

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 1st October 2019 at 7.30 pm
Thursley Village Hall, Thursley

Attendees: Cllr J. Mendelssohn (Chair) Cllr S. Edwards Cllr H. Flavell
Cllr P. Hunter Cllr J. Luff Cllr J. Swift Cllr R. Owen
Mrs E. Felton (Clerk)

Also attending were: Cllr D. Harmer (SCC) Cllr D. Else (WBC) Cllr J. Else (WBC)

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

No apologies were necessary as all Councillors were present.

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 3rd September 2019 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

4.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(4.1) Cllr Hunter reported that he had not received any enquiries about the solar panels.

(4.2) Cllr Hunter confirmed that he had received the dimensions to enable him to purchase brackets for storage of the fire bike.

(4.3) **Cllr Hunter advised that he would contact Highways England again as he had not yet heard back from them in response to his request for a meeting.**

(4.4) Cllr Hunter agreed to follow up on communications with Safety Officers regarding the crash barriers on the A3. It was noted that there was photographic evidence to highlight the concerns of the Parish Council following a recent traffic incident.

(4.5) The Clerk reported that a response had been received from Mr Adrian Selby (SCC) in regarding the request to erect a 'low bridge' sign on the southbound slipway off of the A3 to deter large vehicles from accessing Bowlhead Green. It was noted that he had agreed to monitor the problem for a period of six months. It was suggested that it may be possible to remove an existing sign closer to the junction. **Cllr Mendelssohn and Cllr Swift were asked to raise the issue at the Western Villages meeting the following day.**

(4.6) It was noted that only one additional person had volunteered to assist with operation of the VAS equipment. It was noted that this would be discussed further at the Western Villages meeting the next day.

(4.7) Cllr Hunter advised that due to problems associated with having a high-level combination lock on the higher barrier on the recreation ground, the plan was to erect a sign at the entrance asking people who needed access to contact either Cllr Mendelsohn or Cllr Hunter who would be key holders. It was noted that a third person living close to the recreation ground would also hold a key.

(4.8) It was noted that in response to a letter to WBC Planning Services regarding the overdue planning decisions, a letter had been received to apologise for the situation which was due to staff shortages.

5.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

(5.1) Cllr Harmer advised that the primary objective of the Western Villages meeting which was taking place the following day was to agree capital purchases, rights of way and the lengthsman scheme. It was noted that appropriate officers were invited to attend the meeting to participate in the discussions regarding works in the area.

(5.2) Cllr David Else reported that he had spoken to the WBC Planning staff following discussions at the previous meeting regarding the process of 'calling in' an application for consideration at committee level. It was noted that an application for a property in Bowlhead Green currently had seven letters recorded on the website and met the criteria. **Cllr David Else was asked to speak to the Planning staff to remind them of the request for it to be 'called in'.** It was agreed that a Parish Council member would speak at the committee meeting.

(5.3) Cllr Jenny Else reported that WBC had declared a climate emergency. She advised that more details of what this entailed would be forthcoming in due course but that the statement showed that the plan was for the borough to be carbon neutral by 2030. She highlighted that it was important for the villages to be involved in the discussions rather than just the larger towns.

(5.4) Cllr Jenny Else asked Councillors to encourage parishioners to complete the online survey on the WBC website which required people to prioritise the major services provided by the council.

(5.5) Cllr Jenny Else that WBC had announced that they were not going to revisit the Local Plan Part 1 and would now work on progressing Part 2.

(5.6) Cllr Jenny Else advised that she had put in an official complaint into the Police following a lack of response from them regarding a tree that had fallen onto the road in Elstead which had required assistance to direct traffic.

(5.7) Cllr Harmer highlighted concerns that had been raised regarding the scaffolding that had been erected on the Tilford East bridge which may result in flooding.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present but Parish Councillors had received the following:

- Cllr Mendelsohn reported that there had been two recent burglaries in the village and that following discussion he had had with the Police regarding the second incident, it had been obvious that they had not connected it to the first burglary earlier in the week. It was acknowledged that the Police are very short staffed nationally.
- Cllr Mendelsohn advised that he had contacted the MOD following concerns raised regarding the number of MOD vehicles in the village. He reported that they had confirmed that they would reinforce the message that vehicles are not to travel through Thursley during their safety training briefings.
- Cllr Owen advised that the new flight paths to Farnborough Airport had apparently been approved in July. He reported that he had spoken to the Environmental department at the airport and that he had been invited to take any concerns and questions to a meeting that had been arranged for the end of October. Discussion took place regarding the original consultation documents which showed that the planes would be flying at a higher altitude with random flight paths. Cllr Jenny Else advised that WBC would have retained copies of the original documentation if it was required. **Cllr Owen agreed to prepare a paper detailing the concerns of the Parish Council for consideration at the CAA meeting.**
- Cllr Owen reported that he had collected an amount of fly-tipping in the village and had found evidence of the address of the person involved which he had passed to WBC.

6.0 PLANNING ISSUES AND COMMUNICATIONS

- (6.1) WA/2019/1347 & 1348 – Street House, The Street, GU8 6QE
Alterations to elevations including erection of chimney and replacement of roof following demolition of existing chimney/Listed building consent

Following discussion and review of the documents, it was agreed that the Parish Council had no comment regarding the applications.

- (6.2) WA/2019/1362 – Street House, The Street, GU8 6QE
Construction of a swimming pool

Following discussion and review of the documents, it was agreed that that Parish Council had no comment regarding the application.

- (6.3) WA/2019/1439 & 1440 – Street House, The Street, GU8 6QE
Alterations to outbuildings and erection of outbuildings following demolition of existing outbuildings/Listed building consent

Following discussion and review of the documents, it was agreed that the Parish Council had no comment regarding the applications.

- (6.4) WA/2019/1444 & 1445 – Street House, The Street, GU8 6QE

Alterations to existing outbuilding to provide ancillary habitable accommodation/Listed building consent

Following discussion and review of the documents, it was agreed that the Parish Council had no comment regarding the applications.

- (6.5) WA/2019/1372 – Little Cowdray Farm, Highfield Lane, GU8 6QJ
Erection of an agricultural barn following demolition of existing barn

Following discussion and review of the documents, it was agreed that the Parish Council had no comment regarding the application but it should be highlighted to WBC that it is not clear from the documentation whether the internal cubic area has been increased and there is a concern that as a result this will allow larger plant storage which could impact the village infrastructure.

- (6.6) WA/2019/1391 – Ridgeway Farm, Sailors Lane, GU8 6QP
Erection of a detached double garage and associated works

Following discussion and review of the documents, it was agreed that the Parish Council had no comment regarding the application.

- (6.7) Natural England S38 application

It was noted that the application was part of the administrative process which Natural England needed to follow to enable them to undertake the works on Hammer Pond. It was agreed that no comment was necessary at this time.

Discussion took place regarding the alternative routes that Natural England should consider to provide them access to Hammer Pond.

- (6.8) Cllr Mendelsohn reported that he had been contacted by WBC regarding certain Freedom of Information requests regarding Haybarn. He had reviewed these and had confirmed with WBC that he could see no reason why the correspondence in question should not be released.

- (6.9) **The Clerk agreed to load the minutes of Planning Committee minutes on the website.**

7.0 FINANCE

- (7.1) The following list of payments for October was presented, duly authorised and approved for payment:

Voucher Reference	Payee		Amount
023	P. Hunter	Defibrillator works	£111.51
024	E. Felton	Salary & expenses October	£387.68
025	HMRC	October payment	£93.20

026	Surrey CC	VAS Training	£216.67
	TOTAL		£809.06

(7.2) Cllr Hunter explained the reasons for having to undertake the works to move the defibrillator in Pitch Place. It was noted that there would be a further cost for extension of the cable to its new location.

(7.3) Following discussion **it was agreed that the Clerk prepare an Expenses Policy** as an appendix to the Financial Regulations to allow for a practical and sensible approach to allowing for purchases and reimbursement through the expense route.

8.0 HIGHWAYS

(8.1) Cllr Hunter reported that the open meeting to discuss highways issues had been useful and that he intended to prepare a summary report for inclusion in next month's issue of the parish magazine.

(8.2) Discussion took place regarding a meeting that had been arranged with Mr Adrian Selby to discuss the junction of Dye House Road with the Old Portsmouth Road. It was noted that three cars had been written off in the previous three years.

(8.3) Cllr Hunter advised that he would be arranging an onsite meeting with Highways England and interested parties to discuss the issue of the barriers on the A3.

9.0 PITCH PLACE DEFIBRILLATOR

See 7.2) above.

10.0 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

It was agreed that the updated Financial Regulations be approved at the next meeting at the same time as the Expenses Policy be added as an appendix.

11.0 CIL PROJECTS

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council prepare a list for consideration if CIL funds should become available within the parish. **It was agreed that Councillors consider so that the list be agreed at the next meeting.**

12.0 SALT BINS

Cllr Swift reported that the application to SSEN for salt bins had not been successful. He highlighted the five locations within the village that he had included in the application. **Cllr Swift agreed to speak to SCC to determine whether the locations met their priority criteria** so that further discussion take place at the next meeting about whether SCC and/or the Parish Council fund the bins.

13.0 SURREY POLICE

It was noted that at the meeting with Surrey Police which Cllrs Flavell, Swift and Hunter had attended, it was highlighted that they were keen for two-way communications with the rural communities but that Cllr Swift had not been able to get a response to his enquiries.

Cllr Flavell reported that she had been met with the Police on site to discuss the BOAT's issue but that she had not been successful in engaging with the other parties involved. **It was agreed that the issue of BOAT's be raised at the Western Villages meeting.**

Cllr Swift agreed to continue his attempts to speak with the Police.

14.0 RISK MANAGEMENT

Cllr Mendelsohn advised that in order to minimise risk to the Council, the Clerk had been asked to prepare documents to explain her working practices to minimise disruption should she unexpectedly be available. It was suggested that archiving of documents should also be considered as part of the process.

15.0 MEETING DATES 2020

It was noted that the proposed meeting dates for 2020 followed the same pattern as the current year so that meetings took place on the first Tuesday of each month except for July when it was slightly later and no meeting in August. It was agreed that the Assembly meeting take place on 30th April instead of 23rd. The dates were agreed.

Cllrs David and Jenny Else left the meeting at 9.45 pm

16.0 CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

(16.1) The Clerk reported that a guidance note for parishes to outline the process to be followed to mark the death of a senior figure.

(16.2) It was acknowledged that correspondence and communications are usually passed to Councillors at the time of receipt.

17.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward from above
- Draft budget format 2020-21

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 5th November 2019 at 7.30 pm.

Signed

5th November 2019

