

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

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.00 pm**  
**At Thursley Village Hall**

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

**Also attending were:** Cllr D. Harmer (SCC)      Ms M. Nugent                      Ms C. Bender  
Mr P. Wedge                                      Mrs B. Holloway                      Mr A. Kostenko

**1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Flavell, Cllr Jenny Else and Cllr David Else due to personal and business commitments. These apologies were accepted.

It was noted that Cllr de Vries was self-isolating and therefore attending remotely to observe but that she would not participate in any voting processes that may be necessary.

**2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Luff disclosed a possible interest in discussions to take place regarding a funding application to SCC to support a community building at Warren Park.

No other 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 RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE PUBLIC AND PRESS – AGENDA ITEM 16) AS EXEMPT INFORMATION**

It was resolved that agenda item 16) is exempt information and therefore public and press will be excluded whilst the discussion takes place.

**4.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Cllr Swift highlighted a change to the name of the road listed under minute reference 11.2) in the minutes of the March meeting. This amendment was made.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 were approved by the Council to be signed by the Chairman.

**5.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

(5.1) It was confirmed that the Clerk had spoken to Elstead Parish Council and that they were considering whether they would like the school sign.

- (5.2) It was confirmed that the Emergency plan had been updated and sent to interested parties.
- (5.3) It was noted that WBC had been informed about two possible enforcement issues and they had taken action to investigate.
- (5.4) The wording for the plaque to be erected on the new seating area on the recreation ground was agreed. It was noted that the seating area had now been sealed.
- (5.5) Cllr Swift advised that he thought that the response received from SCC regarding the flooding issues in French Lane referred to a request for the drains to be jetted and it was a response to an earlier request regarding a longer term solution that was required. **The Clerk agreed to investigate.**
- (5.6) It was noted that Openreach had been out to inspect the low-lying telephone cable on Dye House Road twice but that no action had been taken. The Chair advised that it was his understanding that they were considering whether a TRO was required so work to fix the problem may not take place for a further 2-3 weeks.
- (5.7) Discussion took place regarding who was responsible for the overhanging branches from an area of manorial land onto Park Lane. **Cllr Harmer agreed to investigate.**
- (5.8) It was confirmed that the latch on the gate to the play area had been replaced.

## 6.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

- (6.1) It was noted that Cllr Jenny Else had provided an update for councillors via email in advance of the meeting as both she and Cllr David Else were not able to attend.

The Chair made reference to the information received earlier in the day from WBC regarding the proposed new wards. It was noted that Thursley would be part of the Western Commons ward with Tilford, Frensham, Churt and Dockenfield. The Chair advised that the proposal is that two WBC councillors be allocated to the new ward at the time of the May 2023 elections.

- (6.2) Cllr Harmer advised that he had spoken to the appropriate SCC Portfolio holder about a lack of communication regarding the Government consultation on the Glover Landscapes Review – an opportunity to stop ‘off-roading’ in the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs). It was noted that the Parish Council had not received notification of the review from either WBC or SCC.

It was noted that commercial ventures involved in such activities have organised a campaign across the country in response to the review to support their case to continue.

It was noted that the Glover Landscapes Review was a later agenda item.

- (6.3) Cllr Harmer advised that the original proposal for communications regarding Rights of Way issues was to be via SCC Engagement Officers but for the moment, Cllr Harmer should be informed of any such issues.

- (6.4) Cllr Luff provided information regarding the proposal for a community building at Warren Park. Discussion took place regarding the application process for funding from the Your Fund Surrey scheme and the number of applications that had already been received.

Following discussion it was suggested that the two Resident Association representatives attending the meeting consider starting their funding application at the same time as investigating any planning requirements that may be needed.

**The Chair agreed to provide Cllr Luff with contact details of a Village Hall Committee member who may be able to support the application process.**

*Ms Nugent and Ms Bender left the meeting at 7.40 am.*

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Chair welcomed Mr and Mrs Wedge to the meeting and invited them to speak. Mr Wedge introduced his wife as Bryony Holloway. He thanked Councillors for their efforts on behalf of the parishioners.

Mr Wedge provided an overview of the history of the Haybarn site, his previous support for the village and his desire to play an active role in the community. He suggested that historically the Parish Council may not have been objective in their consideration of planning matters relating to Haybarn, possibly due to miscommunication.

The Chair confirmed that the Parish Council considered planning applications on their own merits in a fair and objective way.

Mrs Holloway advised that their main objective is to provide the best possible environment for horses and staff and that more interaction and improved communications with neighbours and the Parish Council may allay any concerns that may arise.

*Mr Kostenko arrived at 7.50 pm.*

The Chair agreed that open and honest communication generally result in fewer misunderstandings. He highlighted that planning matters are openly discussed and minuted at Parish Council public meetings and that he was confident that councillors do remain objective in their deliberations.

The Chair welcomed Mrs Holloway's invite to visit the site. **He agreed to make contact to make arrangements.**

Mr Wedge advised that the Groom's accommodation had been decommissioned but the demolition of the building had been delayed slightly and the structure was now planned to be removed from the site during the first week of May. It was suggested that it may be prudent to keep the WBC Enforcement team updated with regards the timeframe.

Mr Wedge confirmed that there were no plans for further development on the site.

The Chair thanked Mr Wedge and Mrs Holloway for their attendance.

The Chair introduced Mr Kostenko as a Ukrainian resident living in Pitch Place for the previous nine years and his work to support his fellow countrymen during such troubled times. The Chair advised that he had been asked by several parishioners about how the local community may be able to provide any support that may be needed so he had invited Mr Kostenko, as the resident expert on the matter.

Mr Kostenko provided an overview of the work that he has been involved in to support Ukrainian people looking to leave their country including completion of visa applications, identifying accommodation etc. and helping them to overcome any issues that they may face.

Mr Kostenko reported that he had been successful in placing a number of families in the village due to generous support from the local community including transport and job opportunities etc. He suggested that a process of integration during the early days following their arrival may be appropriate. It was noted that following the initial delays, there may be an increased number of people relocating to the area.

Discussion took place regarding possible problems that may be encountered such as the ability to open a bank account and obtain a national insurance number etc. quickly enough to allow them to live independently.

Mr Kostenko advised that people were doing the right thing by offering support but that this may not be required straight away but is likely to be required longer term. It was suggested that people will need to be patient for the moment.

**The Chair agreed to repeat an earlier notice which was published on the village Facebook page to alert people as to how they can register their support and share Mr Kostenko's details with appropriate contacts at SCC. He agreed to share the draft notice with Cllr de Vries and Mr Kostenko prior to publication.**

It was confirmed that the community was willing to provide whatever support may be needed. The Chair thanked Mr Kostenko for his attendance and hard work.

**Mr Kostenko and Mr and Mrs Wedge left the meeting at 8.33 pm.**

## **7.0 PLANNING ISSUES AND COMMUNICATIONS**

(7.1) WA/2022/00791 – Quirral House, Pitch Place GU8 6QW  
Erection of extensions and associated works

Following discussion and review of the documents it was agreed that the Parish Council had NO COMMENT regarding the application.

**The Clerk was asked to include a comment to highlight that the application did not appear on the website using some search criteria.**

(7.2) WA/2022/00850 – Hole Farm, Bedford Lane, GU8 6NN  
Erection of an outbuilding

Following discussion and review of the documents it was agreed that the Parish Council OBJECTED to the application.

The Clerk was asked to submit comments to support the objection as follows:

- If Waverley Planning approve the prior application WA/2022/00449 they would exceed the limit of 40% increase in dwelling area over its 1968 base under Waverley’s planning policy RD2 for out of settlement development in AONB/Green Belt
- If they wish to proceed with this application, they should withdraw the earlier application
- If Waverley Planning are minded to approve this application despite our comments, the Parish Council request that WBC consider a restriction on its use as an independent dwelling.

(7.3) WA/2020/0754 – Hammer Pond  
Amendment to plans

Following discussion and review of the documents it was agreed that the Parish Council had SUPPORTED the application.

(7.4) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that Natural England had informed him that the works to reinstate the boardwalks on the common would start in September. **Following discussion it was agreed that he should contact them to obtain confirmation.**

## 8.0 FINANCE

(8.1) The list of payments for March were authorised and approved for payment as follows:

Voucher Reference	Payee		Amount
0068	Gritbins	Purchase of scoops	£159.10
0069	Thursley Village Hall	Hall hire	£193.00
0070	Richard Knight	Works	£156.76
0071	Jackbarn	Seating works	£1,002.00
0072	John Swift	Expenses	£14.30
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£1,525.16</b>

(8.2) The Clerk advised that she would be preparing the documentation in preparation for the annual internal audit prior to submission of the AGAR.

(8.3) Cllr Swift confirmed that he had completed the quarterly review.

## 9.0 HIGHWAYS/VAS

(9.1) Cllr Harmer advised that the junction of Old Portsmouth Road and Dye House Road needs to be resurfaced prior to the new white lining taking place. He advised that this was the number one priority for the villages on safety grounds.

Cllr Mendelssohn suggested that it may also be appropriate to paint an area of hatching leading to the Dye House Road junction to reduce the width of the road and the speed of vehicles. Discussion also took place about the possibility of barrier points and a ‘Stop’ sign in

place of 'Give Way'. **It was agreed that the ideas should be communicated to Cllr Harmer in advance of his meeting regarding the works the following day.**

(9.2) Cllr Swift asked about the process by which funding could be made available to support extension of the proposed 20 mph speed limit in rural parishes to the western area of the county. Cllr Harmer advised that the strategy to extend the project had been approved but it was likely to be sometime before progress could be made.

(9.3) Cllr Swift advised that he had attended the recent LCWIP briefing. He provided an overview of the outcome of the meeting with a consultation document available for comment shortly. Cllr Harmer asked to be kept informed as the budget holder for such works.

(9.4) Cllr Swift reported that following a recent tunnel closure, a TRO had not been in place for French Lane and he intended to speak with **Mr John Nichols to obtain an update.**

It was noted that the arms of the test barriers/swift gates appear to have been removed. **Cllr Swift agreed to speak to Mr J. Nichols about this.**

(9.5) Cllr Swift confirmed that Mr Richard Knight had installed a new gate on BW85.

(9.6) It was agreed that the VAS unit be moved to the central location in the village prior to works to install the solar panels. Following discussion it was agreed that the objective of installing the unit is to gather data to submit to the Police as evidence to support the need for regular speed gun visits.

## **10.0 GLOVER LANDSCAPES REVIEW RESPONSE**

It was agreed that the consolidation of comments to questions 13-17 of the Glover Landscapes Review reflected the views of the Parish Council. **Cllr Mendelsohn agreed to speak to Cllr Flavell so that the response can be submitted.**

**It was agreed that it was important for a notice to be included on the village Facebook page.**

## **11.0 CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY**

(11.1) Cllr Swift confirmed that the first inter-parish Climate Emergency group had met the previous week which had provided an opportunity to see what each of the parishes had done and to share ideas. It was noted that Couch to Net Zero had provided details of their initiative at the meeting. **It was agreed that it may be appropriate to share details of the project on the village Facebook page.**

(11.2) Cllr Swift advised that Surrey University had not taken up the offer of working on the 2030 project. He asked if the Parish Council would accept the funds allocated to the project being used to collaborate with the western villages to prepare a questionnaire. This was agreed.

(11.3) Cllr Swift advised that there was some interest in creating a multi-parish website to share the workload of maintaining the site with current and relevant information.

## 12.0 QUEEN'S JUBILEE ACTIVITIES

Cllr de Vries confirmed that the working group had held several meetings and the final programme of events was due to be finalised the following week. She highlighted that there was on-going discussion regarding a contribution of £10 per person to the ticketed lunch event. It was noted that the contribution was subsidising the lunch and children's entertainment that had been arranged.

**Cllr de Vries agreed to provide the final timetable of events by Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April to allow people to plan.**

## 13.0 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

It was noted that invites to the local groups had been sent. **Cllr Owen agreed to make arrangements for the refreshments and snacks to be made available on the evening. Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to provide some further snack items. Cllr Swift agreed to provide Cllr Owen with details of previous refreshment orders.**

It was noted that the event was from 6.45 pm with a 7.15 pm start time on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

## 14.0 NEW PARISHIONERS

It was noted that there were no parishioners that councillors were aware of.

## 15.0 CORRESPONDENCE

(15.1) It was noted the correspondence is shared with councillors on an on-going basis at the time of receipt.

(15.2) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that the film company intended to install the tracking on the recreation ground on 10/11<sup>th</sup> April and that this would be removed on 19/20<sup>th</sup> following completion of the filming.

**Following discussion, Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to make the newly planted trees on the recreation ground more visible to vehicle users.**

(15.3) Cllr Owen raised a concern about the amount of litter on the A3. **Cllr Swift agreed to raise this with Mr John Nichols.**

(15.4) Cllr Owen raised concerns about laurel branches collapsing and stones from an ancient wall falling onto a road in Pitch Place. **Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to follow this up.**

(15.5) Cllr de Vries advised that the graffiti on Bedford Lane had been cleaned off.

## 16.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward from above

Cllr Harmer left the meeting at 9.30 pm.

**17.0 EXEMPT BUSINESS**

The Chair provided details of the Clerks' increased hourly rate for 2021-22 as per the NALC advice. It was agreed that the increase be back-dated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. It was further agreed that the Clerk be paid for an additional 25 hours for 2021-22.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

The date of the next meeting is **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022** at 7.00 pm.

Signed .....

**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022**