

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 3rd March 2020 at 7.00 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
Mrs E. Felton (Clerk)

Also attending were: Cllr D. Else WBC Mrs P. Cole Mr A. Smart (7.30-9.00pm)
Inspector G. Smith – Borough Commander Surrey Police

1.0 SURREY POLICE PRESENTATION

Cllr Mendelssohn welcomed Inspector Gary Smith to the meeting. He provided an overview of the level of Police engagement in the village previously. He explained that Councillors were aware of the resource limitations that the Police have but that they were keen to build relationships and gain an understanding of how they could work together more effectively.

Inspector Smith explained that he had nineteen years' experience in many areas of Police work. He advised that the number of Police officers had reduced significantly nationally from 1st April 2016. He provided details of the number of Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) within Waverley at the current time. Inspector Smith highlighted the need to balance the resources available to him to meet the core function in addition to partnership working with other agencies and community engagement.

He reported that the Police Precept had been increased this year to allow the number of NSO's to increase and that this would happen during the summer months. It was noted that the number of PCSO's would also increase in September 2020. He suggested that this would allow him to engage more with communities.

Discussion took place regarding the level of engagement with the public that the Police had seen as a result of arranging sessions in local communities. He stressed that he was keen to ensure to get things correct so that he was able to make best use of the resources available to him. It was noted that there was currently some engagement work taking place in schools.

It was noted that the number of Police Officers would increase again as a result of the increased Precept amount for 2020-21 and the government plans to recruit additional officers.

In response to a question, Inspector Smith advised that the additional number of officers to be recruited was at a similar level to the number lost over the previous ten years. It was noted that Surrey Police were the only force not to reduce their number of front line officers and that the number of crimes and calls had increased. He advised that in addition to policing matters, they were also involved in mental health, missing people etc. issues as well. It was noted that training of a new officer takes approx. one year.

Inspector Smith advised that the Waverley staff were experienced officers who were familiar with the local area and that they were keen to make a difference.

Mrs Coles provided details of a recent fly-tipping incident on her property. It was noted that although WBC had removed the rubbish, no one had been keen to follow-up with the person responsible. Inspector Smith advised that although it was the responsibility of WBC, he was involved in partnership working with them and other key stake holders to address such issues.

Following discussion about recent incidents in the village, Inspector Smith stressed the importance of all crimes being reported to the Police so that they can monitor all illegal activities. He advised that the classification for 'burglary dwellings' included break-ins to outside buildings such as sheds, garages, barns etc. within the curtilage of the main dwelling. He reported that in February there had been an average of one burglary dwelling in Waverley every day with nineteen of them being outside buildings, three of which were insecure. He stressed the importance of parishioners helping themselves by ensuring that buildings are secure.

Discussion took place regarding the illegal use of quad and other motorised bikes in the Punchbowl and BOAT's. Inspector Smith advised that it was important for all such activities to be reported either by calling 999 in the case of an emergency, calling 101 or reporting it online. It was noted that a similar issue within the borough had been resolved as a result of the Police being made aware.

Inspector Smith summarised by advising that the three key actions for members of the public were to tell the Police if there is an incident, to look out for yourself and neighbours and that if you see anyone different or suspicious, you acknowledge that you have seen them if appropriate.

Discussion took place regarding the traffic issues which happen in the event of an unplanned closure of the Hindhead tunnel or queuing traffic on the A3. It was suggested that physical width restrictions may not be appropriate as some large horse boxes would still require access. It was agreed that parishioners could provide the Police with details of HGV's and other vehicles not complying with the width restriction as action can be taken to deter them from doing it again.

Further discussion took place regarding the speed of vehicles through the village and the use of the planned introduction of a VAS.

Inspector Smith advised that he was happy for people to contact him via email: Waverley@surrey.pnn.police.uk It was agreed that details these details be included on the contact list at the front of the parish magazine.

Inspector Smith was thanked for his attendance and input to the meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public present had any questions.

2.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr Owen, Cllr David Harmer and Cllr J. Else who were not able to attend due to business and personal commitments. These apologies were accepted.

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Hunter declared a personal interest in agenda item 4.2 as he was the homeowner and applicant of Cassingray, for which a planning application was due to be considered. It was noted that Cllr Hunter would leave the room for the period of time during which the application would be discussed.

Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he would not contribute to discussions regarding the same agenda item due to his relationship with the applicant and his family.

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.

Following discussion it was agreed that the order of the agenda be changed to allow for the two planning applications to be considered first in light of the attendance of Mr Smart, the homeowner of the first property.

4.0 PLANNING ISSUES AND COMMUNICATIONS

- (4.1) WA/2020/0155 – Tilhurst, Dye House Road, GU8 6QD
Erection of 2 detached outbuildings to provide a pool house and tennis pavilion.
Erection of extensions and alterations to main dwelling.

Following discussion and review of the documents, it was agreed that the Parish Council had no comment regarding the application other than to highlight to WBC that they consider a condition to be attached to the approval (if deemed appropriate) to consider lighting implications.

Cllr Hunter left the meeting.

- (4.2) WA/2020/0216 – Cassingray, Pitch Place, GU8 6QW
Erection of a detached garage with ancillary habitable accommodation above.

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

Cllr Hunter re-joined the meeting.

- (4.3) Cllr Mendelssohn reported that, along with Cllr Flavell, he was due to meet with Mr Zac Ellwood, the new Head of Planning and Economic Development WBC later in the week to discuss the Parish Council's disappointment of WBC's performance at the recent appeal hearing and the tight schedule for the planning approval required for the Hammer Pond restoration works. **It was agreed that Cllr Jenny and Cllr David Else be invited to attend the meeting.**

Cllr Hunter asked that they strongly register his disappointment with the attitude and procedures of WBC Planning in their processing of this appeal resulting in the Inspector granting consent for the stables that were built without a planning application being submitted prior to construction and therefore proper consent being provided.

(4.4) Discussion took place regarding inaccurate planning application paperwork and the process by which these can be investigated and appropriate action taken.

(4.5) Discussion took place regarding a communication received from WBC advising that an appeal was due to be considered under the Householder Appeals Service. It was noted that parties are not able to provide further comments and information as part of this process. **Cllr David Else agreed to investigate whether the Planning Inspector was provided with details of the Committee meeting which took place at which the refusal decision was made.** It was noted that this was available to view online.

5.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th February 2020 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

6.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(6.1) The Clerk reported that Hannah Gutteridge (SCC) had reported that there were currently no resources available to resolve the issue of the raised manhole but that it had been recorded and work would take place as soon as it was possible.

(6.2) Cllr Luff advised that he had spoken to the History Society about repairing the horseshoe shaped bargate stone wall on the Clump and that they were interested in finding out more information. **Cllr Edwards agreed to send Cllr Luff photos of the original wall.**

(6.3) Cllr Hunter advised that he had still not received a response from Highways England following his requests to meet. Following discussion it was agreed that no further attempts to communicate with them take place at present and that matters will be raised with them in the future as required. It was noted that Cllr Luff was also awaiting a response from them regarding the access/egress to Warren Park.

(6.4) Cllr Hunter advised that letters to homeowners and leaflets for delivery drivers were available for delivery. It was noted that volunteers had been allocated specific delivery areas.

(6.5) **Cllr Hunter agreed to provide Cllr Flavell with the details required to complete the draft licence prepared for supply of power to the defibrillators.**

(6.6) **It was agreed that the Clerk invite the Leader and Deputy Leader of WBC to meet with Councillors in advance of a Parish Council meeting.**

(6.7) It was noted that the salt bins are now in place in five locations in the village. Cllr Swift was thanked for making the arrangements for this. Following discussion it was agreed that the bins remain locked.

7.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

(7.1) It was noted that this was the first meeting at which Cllr Harmer was absent. It was acknowledged that this was due to exceptional circumstances.

(7.2) Cllr David Else reported that WBC had set their budget with a Council Tax increase of 1.9%. He advised that there would be some changes to car parking charges.

8.0 FINANCE

(8.1) Discussion took place regarding relocation of the defibrillator in Bowlhead Green and the associated costs. It was noted that a request for payment had been received from the homeowner of the property currently providing supply to the unit. Following discussion it was agreed that a payment of £33 was appropriate. **The Clerk was asked to prepare a cheque to be sent to the homeowner.**

(8.2) The following list of payments for February/March was presented, duly authorised and approved for payment:

Voucher Reference	Payee		Amount
00047	E. Felton	VAS accessories	451.95
00048	Thursley Village hall	Room hire	270.5
00049	Waverley BC	Election costs	546.13
00050	John Swift	Expenses	41.19
00051	Peter Hunter	Expenses	73.47
00052	E. Felton	Salary & expenses	£486.07
00053	HMRC	March payment	£93.00
00054	Imperative Training	Defib battery	£70.80
00055	Mrs Sumner	Defib power supply	£33.00
	TOTAL		£2,066.11

(8.3) It was noted that the room hire costs for the Climate Control meetings would be paid by the Parish Council and were included in the invoice amount received from the village hall.

(8.4) The budget review document showing actual costs to end January 2020 had been available to Councillors in advance of the meeting. Discussion took place regarding the forecasted amounts for the remainder of the financial year. It was noted that there may be additional costs for VAS accessories and repairs to the zip wire in the play area.

Following discussion it was agreed that Cllr Owen be asked to look at additional signage for the zip wire to ensure that only children use the equipment as the Parish Council are not able to continue to repair it due to damage caused by misuse.

9.0 HIGHWAYS

It was noted that a quote had been received for works to repair the damage to the verge by the Church caused by a delivery driver and that **the Clerk would be speaking to the company to make the necessary arrangements for the work to take place.**

10.0 WESTERN VILLAGES MEETING FEEDBACK

Cllr Swift reported that he had attended the recent Western Villages meeting to discuss the planned work taking place in the villages under the Lengthsmen Scheme. He advised that a request had been made for a preparation of a priority list of planned works and completion dates.

11.0 WESTERN VILLAGES PLANNING MEETING FEEDBACK

It was noted that the Clerk had provided Councillors with details of the discussions that had taken place in advance of the Parish Council meeting. The Clerk advised that Mr Zac Ellman hoped to make the planning meeting with parishes a regular occurrence.

12.0 VAS

Cllr Swift advised that the battery, ladder and safety equipment had been purchased. He advised that the additional volunteers for the VAS scheme had not yet been trained and after discussing this with Mr Peter Harris, he had offered his services to assist with their training.

Cllr Swift advised that he understood that the VAS units were not working and that Mr Harris had contacted the supplier to discuss the issue. It was noted that Mr Harris was due to call Cllr Swift on 9th March to provide an update. **Cllr Swift agreed to contact Cllr Hunter to inform him of their arrangements to meet so that he could attend.**

Discussion took place regarding the battery requirements and storage of the ladder. **Cllr Hunter agreed to provide Cllr Swift with the combination lock so that the ladder could be stored securely at the village hall.** Cllr Hunter advised that it may be possible to use the existing solar panels which the council has to charge the unit. It was noted that there would be a cost attached to this proposal.

Cllr David Else and Mr Smart left the meeting at 9.00 pm.

13.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

(13.1) Following discussion at the previous meeting regarding the storage of historical documentation, it was noted that the History Society had been in contact to offer to store the information. **Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk retain more recent hard copy documentation and that she pass historical files to the society.**

(13.2) The updated Risk Assessment was approved by Councillors.

14.0 FIXED ASSETS REGISTER

It was noted that the Fixed Assets Register had been updated to include the VAS unit. This was approved and signed by the Chairman.

15.0 VE COMMEMORATION

Cllr Mendelsohn thanked Cllr Swift for his successful bid for funds to support the commemoration of VE day. Cllr Swift advised that the History Society were looking to use the funds to obtain some new display panels, an engraved commemorative bench, preparation of commemorative booklets and a WWI/II themed tea party. It was agreed that the location of the bench be decided in due course.

Discussion took place regarding the contents of the booklet and number of copies which would be made available.

Cllr Swift highlighted that the society were looking for volunteers to help with research for information to be included in the booklet.

It was noted that the funding would be received into the Parish Council account and held as a ring-fenced amount.

16.0 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Cllr Hunter agreed to contact the speaker to see if he was available to attend. He was asked to let the Clerk know as soon as possible so that a notice could be prepared for inclusion in the April edition of the parish magazine.

The Clerk was asked to invite the village societies. It was noted that Cllr Swift would require fifteen minutes to present on behalf of the climate change group. **The Clerk was asked to provide Inspector Gary Smith with details of the event so that there could be a Police representative present.**

Cllr Flavell agreed to arrange to supply the drink refreshments. **Cllr Swift agreed to provide her with details of previous arrangements.**

17.0 CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

(17.1) Discussion took place regarding the problems which Bowlhead Green residents are experiencing due to having no broadband service for a couple of weeks due to a fallen tree. It was noted that this was a common occurrence.

It was agreed that Cllr Mendelsohn highlight the serious problem which Bowlhead Green residents have with loss of broadband and that he include reference to the need for landowners to be responsible for trees on their property.

(17.2) It was noted that a communication had been received from SCC regarding the Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme.

(17.3) Following discussion about the 'Great British Spring Clean' event which WBC had provided details of, it was agreed that **the Clerk request the loan of litter picking equipment for Saturday 25th April 2020.**

(17.4) The Clerk reported that the Haslemere Neighbourhood Plan Pre-submission consultation is now available.

(17.5) The Clerk reported that nominations were now open for the Waverley Design Awards 2020.

18.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward from above
- Clerks Remuneration 2020-21 (if available)

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 7th April 2020 at 7.00 pm.

Signed

7th April 2020