



LIMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – MONTHLY MEETING

*Minutes of the meeting of Limpsfield Parish Council held on Monday 10th
February 2025, 7pm at Oxted Library*

Attending councillors: Mark Wilson, John Thompson, Antony Taylor, Jenny Williams, Bob Harvey, Bernie de Haldevang
District Cllrs: Ian Booth, Claire Blackwell; County Councillor: Cameron McIntosh
Clerk: Sophie Martin

Vice Chair, Mark Wilson chairs meeting in Thomas Briggs' absence.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Sophie Kemp, Ann Osborn, Thomas Briggs

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE INTEREST

None

3. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Minutes approved as circulated.

4. PUBLIC SESSION – Nila Spiller & Richard Spiller, regarding funds for Limpsfield Village Fete 2025.

- Nila and Richard are asking for a donation to support the Limpsfield village fete. [Last year we donated £800].
- Jointly run with the Church and the Infant School. Community event.
- The event is raising money for “Delight in Stories” programme at Limpsfield CofE Infant School.
- Titsey Estate will most likely contribute as usual. Residents make donations in kind (cakes etc).
- Stalls will be £35 – less than last year. After some confusion last year, they will be discounting fees for charity stalls.
- MW proposes grant of £800. JW seconds. All agreed.

5. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (Surrey CC & Tandridge DC)

Claire Blackwell

- JW asks about Grey Belt definition. This has not yet been entirely defined. Awaiting more publications.
- Land at Red Lane Farm Stables – application for 12 2-4 bed homes by Chartwell. This has been flagged as previously developed land due to the stable buildings. Following Orchard Cottage Fm refusal, this will most likely rest on Surrey Highways.
- Orchard Cottage Farm has been refused due to it being an unsustainable location – no pavements or safe public access to HG/Station etc.
- Local Plan – groundwork is being done now, pending further information to be published. Will be focusing on the Local Plan on a district perspective.
- BH asks if TDC has got its house in order in terms of finance. CB thinks that Woking's debt may be divided across the total. CMcl believes some of Woking's debt may be written off, although this has not been confirmed publicly.

- Chic Grooming – the landowners have appealed on the basis there was a dog grooming/kennels there originally. Although this was not on this particular site and the houses built were a trade for the kennels, not the adjoining fields on which Chic Grooming is operating. CB to talk to Cliff Thurlow. They should have ceased trading but have not.
- Grasshopper site – no appeal has been submitted yet. There is currently nothing that can be done about this site now until an appeal or another application is submitted. TDC would not have the funds for compulsory purchase.
- BH asks about the application on former RSPCA in South Godstone. CB confirms this was approved.

Cameron McIntosh

- SCC set budget last week to the full amount. Will circulate comms that outline the various allocations.
- Resurfacing – Detillens/High Street. This is scheduled for this year. There might be an opportunity to do other maintenance works whilst the road is closed to through traffic. Potential could be to look at any necessary tree pruning etc.
- CMcl explains the One Network system with regards to surfacing and communication with utilities.

6. CHAIRMAN'S NOTE(s)

6.1. Chairman is absent.

Clerk notes that there is a Casual Vacancy for Councillor. Sophie Kemp has resigned effective immediately due to her heavy workload and family / farm commitments. TDC has been informed, and a notice has been issued. Deadline for by-election request is 27 February, after which time we may co-opt. A potential candidate has been nominated – Michael Tinker, who would be a great representative for Limpsfield Chart which is currently lacking in representation. Councillors are invited to meet with MT over the coming weeks. Any other potential candidates should be asked to contact the Clerk.

7. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE - Cllr Antony Taylor/Clerk

- 7.1. Note of end of January 2025 balances – AT reports balances at £86,108. £15,000 was transferred from CIL account to Interest bearing account.
- 7.2. February expenditure items for approval/to note – all approved.
- 7.3. Expenditure proposal - Preparation of Wildflower area – proposal circulated by AO. Proposal to use Will Bistram/Evergreen Gardening. £170 max. AT proposes, BH seconds. All in favour. Clerk to inform Will Bistram/AO to organise date.

8. PLANNING - Cllr Jenny Williams

- 8.1. Any urgent planning applications – none
- 8.2. Enforcement updates – Appeal from owners of the land on which Chic Grooming is operating (as above in District Councillors Reports).
- 8.3. Recent determinations of note – none of note
 - 8.3.1. The TDC website notes Little Grange withdrew application.
- 8.4. Outstanding applications of note –
 - 8.4.1. 2024/1202 Manor Villa (wall), Limpsfield High Street - On the website, the documents for the application appear to have a covering note with no letter attached. Highways did not want to offer a comment. NYD to date.
- 8.5. AOB
 - 8.5.1. Whinchat Cottage, Hookwood (Grade II listed). A copy of letter to owner has been delivered to Whinchat Cottage regarding plans for the property.

Councillors report there is a lot of rubbish there, which appears not to be from the house itself. CB suggests possible report to Environmental Health or Enforcement form if the rubbish increases or is not cleared.

9. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (AO)

- 9.1. Any updates regarding current projects - AO is away. No further updates.
- 9.2. LNP Review meeting. The working group held a very productive initial LNP Review meeting and will be looking at 4 policies for the February meeting. CB believes Neighbourhood Plans will become more important with Devolution as local level guidelines.
- 9.3. The Bull Inn – ACV – LW, MW and JT met with the board members of The Bull. Offered 1-2 people on the board. And potential to support projects. £200K loan. Have paid off £100K but still servicing that debt. LPC should be supporting local businesses in need, with The Bull as an Asset of Community Value. Supporting community engagement. Now it's profitable and they are doing a good job. Also looking at an industry-based advisor.
MW suggests JW responds to the post meeting email from The Bull with agreement for support. All agreed.

10. HIGHWAYS - Cllr Bob Harvey – any highways issues of note.

- 10.1. Moorhouse Road – there is very bad degrading of the side of the road / pothole on the hill up from Moorhouse Farm. This had been reported following several incidents. Bob Harvey followed up with Highways directly. The hole has been repaired. BH says the reporting system does work and encourages all to report.
- 10.2. Clerk has reported concerns to Highways/SCC regarding safety of right turn to Moorhouse Road from A25, particularly at night.

11. PARISH ASSETS – Cllr Bob Harvey

- 11.1. Horse Trough update / quotes – still awaiting one final quote. There is a big difference between quotes received to date which needs to be investigated. Clerk notes that an alternative could be partial replica (engraved on one side) with plaque to acknowledge what was there before, or to install a reclaimed stone trough with plaque, but is concerned about recreating something that is going to be equally as attractive to thieves. Decision to await third quote. Clerk to keep insurers informed.

12. CHART PLAYGROUND (Cllr Bob Harvey)

- Condition report – good condition.
- Any further update regarding Spring Horse – BH reports he is awaiting spring to be made by Capital Springs in Edenbridge. Clerk to organise reinstatement with either Safeplay Ltd or Nick Dance/John Newland – TDC contractors.

13. AOB

- Confirmation of APM date – Thursday 8th May 2025, St Andrew's Hall – 7.30pm. Clerk to start circulating memos.
- Surrey Day – It is agreed to make sure flags are up in the high street for May and to purchase streetlamp discs.
- Spring newsletter timeline – Content beginning of March. Delivery beginning of April.

- Contents of March update – Oxted Local – deadline is Thursday. Clerk has drafted note to include APM and summer fetes dates. Noticeboards/shelters, Paul Perkin, Sophie Kemp, Biodiversity meeting update.
- Phone Box update – awaiting conclusion of adoption process. Currently with TDC for consultation. Clerk to report on progress.
- Rev Paul Perkin: BH reports Paul and Christine Perkin are leaving the post at St Andrew's, due to being retired by the Diocese, which is a great shame. To include note of thanks in Oxted Local/Chart News.

clerk@limpsfield.org

Meeting ended 8.34 PM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Wilson'.

Mark Wilson, Vice Chair