the period ending 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were presented to the Council and ratified by the councillors. It was **Resolved** to approve the accounts for this period.

13.1 To note receipts and recommend approval of monthly payments listed at – **Appendix A**  
It was **Resolved** to approve unanimously that the attached copy of the payment report including payments to be ratified and agreed on amounting to £1,255.77. ( of which £ 21.45VAT)

#### 13.2 To Approval of January 2022 Bank reconciliation – **Appendix B**

A copy of the bank statements and bank reconciliation dated 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 was made available to council members at the meeting for monitoring and reconciliation purposes.

It was **Resolved** to approve the Bank reconciliation.

13.3 To record the Clerk and the Chairman of Council have verified the Bank Reconciliations in line with the financial regulations to satisfy the new RFO/Clerk records are balanced.

In line with good practice, the NatWest Bank Statements were inspected and the corresponding balance initialled.

**ACTION:** Clerk

#### **Agenda Item 14: -Planning Applications and Delegated Decisions.**

Councillors Ings and Tucker informed the Council of planning applications and / or decisions received since the last meeting.

#### **14.1 Outstanding Planning applications Update-**

Raughmere Application Ref: Impact Assessment SDNP/20/02675/OUTEIA/  
APPEAL APP/L3815/W/21/3284653

#### **14.2 SDNP**

**Application:** SDNP/21/03701/TPA

**Location:** Coppice House, Maddoxwood, Chichester, PO19 5AD

**Proposal:** Remove lowest branch (south sector) back to main trunk and crown reduce width by 2.5m-3m (south sector) overhanging carport area on 1 no. Oak tree (quoted as T1) within Woodland, W6 subjectto LV/74/00636/TPO.

**Decision:** SUPPORT

**Application:** SDNP/21/04655/HOUS

**Location:** The Rubbing House Town Lane Singleton PO18 0SP

**Proposal:** Proposed Swimming Pool

**Decision:** SUPPORT

##### **14.2.1 CHICHESTER**

**Application:** LV/21/03666/FUL - Minor Dev - All Others – REFERRED BACK TO CHICHESTER

**Proposal:** Installation of 2 rows of 15 no. PV panels on a concrete base.

**Address:** Land to The Rear Of 40A Brandy Hole Lane, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 5RY

#### **Agenda Item 15: Any requests for items for the agenda next meeting.**

Bleaches Centenary

Village Green Trees

Bus Shelters

#### **Agenda Item 16: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Green Room Lavant Memorial Hall 7pm

**Meeting Finished at 20.30**

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Signed.....Dated.....

## **Appendices and Attachments**

# Monthly Income and Expenditure Report

## Appendix A

LAVANT PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT PREPARED Feb2022					
RECEIPTS: Period: 12TH JAN 22 - 8TH FEB 2022					
DATE	REF	PAYER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT
27/01/2022	CR014	SDNP	GRANT FOR PLOUGH	£ 300.00	
PAYMENTS: Feb-22					
DATE APPROVED	INVOICE NUMBER	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT
08/02/22	FO127	D A SALTER	CLERK EXPENSES	£ 16.00	
08/02/22	FO128	HITACHI - DD	HP TRACTOR	£ 229.00	
08/02/22	FO129	Allstar Fuel Card - DD	Tractor Fuel	£ 73.94	
			Statement ( a) hp ink office & (b)ink clerk home © mobile phone		12.33
08/02/22	FO130	Barclaycard - DD	365 microsoft license	£ 20.98	1.84
08/02/22	FO131	ScanStation-DD	Clerks Pension	£ 43.68	7.28
08/02/22	FO132	NEST - DD	Clerks Salary	£ 79.80	
08/02/22	FO133	WSSC	Clerks Office & Council Meeting	£ 758.37	
08/02/22	FO134	LAVANT MEMORIAL HALL	FEB22	£ 34.00	
			TOTAL	£ 1,255.77	£ 21.45

## APPENDIX B

Lavant Parish Council		
Bank Reconciliation as of 26/01/2022		
Current Account	26th January 2022	£ 104,382.99
		total £ 104,382.99
opening balance 1st April 20		£ 67,813.23
Add Receipts in the year		£ 59,304.22
Less Payments in the year		£ 22,734.46
	as of 26 JAN 22	Balance £ 104,382.99
<b>Less</b>		
Reserve @ 33% of Annual Precept of £29637		£ 9,780.00
		Total £ 9,780.00
<b>Ring-fenced funds</b>		
Lavvoles		£ 729.45
Let's walk (Footpaths)		£ 1,338.03
Youth project		£ 1,440.38
watershed grant		£ 48.22
CIL SDNP		£ 11,362.88
Playground	Allocated	£ 55,154.92
Bridge	Allocated	£ 10,000.00
		Total £ 80,073.88
Total available funds (less ring fenced and reserve)		£ 14,529.11

## Appendix C

### County Councillor Jeremy Hunt Report.

- This last month I have been busy finalising our budget for 2022/23 and our MTFS through to 2025/26, which goes to full council for approval on Friday 18th. Our business planning very much supports Our Council Plan 2021 - 2025, and is very much focused on four priority outcomes, all underpinned by the cross-cutting theme of tackling climate change. The four priority outcomes are:
  - Keeping people safe in vulnerable situations
  - Sustainable and prosperous economy
  - Helping people and communities fulfil their potential
  - Making the best use of resources

In our budget we are proposing to increase our overall spending by £21 million, bringing the overall revenue budget for 22/23 to £648 million. Once again, we are increasing spending on our frontline services. Although Covid continues to be financially challenging - as well as challenging for our staff who have responded magnificently - but the government have continued to provide excellent support. This has helped us bring forward a balanced budget, with no additional savings proposed for next year. There are some savings, but these were previously scheduled as part of last year's budget.

However, our 4-year medium term financial strategy indicates that there are some challenges going forward. There is an unfunded gap of £63m for the three years 2023/24 - 2025/26. About £20 million of this gap is our best estimate at the expected loss of funding due to the government's anticipated Fair Funding Review (FFR). We have been told that a consultation on this funding review, which has been delayed for a number of years, will be published shortly.

Unfortunately, the Government looks on shire counties in the Southeast as affluent and calculates that an increase in council tax here can raise more than an equivalent increase in say, the rural counties in the north. They then take into account our ability to raise council tax - and how much - when they calculate our funding levels.

Obviously, inflation is presenting further challenges and the figures seem to be getting worse by the day. We have obviously built a certain level of inflation into our budget, but, if necessary, we do have a contingency fund in the Revenue budget, plus a budget management reserve. Obviously, we prefer not to have to make use of the budget management reserve, as this underpins the financial stability of the council. It also means that, in order to ensure that stability, any draw down from the reserve will have to be made good over the following years.

For 2022/23 the Council tax referendum limit remains at 2%, with an additional 1% for adult social care. We are therefore proposing an increase of 1.99% for core council tax, plus 1% for ASC, giving a

total of 2.99%. This means that the WSCC share of the CT for a Band D taxpayer will increase by £45.18 per year, or £0.87p per week.

The full budget papers will be available on the WSCC website later this week, when the papers for the CC meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February are published.

- Secondly, we are moving forward with a new Adult Care strategy which has been co-designed with staff, customers, carers and partners through a lengthy consultation to make sure that everybody's voices have been heard. The principle behind the consultation is to provide a single, integrated approach to improving adult social care in West Sussex. These proposals were discussed at last week's public cabinet meeting.
- Lastly, I know that your clerk is working hard on your Operation Watershed claims.

And finally, a reminder to make sure you read our monthly Town and Parish Newsletter - which hopefully your clerk forwards to you - and keep an eye on our news and campaigns website.

[www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/news-and-campaigns/](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/news-and-campaigns/)

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