



# PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## **LAXFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday 13 November 2023 at 7 30 pm in the Parish Room**

**[www.laxfield.online](http://www.laxfield.online)**

### **OPEN FORUM**

Two residents attended the meeting and a number of issues were raised:

- The idea of a village diary was raised to highlight events and minimise too many events happening on the same day. It was confirmed that such a diary already existed and was available at the Post Office.
- The Hill Farm 'mess' caused by construction traffic and which was also hindering people's ability to use the footpaths. It was agreed to progress with the planning department and highways.
- The bushes outside 'The Villa' were overhanging hugely over the footpath. The clerk to request them to be cut back.
- Dog fouling in the Felgate Close area was an increasing problem. The clerk to progress reprinting the dog fouling signs and order 6 x signs from Leiston Press.
- The parking on the junction of Market Street and Vicarage Road is dangerous. It was agreed to contact the community police officer regarding this as up to four parked cars on this junction creates a hazard for other vehicles trying to pass. Parked vehicles have also been seen to 'overhang' junction road markings.
- The street lighting on Framlingham Road is an issue as there is little or no lighting for school children at 5 pm. There are also a couple of lamps not working. The clerk to progress with Pearce and Kemp.
- A resident raised issues about the proposed area for development of housing on Bickers Hill by LCLT Ltd including the loss of parking and building on a wildlife corridor. This is not directly a parish council issue but it was confirmed that LCLT Ltd were aware and these issues would be dealt with if the development progressed.
- It was noted that the recent improvements to Gorams Mill Lane did not prevent flooding recently. The Environment Agency have already looked into this and also S Clarke would write to the EA in a personal capacity to ask about the risk of flooding to her own property.
- The closure of the road around the war memorial on Remembrance Sunday was highlighted. There were a number of positive comments but also a couple of negative ones and these would be progressed.
- It was commented that some of the IBCs located on the Station Road allotments were not being used and it would be investigated as to whether they could be reallocated to the Bickers Hill allotment site.
- It was agreed to approve the Village Hall Constitution. Proposed S Innes, seconded R Sutton, AIF.

Reports had been received from Mid Suffolk District Council and Anders Linder, District Councillor and are available on the website. Cllr Hopfensberger, covering for Cllr Gould, had sent their apologies. Cllr Linder, district councillor attended part of the meeting.

### **MINUTES**

Attendees: D Alchin, S Clarke, O Hackett, S Innes (Chair), D Martindale, R Sutton, S Sutton.

#### **1. Apologies and approval of absences**

L Sharman, K Gregory (clerk).

#### **2. Declarations of interest**

None.

#### **3. Approval of minutes**

- a. 23/11/01 Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 9 October 2023 were approved. Proposed D Alchin, seconded S Clarke, AIF.

#### 4. Planning

a. **The following decisions made by Mid Suffolk District Council were noted:**

**DISCHARGE OF CONDITION(S) TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990**

Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/23/01114 - Condition 3 (Biodiversity Enhancement Layout), Condition 4 (Archaeology Part 1) and Condition 5 (Archaeology Part 2)

Location: Aldridges Farm, Fressingfield Road, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8EN

**DC/23/04477 PLANNING PERMISSION**

Proposal & Location of Development: Application for works to a tree in a Conservation Area - Re-pollard back to previous points 1 No Willow Tree to side of property. Rose Cottage, High Street, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8DX

**DC/23/03344 LISTED BUILDING CONSENT**

Proposal & Location of Development: Application for Listed Building Consent - Removal of existing roof coverings and recover using new materials. Laxfield Baptist Chapel, High Street, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8DU

**DC/23/04544 PERMISSION**

Proposal & Location of Development: Application for works to a tree in a Conservation Area - Fell 1 No Ash Tree due to basal decay. 1 Elm Lodge Road, Laxfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 8ET

b. **The following comments submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council were noted:**

**APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/23/05168**

Proposal: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Proposal to Remove Ash Tree (T1) which has signs of dieback. Location: Stangarth, Market Square, Bickers Hill Road, Laxfield Woodbridge Suffolk

*No objections.*

c. **To discuss the following planning issues:**

- I. building development on the East side of Bickers Hill – it was agreed to follow this up with the planning officer in January 2024. Also the clerk to progress clarity around some of the ambiguous points in the planning officer's feedback.
- II. Blacksmith's Way development footpath – Cllr Linder confirmed that he had followed the issue up and had been informed that the developer had "fulfilled all obligations". Cllr Linder would follow up with the developer and ask them to extend the footpath which would incur no extra cost. It was confirmed that the land belonged to MSDC and they supported the extension to the footpath. The Parish Council confirmed their opinion that there is a responsibility on the developer to complete the footpath because this had been included in all marketing literature.

#### 5. Finance

- a. 23/11/02 BACs payments, direct debits and receipts as listed in Register of Payments for October 2023 were authorised. Proposed R Sutton, seconded S Clarke, AIF.
- b. 23/11/03 Bank reconciliations for October 2023 were reviewed and agreed. Proposed D Alchin, seconded R Sutton, AIF.
- c. 23/11/04 Performance v budget and monthly accounts for October 2023 were reviewed. Proposed S Clarke, seconded R Sutton, AIF.

#### 6. Neighbourhood Plan

- a. 23/11/05 It was noted that the Parish Council had missed the deadline for feedback on the draft Laxfield Design Guide, mainly because the document proposed by Aecom contained many factual errors. It was agreed that the parish council should hold a meeting on 22 November at 6 pm to fully discuss the draft.

## 7. Roads, Footpaths, Infrastructure, Green Areas

- a. 23/11/06 The following highways issues were noted:
  - i. S Clarke agreed to investigate costs for bollards and improvements to the railings around the war memorial.
  - ii. D Alchin informed the meeting that Gateways signs could be progressed without SCC Highways (other than a licence). It was agreed therefore to progress Gateway signs for the junction of Dennington Road/Vicarage Road and also for the terminal point of the 30mph zone on Station Road. Highways Committee to progress/order signs. Proposed S Innes, seconded S Sutton, AIF.
- b. 23/11/07 The Green Spaces Group recently held a meeting and a number of actions were progressing well. The first meeting of the biodiversity action plan had been held with a number of new residents becoming involved. A full update would be given at the January 2024 parish council meeting.
- c. 23/11/08 It was confirmed that the application for the 2023/24 free Trees, Hedgerows and Wildflowers Scheme has been submitted, acknowledged and site visit to take place.
- d. 23/11/09 S Clarke confirmed that the October litter pick had been a great success. There had been less litter picked in most areas of the parish other than around the primary school and the Blacksmiths Way Development. The clerk to write to the developers to request that workers on the site pick up their litter. The next litter pick was confirmed as **Saturday 23 March 2024**.
- e. 23/11/10 The tank pond conveyancing information had been submitted to the solicitor and was now with the other side for response. It was confirmed that public access would be granted for the site.

## 8. Correspondence and other issues

- a. 23/11/11 It was noted that six applications for the scrap metal collection monies had been received and would be distributed as per the proposal submitted for consideration. The clerk to progress. Proposed S Innes, seconded O Hackett, AIF.  
Regarding the additional monies for the pavilion, the Parish Council will apply for additional funding from the Pride Of Place award as well as allocating funds from the Scrap Metal money and the Parish Council's own reserves.
- b. 23/11/12 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of D Day – various ideas were discussed and it was agreed that an event should be held on 8 June 2024 on the playing field and could possibly include utilising a tent for children, a fete during the day, afternoon teas and in the evening a 40s Swing Band could play.
- c. 23/11/13 Good Neighbour Scheme – it was agreed that a Community Engagement 'awareness raising' event would be held in Spring 2024 in the village hall which would include a stand highlighting the GNS amongst others. O Hackett and D Martindale to progress in conjunction with the village hall committee.
- d. 23/11/14 D Martindale confirmed that Suffolk Cloud were still working on the setup of pc mailboxes and the transfer of the pc website domain name from the old domain (laxfield.online) to the new domain (laxfield-pc.gov.uk) and that the website was currently unlocatable.
- e. 23/11/15 It was agreed that SCC were responsible for the connection of the new defibrillator on the Church gates. S Innes to progress.
- f. 23/11/16 Village hall defibrillator code was raised by a resident at the open forum and it was agreed that the code should not be published and that anyone who wants to access the defibrillator should ring the number on the defib unit for the access code.
- g. 23/11/17 The request for funding of £200 for lighting for Beavers' sticky archery equipment was agreed. Proposed S Sutton, seconded S Clarke, AIF.

**Meeting finished at 8 56 pm.**

## 9. Date of next meeting – **Monday 8 January 2024.**

If you would like to attend a parish council meeting, please come along. Alternatively, if you would like to raise a matter of concern, please do not hesitate to contact the parish clerk or a member of the council.

**Karen Gregory (Parish Clerk), Hill Farm Barn, Framlingham Road, Badingham, Suffolk IP13 8JL**

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