

EBERNOE PARISH COUNCIL



LOXWOOD PARISH COUNCIL



**NORTHCHAPEL  
Parish Council**



**WISBOROUGH GREEN**  
PARISH COUNCIL

PLAISTOW AND IFOLD PARISH COUNCIL



**MINUTES** of a Meeting of the Northern Parishes held on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023** at **19:30**, via Zoom.

**Present**

**Plaistow & Ifold Parish Council:** Cllr. Paul Jordan (Chair); Cllr. Sophie Capsey (Vice Chair); Catherine Nutting (Clerk)

**Wisborough Green Parish Council:** Cllr. Peter Drummond (Chair); Cllr. Sophie Winship (Vice Chair); Cllr. Martin Watson; Louise Davies (Clerk)

**Loxwood Parish Council:** Cllr. Valerie Woods

**Kirdford Parish Council:** Cllr. Tony Brooks; Lynne Brooks (Clerk)

**Northchapel Parish Council:** Cllr. Laura Green

**1.**

**Introductions, apologies & housekeeping**

Apologies received from Cllr. Rick Kelsey, Loxwood Parish Council  
Cllr. Jordan to Chair the meeting.

**2.**

**Northern parishes future meetings schedule**

Agreed to quarterly meetings – proactive, rather than reactive ethos, to support and share best practice and discuss common issues e.g., Local Plan, Neighbourhood Development Plans, and speculative development.

**3.**

**Northern parishes join training**

Most prefer the flexibility of WSALC, but broad agreement in the principle of joint training. Councils to share information about upcoming training to see if others wish to join. Plaistow & Ifold to circulate details about pre-application engagement training with Steve Tilbury.

Actions:  
Plaistow &  
Ifold

**4.**

**All Parishes Meeting**

Wisborough Green Parish Council expressed the view that the recent meeting lacked relevance. Catherine Nutting clarified her

Actions:  
Wisborough  
Green

view of the meeting's purpose: to advise councils on available resources and support.

Attendees felt the presentations were too long and suggested more practical information on accessing CDC's services. Kirdford Parish Council would like information about how CDC can assist councils. Wisborough Green Parish Council proposed a joint response; to be circulated to Councils for their input/approval before sending.

5. **Local Plan (LP)**

Wisborough Green Parish Council had filed a complaint about the handling of the Local Plan process, raising concerns about transparency and CDC's reliance on meetings, predominantly informal, without either minutes or notes (information derived from FoI requests), providing a trail to the allocation of housing numbers.

Only some issues have been addressed in CDC's response and follow-up meeting. Wisborough Green appreciates the importance of having a Local Plan, but strongly disagrees with the housing allocation numbers and feel the process has undermined NDPs.

Kirdford Parish Council has paused its NDP review process, pending the conclusion of the LP Examination.

Plaistow and Ifold Parish Council is keen to get the LP made, as the North of the District remains exposed to speculative development. Some concerns were raised in the Council's Reg 19 response, but the Council was broadly in support. The Crouchlands Farm site remains a risk, subject to Examination.

Delays in determining a site in Kirdford may relate to forthcoming changes in the NPPF expected imminently, which may have an impact on the LP (cause more delay).

Loxwood Parish Council emphasised the need for development to align with infrastructure capacity. Sewage is still being tankered away from the Nursery Green site. Residents are keen to have a NDP and allocate LP housing. Therefore, Loxwood will instruct a consultant to support their NDP review process.

Wisborough Green Parish Council expressed dissatisfaction with CDC's lack of transparency and collaboration, advocating for improved understanding and cooperation between CDC and Parish

Councils in LP development.

**6. Neighbourhood Plans**

Plaistow and Ifold Parish Council have begun a new NDP process with no LP housing allocation.

Wisborough Green Parish Council's NDP review has stalled pending final confirmation of the LP housing numbers. They will make representations during Examination.

Kirdford Parish Council has delayed their NDP review. They have received 25% CIL due to having a made Plan. Previously, their NDP has not been supported at Appeal.

Loxwood Parish Council will instruct a consultant to progress their NDP review; they wish to allocate LP housing via several smaller sites.

Northchapel Parish Council are in the SDNP and Leconfield Estate. The Parish would benefit from some development to support local services and facilities, inject vitality and receive CIL money.

Kirdford Parish Council has declined to engage with the SDNP LP review process for 'asset identification', as concerned it's a phishing exercise to identify land for development.

**7. Speculative development applications**

The Crouchlands Farm site in Plaistow has three applications pending, as well as being engaged in the LP process.

Wisborough Green Parish Council has a planning application running ahead of the NDP review process, although the intention is to include it within the Plan. They expect an application to be lodged for Glebe Fields. A meeting with the developer, held prior to an earlier withdrawn application, indicated that they are not minded to take account of the Parish Council's views.

Further development on the Nursery Green site in Loxwood could begin in the coming months. They met Water Neutrality requirements by offsetting at Fishers Farm. Although changes are coming, current Water Neutrality and Biodiversity offsetting credits

can be 'spent' away from the area.

The meeting voiced general concerns regarding *how* CDC will enforce Water Neutrality offsetting. Kirdford Parish Council have already highlighted breaches and CDC are taking enforcement action.

8.

**Speed / traffic safety issues**

Plaistow and Ifold Parish Council have successfully applied for a School Safety Zone and to extend the 30mph along Rickman's Lane, Plaistow.

Parking in Wisborough Green Parish is an ongoing issue. A successful TRO application will slow traffic entering the village from Petworth direction. Now that WSCC Highways have amended their policy, applications will be made for previously unsuccessful attempts.

Discussion about the value of fostering a good working relationship with Sussex Police to support Community Speed Watch initiatives. Wisborough Green has a very active group, led by Cllr. Sophie Winship who is happy to speak to other groups and Councils to promote success and best practice. Giving complainants an approved 'patch' outside their home address (area of concern) helps to garner their support and activity to address an issue which impacts them directly.

Actions:  
Plaistow & Ifold to share TRO information with Northchapel

9.

**Parish projects**

Discussed winter gritting and parish farmer contractors. Wisborough Green owns a gritting machine, which can be towed by a contractor. Plaistow and Ifold Parish are seeking a new contractor.

Kirdford Parish Council to use their CIL money to extend the Kirdford Village Hall, build a new pavilion and refurbish an existing pavilion. They are working on a Water Neutrality statement and looking at water harvesting provisions.

Discussed Legionnaires Disease water testing in public buildings.