

**THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Meeting**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 6.45 pm**  
**at Thursley Village Hall**

**Attendees:** Cllr J. Mendelssohn (Chair)      Cllr de Vries      Cllr H. Flavell  
Cllr J. Luff      Cllr R. Owen      Cllr D. Sellars  
Cllr J. Swift      Mrs E. Felton (Clerk)

**Also attending were:** Cllr D. Harmer (SCC)

**1.0 AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRESENTATION**

Esther Lyons and Alice Lean, Housing Strategy and Enabling Manager from WBC, joined the meeting via Zoom. Councillors had been provided with their presentation electronically and in hard copy.

Discussion took place regarding demand for affordable housing in the village, possible development sites and the level of control which the Parish Council would have over the design and residents. **Cllr Mendelssohn outlined previous discussions he had had with Natural England about a possible site and he agreed to follow up on these following delays as a result of staff changes and the pandemic.**

In response to a question, Cllr Swift advised that the Vision 2030 for Thursley survey had not included specific questions about affordable housing as its purpose was to determine how best to improve the existing housing.

Following discussion it was agreed that not to repeat the housing needs survey at this time but for further discussion to take place once possible sites had been identified. **The Clerk was asked to include it as an agenda item for the November meeting.**

The Chair thanked Esther and Alice for their attendance and presentation.

**2.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs David and Jenny Else.

**3.0 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.

**4.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

## 5.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(5.1) It was noted that Cllr Sellars had prepared a proposal for purchase of a projector for discussion later in the meeting.

(5.2) Cllr Owen agreed to speak to Mr Peter Hunter to obtain the list of items to be purchased so that the solar panels can be installed to the VAS unit.

(5.3) Cllr Harmer provided an update on ownership and status of areas of land in the parish that had been discussed previously. **Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Harmer would meet with Cllr Mendelssohn to progress matters.**

(5.4) **Following discussion it was agreed that Cllr Swift would provide information regarding an area of land in Bowlhead Green to Cllr Harmer for further investigation.**

(5.5) It was noted that it had not been possible to identify the driver of a vehicle consistently speeding in Highfield Lane although it appeared as though the vehicle was no longer causing a problem.

(5.6) Cllr Flavell advised that she understood that Mr Steve Lindsey-Clark was planning to visit the BOAT which a resident had raised as a concern and had agreed to undertake some limited repairs. Discussion took place regarding it also being a 'D' road and the possibility of improving the surface to the quality expected of an ancient route. It was agreed that the banks of the BOAT are a safety concern.

(5.7) Cllr Mendelssohn confirmed that he had spoken to Mr James Giles and that there was work taking place to install fire breaks on the common.

(5.8) **It was noted that Cllr Mendelssohn and Cllr Luff would speak to James Giles the following day regarding fire breaks to the land adjacent to Warren Park.**

(5.9) Cllr Flavell advised that after speaking with WBC she understood that there was an amount of approx. £2k CIL funding available to the Parish Council. **The Clerk was asked to obtain further information about the funding available and whether CIL funding would apply to the five new homes at Warren Park.**

(5.10) Following discussion it was agreed that the posts on the recreation ground do not need to be replaced at this time but that it should be a consideration for inclusion in the budget for next year.

(5.11) Cllr Mendelssohn confirmed that he had spoken to Camilla Daubeney following discussions at the previous meeting.

(5.12) It was confirmed that Cllr de Vries had updated the welcome pack.

## 6.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

(6.1) Cllr Harmer provided insight into other affordable housing developments in WBC.

(6.2) Cllr Harmer advised that following job changes in highways, there were on-going discussions regarding the need for local knowledge and a suggestion that local community meetings be set up.

He advised that someone had been assigned as an interface to the western villages and he had visited some of the villages with her to demonstrate how different they are. It was noted that Mr John Baker had been proactive in his approach and that a discussion had taken place at the recent SALC meeting with regards to highways maintenance.

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Although no members of the public were present, there were a number of issues raised by Councillors on their behalf as follows:

- Cllr Mendelsohn made reference to a recent issue on a footpath/bridleway close to Punchbowl Farm where the surface had deteriorated and pipework had been exposed. **The Clerk was asked to highlight this as a problem to Mr John Baker again with a copy to Cllr Harmer.**
- Discussion took place regarding the speed at which drivers of large vehicles including farm workers are speeding and causing damage to vegetation and on one occasion, a vehicle. **Cllr Mendelsohn agreed to include reference to this in his article in the parish magazine.**
- It was noted that there was a project planning meeting at Hammer Pond the following morning, with work scheduled to start the following week.

### **7.0 PLANNING ISSUES AND COMMUNICATIONS**

(7.1) It was noted that although there were no new planning applications for consideration, an NMA application had been submitted for amendment to the layout of the workshop at the Mathwall's site, opposite the old Red Lion. It was acknowledged that the Parish Council do not need to comment on such applications as permission had already been given and WBC would consider whether it was acceptable or not.

(7.2) Discussion took place regarding the signage outside of Warren Park which WBC had requested be removed. It was noted that an enforcement notice has been issued by WBC but no enforcement action has yet been taken.

(7.3) **The Clerk was asked to contact the WBC Planning Enforcement team to request an update to actions in Bowlhead Green. Cllr Swift agreed to provide the Clerk with photographic evidence.**

### **8.0 FINANCE**

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

<b>Voucher Reference</b>	<b>Payee</b>		<b>Amount</b>
0042	Surrey ALC Ltd	Conference attendance	£30.00
0043	John Swift	Travel expenses	£10.80

0044	E. Felton	Salary & Expenses	£310.33
0045	HMRC	August payment	£194.40
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£545.53</b>

(8.2) The Clerk highlighted that the mid-year expenditure was higher due to payments relating to the platinum jubilee celebrations. She advised that there would be payments next month for works to the play area and grass cutting costs.

(8.3) It was noted that discussions had taken place earlier in the meeting regarding CIL funding.

(8.4) Cllr Mendelssohn provided an update on the works to install replacement boardwalks on the common. It was noted that the works should be completed by Christmas.

He advised that at a recent POR meeting, it had been agreed that approx. half of the funds raised by the local community and organisations to support the works would be used to purchase rustic style benches (placement to be agreed following completion of the works), signage (primarily in the Moat car park) and educational material.

It was noted that the POR group would be working with the newly appointed Natural England Education and Outreach Officer to determine how best to move forward with the educational element. Cllr Swift advised that there are already educational materials available online for the site. **He agreed to provide Cllr Mendelssohn with the information.**

Cllr Mendelssohn advised that the opening event would take place on the morning of Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and that Mr Jeremy Hunt MP, as patron of POR, would be attending. Discussion took place regarding the campaign for AONB to become national parks.

## 9.0 THURSLEY CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

(9.1) Cllr Swift reported that he had attended a recent meeting in Chiddingfold which had been well attended including representatives from parishes not previously involved.

He advised that a '20 is plenty' presentation had taken place at the meeting. Discussion took place regarding SCC's support for the initiative and progress that had been made to date. It was noted that SCC has a budget for extending the speeding restrictions over the next three year period.

(9.2) Cllr Swift advised that he had closed the Vision 2030 for Thursley survey and now planned to prepare a report on the findings which he would share with the Parish Council prior to publication. He advised that he expected to be able to include an article on the matter in the parish magazine in December.

## 10.0 HIGHWAYS/VAS

(10.1) It was noted that although there was a planned closure for the A3 southbound overnight during the week, there did not appear to be any preparation work taking place.

(10.2) Cllr Mendelsohn advised that following the resurfacing of the Old Portsmouth Road/Dye House Road junction, there had been a very near accident late one evening involving a Highways England vehicle not stopping at the junction and driving directly into the path of an oncoming vehicle.

(10.3) Cllr Sellars advised that the VAS sign was in operation on Dye House Road and the second battery is currently being reconditioned. It was noted that the company doing the work had been told not to continue to offer this service free of charge in the future so it may be necessary to budget for replacement batteries next year.

He highlighted that there had been three hundred and forty six thousand (346,000) hits of speeding cars on the unit since its introduction (approx. ten thousand per week).

## **11.0 FLY TIPPING**

Discussion took place regarding the increase in fly-tipping in the parish but especially in Boundless. It was noted that a parishioner had offered to install a wildlife camera to catch the culprits. It was suggested that the other western villages probably have the same problem.

Cllr Mendelsohn advised that he had spoken to Mandy Jack at WBC and had prepared a draft document on the subject for inclusion on the website, Facebook and parish magazine. **It was noted that he had yet to hear back from WBC on the matter and so he will chase for a response.**

Cllr Owen suggested that residents continue to report fly tipping incidents on the WBC reporting tool. It was noted that WBC are quick to respond and clear the rubbish quickly.

Discussion took place regarding reports of fly tipping to WBC which include evidence of the culprit but that no enforcement action is taken. It was noted that the advice is not to touch the rubbish in order to obtain evidence of the culprit.

It was suggested that fly tipping incidents appear to have increased since CRC have started charging. Cllr Harmer advised that evidence suggests that this is not the case.

## **12.0 RECREATION GROUND**

(12.1) It was noted that the installation of new posts had been discussed earlier in the meeting and that they were not necessary at this time.

(12.2) Cllr Owen highlighted that it may be necessary to open up the recreation ground by dropping the posts to allow for additional parking for the scarecrow trail event on 16<sup>th</sup> October. **Cllr Owen agreed to organise the parking arrangements on the day of the event.**

**Cllr Mendelsohn agreed to speak to Camila Daubeney about arrangements for the coffee pod at the time of the event.**

### 13.0 CAA REVIEW

Discussion took place regarding communications received regarding another change CAA are looking to make with regards to air space without the appropriate consultation with relevant parties. It was noted that a meeting to discuss the matter in Churt had been well attended.

**Following discussion, Cllr Swift was asked to draft a letter to Mr Jeremy Hunt MP highlighting the concerns of the Parish Council.**

### 14.0 SALC ANNUAL MEETING FEEDBACK

It was noted that Cllr Swift had attended the meeting and provided a report to Councillors in advance of the meeting.

(14.1) Discussion took place regarding the availability of a 'warm room' in the village as had been discussed at the meeting. It was agreed that there did not appear to be an appropriate place in the village and that it may not be appropriate in Thursley. It was suggested that it is a caring community and neighbours tend to look out for each other.

(14.2) Cllr Swift advised that there had been discussion at the meeting with Katie Stewart (SCC) to provide feedback from the recent western villages meeting when highways matters had been discussed.

It was noted that Ms Stewart had advised that staff were receiving training on customer service and the new process which had been implemented.

It was suggested that Ms Stewart be invited to the next western villages meeting to discuss the concerns that the new system is not effective and user friendly. Cllr Harmer advised that there was a need for a priority list of works to be prepared so that he could obtain estimates in advance of a further meeting to agree a final list. **Cllr Swift agreed to follow up with Ms Stewart on the matter.**

### 15.0 REVIEW OF OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE

It was confirmed that the London Bridge arrangements in the village had worked well even though the working group had not managed to meet before it was necessary to implement them.

It was noted that the Book of Condolence had been passed to the History Society for display at appropriate times.

### 16.0 UPDATE ON HANKLEY COMMON FIRE

It was noted that the first public meeting had been discussed at the previous meeting and the second meeting was due to take place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 8.00 pm. It was further noted that the MOD would not be attending as they had not obtained the appropriate permissions. Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he was planning to suggest that a daytime meeting be arranged so that feedback could be obtained from the relevant people and that the buddy system could be discussed further.

**17.0 NEW PARISHIONERS**

It was noted that Cllr Mendelssohn had met with two new parishioners who had moved into 1 Thorfield. Cllr Owen advised that he was aware of new people moving into a property in Pitch Place but he was yet to meet them. **Cllr Luff agreed to welcome new residents to Warren Park.**

**18.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

(18.1) Following discussion regarding the 'Interim Polling District and Polling Place Review 2022' communication received from WBC, it was agreed that no action is required at this time.

(18.2) Following receipt of the proposal for purchase of a projector received from Cllr Sellars, it was agreed to proceed with the purchase. Cllr Sellars agreed to provide the Clerk with details of what was required including a three year warranty and sufficient leads.

(18.3) It was noted that it had been suggested that a defibrillator may be required to be sited at the far end of Highfield Lane and possibly one in High Button. **It was agreed that this be an agenda item for the November meeting.**

**17.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING**

- Items carried forward from above
- Budget review 2023-24

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

The date of the next meeting is **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022** at 7.00 pm.

Signed .....

**1<sup>st</sup> November 2022**