



## LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7.00pm.

Present: (Chairman) Cllr Dart, Cllr Breeds, Cllr Crozier, Cllr Poore, Cllr Wilson and Cllr Young.

Also in attendance was East Sussex County Councillor Nick Bennett and District Councillor David Watts.

The Clerk was also in attendance

7 Members of the public present

### **1. Public Session**

*A member of the speed working group spoke in regards to agenda item 10.2. They explained the meeting that was recommended to take place with Mr Tingley did not go ahead. This was due to the lack of resources and work commitments of Mr Tingley. This was very disappointing for the group as they have unanswered questions from the recent feasibility study that was undertaken by East Sussex County Council. The member of the speed working group briefly discussed some of the questions and explained these have been drafted into a letter that they would like the Parish Council to support.*

*Cllr Dart asked why the feasibility study stated Laughton did not meet the criteria for a 30mph speed limit on Shortgate Lane.*

*A member of the speed working group replied that the overall average speed was below the required threshold but the study chose to pick out one of the 4 measurement points which was 3mph above. Furthermore, the study had not counted dwellings and driveways from the B2124 as requested in the application, but from the end of the existing 30mph.*

*Another member of the speed working group explained their disappointment with the feasibility study, as they had asked for the engineer who was going to carry out the study to meet with the residents in order that they would be aware of their concerns and the correct area for the study to take place.*

*Another member of the group explained their near misses and how vulnerable and unsafe pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders are when having to use the road. They feel this needs to be addressed as they should be able to walk or cycle with their children to the local school and not have to get in their car in order to feel safe.*

### **Cllr Crozier entered the meeting 19.11pm**

*Cllr Dart asked Cllr Bennett his advice on how they can move forward and for his help.*

*Cllr Bennett explained he will take these questions to Mr Johnson and represent the residents. He felt the 30mph reduction in speed may not work on its own and may need to be in conjunction with other methods.*

*Cllr Dart said that the whole village should be 20 or 30mph as per government policy.*

*The applicant spoke in relation their planning application WD/2022/2399/LB and asked the Parish Council for their continued support.*

**2. Apologies for absence**

*Apologies were received from Cllr Hallam.  
Cllr Crozier and Young attended later in the meeting.*

*These were noted.*

**3. To accept the minutes from the meetings held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022,**

*The minutes were agreed and signed accordingly.*

**4. Declarations of interest. To receive notices of declarations personal and prejudicial, in respect of items on this agenda.**

*Cllr Dart has a personal interest in agenda item 10.2*

**5. Clerk's resignation**

*This was noted by members and sincere thanks were given by all to the Clerk for all her work, support and advice over the years.*

**6. Members to agree confidential items on the agenda for the exclusion of the press and members of the public.**

*None*

**7. East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council reports**

**ESCC-** *Cllr Bennett explained the budget has not been discussed yet as they are waiting for further information from government.*

- *The recent presentation that was circulated to members can be attached to the minutes. (This will be available on the website)*
- *Work is being carried out on recent Co2 targets and environmental issues.*

**WDC-** *Cllr Watts reported the following:*

- *The local plan is being rewritten and should be published by the end of the year; they are waiting for further information from government.*
- *Councillors have been lobbying government to reduce the housing targets in Wealden.*
- *He referred to the recent planning appeals that were approved by inspectors at Mornings Mill and Station Road even though they were refused by Wealden District Council planning committees.*
- *WDC published a statement about protecting the environment.*
- *It is National recycling week. 41% of Wealden's household waste is being recycled.*
- *ESCC with Veolia are planning to make improvements to the Hailsham recycling centre.*

**8. Planning and licence applications**

**a) Plans**

**WD/2022/2399/LB-** *VIRGINIA COTTAGE, LEWER ROAD, LAUGHTON. Increase residential curtilage to provide additional offroad parking to improve road safety. New open porch.*

*Laughton Parish Council strongly supports the improvements the applicant is proposing and feels it is an important contribution to the safety of the occupants of the house and other road users.*

- b) To consider any planning applications that have been received after the agenda has been published.**

*None*

- c) Planning applications approved, refused, referred, withdrawn or appeals**

WD/2022/0840/FR– Approve

WD/2022/0833/F– Approve

WD/2022/1537/MFA- Withdrawn

WD/2022/0392/F- Refuse

WD/2022/0393/LB- Refuse

WD/2022/1185/F- Withdrawn

WD/2022/1186/LB- Withdrawn

*These were noted by members*

- d) To note approved responses to applications and appeals approved by email (These responses can be found on the Wealden District Council website or by request to the clerk.)**

- WD/2022/1962/PO
- WD/2022/2019/F
- WD/2022/1208/F
- App/C1435/W/22/3302034- The Briars

*These were noted by members*

- e) Other planning matters – to discuss or note any other planning matters brought to the attention of the Parish Council.**

*None*

- f) Licence applications received before or after the agenda has been published.**

*None*

- 9. Financial Matters – Authorisation of payments of accounts –To approve accounts for payment – (a schedule of receipts & payments will be presented at the meeting) – list of payments on separate sheet.**

- **To agree Bank reconciliations July 2022-** *Members approved the bank reconciliation*
- **To agree Bank reconciliations August 2022-** *Members approved the bank reconciliation*
- **To agree Bank reconciliations September 2022-** *Members approved the bank reconciliation*
- **To review Budget for 2022/23-** *Members noted the budget*
- **To agree internal auditor and approve engagement letter –** *Members approved the internal auditor and engagement letter*
- **To note the Interim internal audit report -** *This was noted by members*
- **To review grant application from Wealden Citizen advice –** *Members approved a grant of £275.00*

- **To agree October payments** - *Members approved October payments and these were signed accordingly. Members also approved to award £275.00 grant application for Citizen's Advice Bureau and this will also be paid in the October payments*

## **10. ITEMS FOR DECISION AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES**

### **10.1- Village Maintenance – Ditches/Flooding update – No further updates**

- **Grounds maintenance update-** *Members discussed the report and approved the works on the Oak bench and the playground fencing. The planters will be reviewed early next year.*

**10.2- Dangerous traffic on Shortgate Lane –** *Cllr Dart will finalise the letter with the questions from the speed working group and to send to Cllr Bennett, the Clerk will be cc'd in on the response.*

**10.3 -Playground –** *Members approved the quote from Playdale for the works required on the playground.*

**Cllr Young entered the meeting 20.14pm**

**10.4- Tommy on the Green-** *Members approved the actions on the report*

**10.5- Standing Orders –** *Members approved and adopted the Standing orders*

**10.6- To agree recruitment process for replacement clerk-** *Members ratified the recruitment advertising and guidance from ESALC at a cost of £150.00 and agreed a working party consisting of the Clerk, Cllrs Dart, Breeds and Crozier.*

**10.7- Risk Policy -** *Members approved and adopted the Risk Policy*

**10.8- Financial Regulations -** *Members approved and adopted the Financial Regulations with the amendments.*

**10.9- Christmas Lights –** *Members approved the items requested from the Christmas festivities working party and for Cllr Dart join the working party. Members approved a Christmas tree up to the costs of £250.00.*

**10.10- Civility & Respect –** *The members approved to sign up for the Civility and Respect pledge.*

**10.11- Website accessibility statement –** *The members approved the website accessibility statement.*

**Cllr Crozier left the meeting 20.40pm**

## **11.ITEMS FOR UPDATING AND NOTING**

- Annual canvass reminder- [Annual canvass reminder to Wealden residents - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council](#)

-Sussex Police: Click Call Connect campaign-

<https://www.facebook.com/sussexpoliceforce/photos/a.515867181792177/5475302575848588/>

**-Wealden pushes Southern Water for action- [Wealden pushes Southern Water to take action - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council](#)**

*These were noted*

**12- REPORTS (by leave) NOT FOR DECISION**

*Cllr Poore attended a meeting with the Police and gave a brief update*

*Cllr Dart attended the 20's plenty presentation*

**Meeting closed at 20.55pm**