



PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

LAXFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday 11 September 2023 at 7 30 pm in the Parish Room

www.laxfield.online

OPEN FORUM

A number of members of the public attended the open forum. The following issues were raised and discussed:

- a) Blacksmiths Way development – resident asked about the footpath linking Blacksmiths Way with Mill Close and Mill Road and stressed that it was important that connection between the two is made, integrating the new development into the village more effectively and giving a safer route for children to walk to school. Discussion re action to be taken continued under 4dII.
- a) Removal of filing cabinet from the Guildhall – it appears that the Parish Council has accidentally removed and disposed of the wrong filing cabinet, through no fault of the scrap metal collection organiser. Apologies were offered, along with a replacement if the Museum Committee wishes. The committee to be asked how they would like the PC to proceed.
- b) Tank Pond – a resident requested an update on current status; they felt the Parish Council was taking far too long to resolve the matter and should press harder for completion. It was explained that the Parish Council did not intend to push the current owner of the land and that the next action is with the current owner to progress with their solicitor at whatever speed they feel appropriate.
- c) It has been reported by residents that street lighting up Bickers Hill is staying on all night but it is not clear whether these lights are PC responsibility or not; this needs to be investigated further and appropriate action taken.

Reports had been received from county and district councillors and are available on the website. Cllr Hopfensberger, covering for Cllr Gould, had sent their apologies. Cllr Linder, district councillor attended the meeting.

MINUTES

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

1. Apologies and approval of absences

S Clarke, L Sharman, K Gregory (clerk).

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Approval of minutes

- a. 23/09/01 The minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 10 July 2023 (*note amendment item 9a 23/07/09 g - removal of R Sutton's name*) were approved. Proposed R Sutton, seconded S Sutton, AIF.

4. Planning

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

PLANNING PERMISSION DC/22/06090

Proposal & Location of Development: Full Planning Application -Retention and completion of Change of use of land from siting 4No holiday huts and ablutions block to siting 4No holiday huts and tractor shed (amended scheme that approved under DC/20/00241). Location: Quack And Shack, Badingham Road, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8JD

FORMAL APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED - AGRICULTURAL DETERMINATION - DC/23/03274

Proposal: Application to determine if Prior Approval is required for a Proposed: Erection, Extension or Alteration of a building for Agricultural or Forestry Use. Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) Schedule 2, Part 6, Class A - Erection of general purpose agricultural building for the storage of

machinery and plant. Location: Hill Farm, Access Road From Bickers Hill Road To Hill Farm, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8HA

PERMISSION GRANTED DC/23/03436

Proposal & Location of Development: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Reduce Crown of 1 No. Field Maple (T1) by 30%, Reduce Crown of 2 No. Ash (T2 and T3) by 30%. 2 Elm Lodge Road, Laxfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 8ET

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

Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/21/06384 - Condition 15 (Contamination)
Location: Land At The Packhouse, Badingham Road, Laxfield, Suffolk

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

Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/23/01901 - Condition 5 (Ditch) and Condition 6 (Surface Materials). Location: Elm Farm, Wells Corner, Framlingham Road, Laxfield Woodbridge Suffolk

PLANNING PERMISSION DC/23/02676

Proposal & Location of Development: Householder Application - Erection of garage/workshop and re-position shed (following demolition of an existing structures). Fourwinds, Badingham Road, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8HT

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

Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/23/01115 - Condition 4 (Timber Frame Repairs), Condition 5 (Repairs), Condition 6 (Insulation Details), Condition 7 (Plinth Repairs), Condition 8 (Internal Doors), Condition 9 (External Doors) Location: Aldridges Farm, Fressingfield Road, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8EN

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

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/23/02676

Proposal: Householder Application - Erection of garage/workshop and re-position shed (following demolition of an existing structures). Location: Fourwinds, Badingham Road, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8HT
No objections

APPLICATION FOR AGRICULTURAL DETERMINATION - DC/23/03274

Proposal: Application to determine if Prior Approval is required for a Proposed: Erection, Extension or Alteration of a building for Agricultural or Forestry Use. Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) Schedule 2, Part 6, Class A - Erection of general purpose agricultural building for the storage of machinery and plant. Location: Hill Farm, Access Road From Bickers Hill Road To Hill Farm, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8HA

Detailed comments are available on the website within the planning folder – www.laxfield.online

APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/23/03436

Proposal: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Reduce Crown of 1 No. Field Maple (T1) by 30%, Reduce Crown of 2 No. Ash (T2 and T3) by 30% Location: 2 Elm Lodge Road, Laxfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 8ET
No objections

APPLICATION FOR PRIOR APPROVAL - DEMOLITION - DC/23/03490

Proposal: Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Demolition of Buildings The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Schedule 2, Part 11, Class B - Demolition of 6no. poultry houses, feeding tanks and hard-standing. Location: The Bungalow, Cratfield Lane, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8EU
No objections

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION DC/23/03541

Proposal: Full Planning Application - Erection of 1No self-build dwelling (following demolition of two 20th century wing extensions either side of the original property), linked extension and restoration of Mill House for use as ancillary accommodation. Location: Mill House, Gorams Mill Lane, Laxfield, Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 8DN
Application supported and note made of the excellent quality of submission

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/23/03815

Proposal: Planning Application - Erection of 'L' shaped rear covered area.
Location: Co-op Food Store, High Street, Laxfield, IP13 8DH
No objections

APPLICATION FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT - DC/23/03816

Proposal: Application for Listed Building Consent - Erection of 'L' shaped rear covered area.

Location: Co-op Food Store, High Street, Laxfield, IP13 8DH

No objections

c. The following appeal decision was noted:

APPEAL DISMISSED: Appeal Ref: APP/W3520/W/22/3309966

Land west of The Chestnuts, Framlingham Road, Laxfield IP13 8HD.

d. The following planning issues were discussed:

- I. building development on the East side of Bickers Hill and results of meeting with MSDC were discussed. It was agreed that the outcomes of the meeting with Daniel Cameron required following up and then agree the next steps. The clerk to progress.
- II. Blacksmith's Way development - following on from the Open Forum, the footpath was discussed further. The developer appears to have created a path part way but it stops short of meeting Mill Close. It was agreed that there was a need to talk to Mid Suffolk Housing to see whether they have an issue that needs to be resolved. The path linking the two is part of the planning application and it was also agreed that discussion should take place with MSDC planning to determine whether this is an enforcement matter. If land ownership is the issue (eg ownership of part of the land is not known), it was agreed that the parish council should claim it to allow the path to be completed. Proposed D Martindale, seconded O Hackett, AIF.

5. Finance

- a. 23/09/02 BACs payments, direct debits and receipts as listed in Register of Payments for July and August 2023 were authorised. Proposed R Sutton, seconded S Sutton, AIF.
- b. 23/09/03 Bank reconciliations for July and August 2023 were reviewed and approved. Proposed D Alchin, seconded D Martindale, AIF.
- c. 23/09/04 Performance v budget and monthly accounts for July and August 2023 were reviewed and approved. Proposed S Innes, seconded R Sutton, AIF.
- d. 23/09/05 It was noted that the external audit process had been successfully completed for 2022 - 2023 and notice of conclusion of audit documentation is posted on the noticeboard and website.
- e. 23/09/06 The £140 left from the Parish Council contribution to Litfest was discussed and it was agreed that the money should be put back into the grant funding pot so it is available for other organisations. Proposed D Martindale, seconded S Sutton, AIF.
- f. 23/09/07 The parish council insurance renewal quote was reviewed and agreed. Proposed R Sutton, seconded O Hackett, AIF.
- g. 23/09/08 It was noted that the Parish Council had agreed to fund the scouts' pioneering poles at a cost of £229.86. Proposed S Innes, seconded O Hackett, AIF. Thanks given to the parish council from the scouts group was also noted.
- h. 23/09/09 Discussion took place regarding the current situation with Barclays and it was agreed that changing banks should be considered. The clerk to progress.

6. Neighbourhood Plan

- a. 23/09/10 S Innes confirmed that the aim is to complete the draft Laxfield Design Guide by the end of October. At this time there will be an opportunity to provide feedback, provide comments or make amendments to the report.

7. Roads, Footpaths, Infrastructure, Green Areas

- a. 23/09/11 The highways group update and footpath report were noted including:
 - i. Update on B1117 Vicarage Road footway – Cllr Linder agreed to find out who is representing Laxfield at SCC as there appears to be some confusion with responsibility split between different people at this stage. D Alchin also suggested that the clerk should contact Cllr Hopfensberger to see if they can help to move this forward.
 - ii. There was no update on the Mill Road development proposals.
 - iii. White lining expenditure – it was noted that the consultant from MSDC is dealing with Highways regarding this issue but no detailed rates have been provided yet despite repeated requests. It is unlikely that the objective of starting the work in autumn will be met.

- b. 23/09/12 The outcomes of the last green spaces group meeting were noted including:
 - i. Establishment of a group to develop a biodiversity action plan
 - ii. Meeting held recently with Swifts SOS to investigate ways to attract more swifts
 - iii. Meeting to be held during October with Suffolk Wildlife Trust
 - iv. Meeting held recently with Sustrans re cycle paths.
- c. 23/09/13 It was agreed that sky lanterns within Laxfield Parish Council's owned and managed land should be banned. Proposed R Sutton, seconded S Sutton, AIF. It was also agreed that A Lander should raise this issue with MSDC Environment Committee. The clerk to liaise with local parish councils to see if they, too, will be banning sky lanterns.
- d. 23/09/14 Pride in Your Place funding – carried over to October meeting.
- e. 23/09/15 It was noted that the War Graves Commission plaque is now in place outside the (old) cemetery.
- f. 23/09/16 The 2023/24 free Trees, Hedgerows and Wildflowers Scheme was discussed and areas identified for support as follows:
 - i. Low growing wild flowers along road side edge of the verges in the High Street
 - ii. Fruit trees along footpath near allotments
 - iii. Wildflowers in new cemetery in unconsecrated area.
 Proposed S Innes, seconded D Martindale, AIF
- g. 23/09/17 It was noted that a pavilion development group meeting will be held at the beginning of October.
- h. 23/09/18 The Laxfield Autumn/Winter 2023 litter pick was discussed. NB following the meeting it was confirmed that S Clarke would co-ordinate and would be held a.m. on 28 October 2023.
- i. 23/09/19 Update on tank pond conveyancing was covered in the open forum.

8. Correspondence and other issues

- a. 23/09/20 The dates for 2024 Parish Council meetings were noted.
- b. 23/09/21 It was agreed that, in terms of the amount collected, the scrap metal collection had been a great success. O Hackett would report back to the meeting when the scrap metal had been sold and a value was known. A piece would be placed in the parish magazine and great thanks were noted to O Hackett for all the work in organising the collection.
- c. 23/09/22 It was noted that S Sutton still had stock of 30mph stickers and agreed to hold on to them for future requests.
- d. 23/09/23 The 80th anniversary of D Day – deferred to the next meeting.
- e. 23/09/24 O Hackett outlined Stradbroke's Good Neighbour Scheme including current costs and usage. A representative from Stradbroke's GNS would be invited to the next PC meeting to outline the scheme in more detail in order for further consideration to take place within Laxfield.
- f. 23/09/25 New email addresses for Laxfield parish councillors and clerk were discussed. It was noted that the laxfield.org domain was still in existence so this could be used and R Sutton agreed to provide help to anyone who needs it. The next step was agreed to liaise with Suffolk Cloud about hosting.
- g. 23/09/26 Thanks were noted from organisers of 'Sonny's Saturday' for the parish council's contribution to their community fundraising event.
- h. 23/09/27 Defibrillator update would be deferred to the next meeting.

9. Date of next meeting – **Monday 9 October 2023.**

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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