

# **NORTHCHAPEL PARISH COUNCIL**

**APPROVED minutes of a Meeting held at Northchapel Village Hall,  
On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

**Present:** Councillors Mr Willie Poste, Mrs Jane Walter, Mrs Lynda Bell, Mrs Sharon Holden, Mrs Georgina Murphy, Mrs Angelique Burns, Mrs Jane Squire and Mr Stephen Wordsworth

**In attendance:** Mrs Helen Cruikshank, Parish Clerk

## **Comments and Questions from the members of the public:**

There were three members of the Public present.

A member of the public spoke of the increasing dog fouling problem in St Michaels Close and throughout the village in general. The Chairman said the Parish Council were aware of this and the CDC Dog Warden had been informed of the problem but the Clerk would contact him again to reiterate the problem and get leaflets distributed.

The member of the public also raised concern with regard to the amount of pavement parking in Luffs Meadow and St Michaels Close. Parking on footpaths and speeding throughout the estate is making the roads dangerous. Clerk to report problem to WSCC Highways.

**83. Apologies for absence:** Mr Paul Markides  
PCSO Jenn Morley and PCSO Ian Luxford

**84. Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.

**85. Co-option of Councillor:** Mr Stephen Wordsworth introduced himself and he was co-opted as a Councillor. The Chairman welcomed him to the Parish Council. Clerk to liaise with him to sign the relevant forms and documents.

**86. Minutes:** The minutes from the meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed.

**87. PCSO Ian Luxford / Jenn Morley:** There was no Police in attendance although the Clerk read the following on behalf of the Police:

*The issue of the off-road motorbike is a current local policing priority which was set at the Neighbourhood Management Panel meeting on 09 January 2012, we have been told of the individuals who are responsible however we have not received any reports lately. Sadly we cannot robustly deal with the problem unless the offenders are caught in the act or within a small time frame afterwards, when that happens we shall look to firstly seize the motorbike and secondly if they have ridden on the highway (which includes public footpaths), then potentially the rider shall be reported for driving with no insurance. At present although we are ensuring that patrols are sporadically happening in an attempt to catch the offenders, we still require the local residents to report it when they see on the non-emergency number - 101.*

*With regards to 26 Valentines Lea, I cannot disclose much information due to the Data Protection Act and the sensitivity around the nature of the incidents, however we are working very closely with Hyde Martlet to try and resolve the issues. I can understand that other residents of the village may be feeling frightened and intimidated from incidents that have occurred and behaviours that have been displayed, I am aware that there are several incidents that have not been reported to police concerning the individuals at this address.*

*I cannot stress enough how important it is for members of the public to report any problems they have experienced personally or likewise any information they may know that would be of interest to police. It would be greatly appreciated if the Parish Council could inform parishioners to report what they hear, see and experience. Those not wanting to report issues for fear of retaliation then please assure them that all reports are confidential and they do not have to pass their details to the call taker if they wish to remain anonymous. If an incident is happening currently and / or if it is believed that someone may soon be harmed or damage may soon be caused then please dial 999, for anything that does not require immediate attendance please dial 101.*

*Regarding the collision on the A283 last Monday, officers would like to speak to anyone who has not yet spoken to police who was travelling along the A283 on Monday morning and saw a blue Toyota or blue Audi just north of Petworth. Anyone with information is asked to contact Sussex Police on 101 quoting Operation Kingsland.*

### **88. Report from the Elected Representatives of West Sussex County Council and Chichester District Council**

County Councillor Chris Duncton reported on the WSCC £79m savings to be made over 3 years, £39m had been saved in year 1 which was tough but successful. Council tax has been frozen for the forthcoming year. Residents of Fisher Street have been concerned quite rightly over safety concerns of the traffic speed and this part of the road is now on the PRIORITY LIST.

The next CLC meeting is in Duncton Village Hall on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm if any Councillors would like to attend. He spoke of the experimental new bus service running between Alfold and Chichester on Wednesdays and the £6m County have to improve the Broadband service in the area. Any comments please use "Have your say". The MRC Academy is now one of the Top 10 Improving schools in the County. The new traffic "flashers" in the village will hopefully improve the traffic in the village. Any questions or issues arising in the parish please do not hesitate to contact Chris.

District Councillor Linda Westmore reported on the first conference on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn to be held on 28 March and 25 April at East Pallant House. Checks for potential counterfeit alcohol in local off-licences are to be carried out in the District. There are various activities aimed at young children – Rugby, Football, Street Dancing – contact Ben Polhill at CDC for more information. A total of 131 static and touring vehicles were recorded which is an increase of 17, the next count will take place in July. Free health checks are being held at Westgate Leisure Centre on the first Monday of every month (40-74 years old). To book an appointment 01243 642370. A new one-to-one healthy lifestyle/weight management programme for children 5-16 years old who are overweight or obese will be starting this month. Contact 01243 534862. Lodsworth Larder has recently won Best Corner Shop in the Telegraph Awards.

She finished by speaking of Hillgrove Stud Farm and recommended checking on its

status

tomorrow or Wednesday as there could be some interesting news reported. The

11/05190/FULNP

Retrospective application that seeks to retain track and hardstanding is recommended to be permitted at the next DC planning meeting.

### **89. Working Party Reports**

- **Allotments, Village Green and Play Area:** Councillor Poste said there had been a few changes with regard to tenants and the invoices for 2012/13 would be distributed shortly.  
16<sup>th</sup> June is Sussex Day when the new Sussex flag will be raised. Councillor Poste said he was going to get a price for putting a gravel path in, to lead from the road to the play area to help with pushchairs. He had received a quote for painting the swings, slides and three seats in the village from Mr Beglin @ £392. It was agreed to proceed with this. MANDEB the grass cutting contractors have offered to continue their services at the same price as last year.
- **Footpaths, Hedges and Rights of Way:** Councillor Walter said there were two sign posts missing in The Frith which she had reported. These would be sorted in July.
- **Planning:** Councillor Walter stated there was one outstanding planning application to be discussed after this meeting; a TPO at Yew Tree Cottage. One of the recent appeals on Hillgrove Stud Farm has been withdrawn (APP/L3815/A/11/2163726). However the two other appeals APP/L3815/A/11/2163736 and APP/L3815/A/11/2163727 will go to a public inquiry, awaiting dates. Thanks must go to all those in Lurgashall who have helped with this.
- **Village Hall:** Councillor Holden said there was nothing new to report.
- **Housing:** Councillor Holden said that the housing working party together with Sam Irving the CDC Rural Housing Enabler and Ian Owen a CDC Senior Homemove Officer was meeting on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Clerk is trying to get a representative from Hyde Martlet to also attend. It is a closed meeting and the agenda will include; the allocation system, the mutual transfer process and clarification on policy changes.
- **Media and Communication:** Councillor Burns said there was lots of new information going into the Parish News.
- **Newcomer's Pack:** Councillor Squire said she had put together a Newcomer's document listing village amenities and where the nearest doctors/dentists etc are. She just needs to know who has and is moving into the village to be able to pass the information on. Councillor Walter suggested the Village Stores would be a good place to find out.
- **Winter Plan:** Councillor Poste reported that some grit had been used over the cold spell and the bins had already been re-filled by WSCC Highways. It was agreed that the salt bins were the best solution long term.

## 90. Diamond Jubilee

Councillor Walter reported 300 commemorative mugs had been ordered. A bouncy castle had been ordered through Jumping Jacks who have their own insurance and supply 3 members of staff to man it throughout the afternoon. The event will start at 3.30pm with jazz music, tea tent and village and trade stalls on the village green. Half Moon will apply for an alcohol licence. The next meeting is on the 7<sup>th</sup> March.

## 91. BT Telephone kiosk – Fisher Street

The Clerk has passed all information and documentation to the Fisher Street Community Group who has agreed to take on responsibility for the kiosk. Formal documentation does need to be in place.

## 92. Standing Orders

All Councillors were given a copy of this document as approved at a previous meeting.

**93. Coat of Arms/Village Pictorial Sign**

Councillor Poste said the posts would be going in on Wednesday and then the top a day or two after. It was agreed that Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March would be a good date to officially unveil the new Northchapel Coat of Arms. Councillor Poste will speak with the school and to Ivan about a preferred time for their attendance. Clerk to contact the Midhurst & Petworth Observer, Leconfield Estate and advertise the unveiling on the notice boards once a time had been agreed. Clerk confirmed that the CDC Local Character Enhancement Grant application had been successful and £835 will be released by CDC once they have visited the site.

**94. Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council AGM**

It was agreed that a Speedwatch and Operation Crackdown representative be organised as a speaker at the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm.

**95. Financial Matters :** The Clerk reported on the following;

- The Council's current financial position @ £23,383 was noted
- The Bank reconciliation at Appendix 3 was noted
- The schedule of accounts submitted for payment at Appendix 4 was noted and approved including SALC (Local Council Review Subs) @£15.50, WSCC (Clerk's Jan 12 Salary) @ £408 and Mrs Helen Cruikshank (General Exps Q4) @ £105. The Clerk added the Public Works Loan repayment of £1372 is due on 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

**96. Clerks report**

The Clerks report was duly received and noted.

**97. Items to be included on the next agenda**

**98. Date of the next meeting : Annual Parish Meeting Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm  
Northchapel Parish Council AGM Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at  
8pm**

**Signed .....**

**Date .....**