

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday 3rd October 2023 at 7.00 pm
at Thursley Village Hall

Attendees: Cllr J. Mendelssohn (Chair) Cllr C. Dailly Cllr M. de Vries
Cllr J. Luff Cllr C. McClements Cllr R. Owen
Mrs E. Felton (Clerk)

Cllr D. Munro (WBC) – to 8.27 pm Cllr D. Harmer (SCC) – to 7.35 pm.

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr Flavell. These apologies were accepted.

It was agreed that the agenda item to look at the Village Improvement Proposal be moved to allow Cllr Harmer to contribute to the discussions.

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No members disclosed any (a) Personal, (b) Prejudicial interests which they are required to disclose by section 94(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Parish Council (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.

3.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th September 2023 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

4.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(4.1) It was noted that Mr Patrick Giles (SCC) was investigating the damage to the posts in Bowlhead Green.

(4.2) Cllr McClements advised that Ms Katie Stewart (SCC) had confirmed that the repairs to the road on the bridge over the A3 would happen in due course.

(4.3) Cllr de Vries provided details of the discussion that had taken place at a recent HUG meeting regarding filming licences and the condition that heavy goods traffic does not pass through the village. Cllr de Vries agreed to provide Cllr Munro with a summary of the discussions so that he could follow this up with WBC. Cllr Harmer referred to the ability of SCC to enforce moving traffic offences. He asked to be provided with examples of such offences within the parish.

(4.4) It was noted that Cllr McClements would be attending the forthcoming inter-parish Climate Change/Environment Group meeting. Cllr de Vries suggested that it may be worth him speaking to an attendee who is an expert on wildflowers to get his input as part of the improvement plan.

(4.5) It was noted that Cllr de Vries and Cllr Flavell along with John Swift had inspected the defibrillator unit in Bowlhead Green following a recent report of its usage.

(4.6) It was noted that the salt bin report had been resolved.

(4.7) It was reported that a submission to the recent SCC Division of Boundaries consultation had been made to support the name 'Western Villages' be used.

(4.8) Cllr de Vries agreed to provide the email contact details of the homeowners adjacent to BW 103. The Clerk agreed to speak to Patrick Giles regarding who is responsible for removing vegetation encroaching on a bridleway from a property.

5.0 VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL

Cllr Mendelssohn thanked Cllr McClements for his preparation of a comprehensive proposal which had been available in advance of the meeting. It was agreed that there was a need to consider the proposals and gain an understanding of responsibilities of the different strands in order to move forward.

Discussion took place regarding the SCC Highways responsibilities and how best to manage the allocation of the tasks. Cllr Harmer suggested that it may be possible to add some of the suggested works to the Western Villages schedule.

Following discussion it was agreed that Cllr McClements would report those elements of the proposal such as replacement signs etc. and prepare an updated proposal in due course. He agreed to investigate the erection of the village gateways.

Discussion took place regarding the broken concrete and post on the pathway adjacent to the recreation ground. Cllr Owen agreed to remove this whilst undertaking works to the play area.

It was suggested that it may be appropriate to prepare a survey to gather parishioners views on the matter.

Cllr Harmer left at 7.35 pm.

6.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

(6.1) Cllr Munro reported that the recent drop-in sessions to discuss the proposed expansion of Farnborough airport had demonstrated a level of opposition. Discussion took place regarding a suggestion that an alternative would be for the flight path to follow the A3 although this looked to be unlikely.

(6.2) It was noted that Mr Tom Horwood had resigned as Chief Executive of Guildford and Waverley Councils.

(6.3) Discussion took place regarding the difficulties with recruitment of Planning Officers. Cllr Munro asked that he be advised of any specific queries or concerns regarding planning matters.

(6.4) Cllr Mendelssohn reported that he understood that National Trust was keen to be involved in the JAG which Cllr Munro was arranging. Cllr Munro agreed to obtain an update from WBC regarding the status of the formation of the group.

(6.5) Cllr Munro provided an update regarding training taking place on Hankley common.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

It was reported that someone had raised a concern regarding the placing of mushroom figures outside of a property on Dye House Road. Cllr Mendelsohn agreed to speak to the homeowner.

7.0 PLANNING ISSUES AND COMMUNICATIONS

(7.1) Following a number of concerns raised by local residents about the development at Shepherds Cottage, it was agreed that the Clerk request WBC to review the work taking place to ensure that it conforms with the permissions granted and other planning guidelines.

(7.2) It was agreed that there was no further comment to make regarding the consultation on amendments for application reference WA/2023/01469 – Keffolds Farm, Haslemere.

(7.3) It was noted that discussion had taken place with the homeowner of Tilhurst regarding the erection of gates on his property and it had been suggested that he seek advice from WBC.

8.0 FINANCE

(8.1) The list of payments for October had been presented to Councillors in advance of the meeting. The payments were authorised and approved for payment as follows:

Voucher Reference	Payee		Amount
0035	R. Bates	Grass cutting	£500.00
0036	E. Felton	Salary & expenses	£329.60
0037	HMRC	October payment	£207.20
	TOTAL		£1,036.80

(8.2) It was noted that Cllr Owen would be undertaking repairs to the play area fencing with costs totalling approx. £340.

(8.3) The Budget Review document for 2023-24 showing actuals to end September 2023 was available to councillors in advance of the meeting.

(8.4) Discussion took place regarding arrangements for grass cutting. The Clerk was asked to speak to Richard Knight to request he undertake a final cut this year. It was agreed that further discussion regarding contracting arrangements take place in due course.

(8.5) It was agreed that the mower be removed from the Fixed Assets list following it being taken out of service.

9.0 HIGHWAYS/VAS

(9.1) Cllr Owen agreed to resolve the issue of the VAS batteries.

(9.2) Cllr McClements advised that he would be following up with Patrick Giles regarding the highway repairs on the bridge.

(9.3) Following discussion it was agreed that it was necessary to continue to report highways issues. It was suggested that the areas around the speed bumps/pinch points on Dye House Road may cause a problem and were possibly a safety concern. Cllr Owen agreed to take a look and remove the pallet dumped on the recreation ground whilst undertaking the repairs at the play area.

DM left at 8.27 pm.

10.0 THURSLEY CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

See (4.4) above.

11.0 PARISH EMERGENCY PLAN

Deferred to next meeting.

12.0 CHRISTMAS TREE ON THE CLUMP

Cllr Mendelssohn provided an overview of the quotes that had been received to install infrastructure on the Clump to support the erection of a Christmas tree each year as well as alternative use to support other events and celebrations. It was noted that a risk assessment had been completed.

The Clerk was asked to complete an application for funding from Your Fund Surrey. It was noted that that, if successful, the funds from Your Fund Surrey may not be available before the expenditure is incurred and in such circumstances, it was agreed that the PC would advance the funds to enable the project to go ahead before Christmas.

It was agreed that when considering the budget, the Parish Council include an amount of £500 for an annual Christmas tree.

13.0 NEW PARISHIONERS

None were reported.

14.0 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk made reference to the SALC AGM on 19th October 2023.

Cllr de Vries provided an overview of the discussions at the recent HUG meeting. It was suggested that it may be necessary to liaise with SFRS if the MOD use drones in the event of a fire on the common.

Cllr Luff highlighted that the History Society were looking for a scanner to allow them to digitalise their records so that hard copies could be passed to the storage facility in Woking. It was agreed that the Parish Council would consider purchasing a scanner which the History

Society could use. The expenditure was approved to the amount of £500. Cllr Luff agreed to obtain the cost of purchasing the item.

15.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward from above
- Draft budget 2024-25

The meeting closed at 9.16 pm. The date of the next meeting is **Tuesday 7th November at 7.00 pm.**

Signed **7th November 2023**