

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday 6th February 2024 at 7.00 pm
at Thursley Village Hall

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

Also present: Cllr D. Munro (WBC) Mr T. Grillo (to 7.45 pm) Ms A. Scales
Mr R. Ranson (to 7.17 pm) Cllr J. Staunton(WBC – from 7.20 pm)
Ms B. Holloway (from 7.20 pm till 7.28 pm) Mr D. Rowntree (from 7.45 pm)

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr Flavell, Cllr McClements and Cllr Harmer. These apologies were accepted.

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 9th January 2024 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

4.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(4.1) Discussion took place regarding the lack of communication regarding traffic management resulting in vehicles associated with filming activities travelling through the village.

(4.2) Cllr Owen advised that there were on-going discussions regarding mowing arrangements.

(4.3) Cllr Owen confirmed that £20k had been transferred to a deposit account and earning interest.

(4.4) It was confirmed that Cllr McClements had sent a response to the 20 mph enquiry.

(4.5) It was confirmed that Cllr McClements had arranged for some activity with regards to flooding by Foldsdown.

(4.6) It was noted that the overhanging leylandii by the pub had been cut back.

(4.7) The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to Camilla Daubeney regarding the litter pick arrangements.

(4.8) It was noted that three contractors had been asked to provide quotes for the required works on the recreation/cricket ground.

5.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

(5.1) It was agreed that several points would be discussed at the appropriate point during the course of the meeting.

(5.2) Cllr Munro referred to the appointment of a new CEO for Waverley and Guildford Borough Councils.

It was agreed that public question time start early as several members of the public were present to discuss the postcode matter affecting some residents of Bowlhead Green.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (Part I)

Cllr Mendelsohn provided an update to activity that had taken place during the day following residents in Bowlhead Green receiving a letter informing them that their postcodes would be changing with only one weeks' notice. It was suggested that a consultation and a longer notice period was required.

Members of the public raised their concerns about the impact on their businesses and personal matters due to the proposed change with such a short notification.

Cllr de Vries advised that the guidance states that the road with the most properties should retain the existing postcode in order to minimise disruption but this does not appear to be the case in this instance. It was acknowledged that Rutton Hill Road should retain the postcode as it has the most properties.

Following discussion, Cllr Munro agreed to speak with WBC to request a delay to the proposed changes so that further discussion can take place with regards to arrangements including the retention of the existing postcode to Rutton Hill Road residents. He agreed to provide updates.

Cllr de Vries raised a question regarding road signs in Bowlhead Green.

Mr Ranson asked if the Parish Councillors were aware of the activity at the Red Lion. It was confirmed that the works are within the approved plan.

Mr Ranson left at 7.17 pm.

6.0 PLANNING ISSUES AND COMMUNICATIONS

(6.1) WA/2024/00216 – The Barn, Heath Hall, Lower House Road, GU8 6NW
Certificate of lawfulness under section 192 for alterations to elevation and installation of chimney flue following removal of existing flue.

It was agreed that no comment was required.

(6.2) WA/2023/02649 – NNE, Thursley Road
Erection of a single storey office building (use class e(g)(i)) access road parking and associated landscaping.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Planning Officer following receipt of advice earlier in the day to advise that amendments had been submitted to the application, to request that the deadline date for comments be extended to allow sufficient time for a response to be prepared to highlight inconsistencies in the written and verbal information.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (Part II)

Ms Holloway asked for advice regarding drones flying over her property on a regular basis for extended periods. She asked if the Parish Council were aware of such activity elsewhere in the village as it upsets the horses on the site.

It was suggested that it may be related to criminal activity as one Councillor was aware of drone activity over other large properties in the area. It was confirmed that it was not military activity.

Following discussion, Cllr Munro suggested that all such activity should be reported to the Police to build a pattern. Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to include something in his magazine article to highlight the concerns.

Mr Grillo raised a concern about flooding opposite his house caused by the Forestry Commission not maintaining drainage to a satisfactory standard. Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he would ask Cllr Flavell to follow this up.

Ms Holloway left at 7.28 pm.

7.0 FINANCE

(7.1) The list of payments for February was presented to Councillors. The payments were authorised and approved for payment as follows:

0053	P.J. Goble & Partners	Supply of batteries/works	£844.80
0054	R. Owen	Purchase of camera	£241.99
0055	E. Felton	Salary & expenses	£497.18
0056	HMRC	February payment	£220.00
	TOTAL		£1,803.97

8.0 HIGHWAYS/VAS

(8.1) Cllr Owen advised that the VAS unit was now operational on The Street.

(8.2) It was noted that Cllr McClements had agreed to provide a list of prioritised highways works to the Frensham Parish Council Clerk by next week.

9.0 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

(9.1) It was noted that Cllr Flavell was in the process of preparing a draft response to the SCC improvement plan for discussion at the next meeting.

(9.2) Cllr Mendelssohn provided an update on communications with Natural England regarding signage on the common required for dog owners during the ground nesting season.

It was noted that the matter had been discussed and agreed upon during the previous summer period when users of the common were confused about whether dogs needed to be on leads or not. Cllr Mendelssohn advised that Natural England had agreed to erect appropriate signage but a recent communication from them advised that a signage audit was planned so it would not happen before the nesting season this year.

Discussion took place suggesting that some wardens have left due to the abuse received whilst trying to do their job on the common.

Discussion took place regarding space control orders and the restriction of the number of dogs allowed to be walked at one time. Cllr de Vries reported on behalf of a parishioner that the belief was that Natural England does not allow professional dog walkers on SSSI land.

Cllr Munro advised that he had asked for questions relating to professional dog walking to go before the WBC Full Council in order to see if they have influence to get it regularised.

Mr Rowntree arrived at 7.45 pm. Mr Grillo left at 7.45 pm.

(9.3) Cllr Munro advised that the improvement plan was not just an extension but the intention was to ensure the correct balance between recreational use and wildlife. Cllr Mendelssohn referred to a communication received earlier in the day from Mr Baker with a proposal.

10.0 COFFEE POD – RENEWAL OF PARISH COUNCIL & WBC LICENCES

(10.1) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that following a meeting with Ms C. Daubeney, Cllr Flavell was in the process of preparing an updated licence with additional clauses for the current year.

(10.2) It was agreed that the Parish Council had no objection to the Coffee Pod's request for a WBC licence to operate on the recreation ground.

11.0 THURSLEY CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he had received a communication from Mr John Swift regarding his planned climate and sustainability articles asking for examples of village activities.

12.0 MOWING ARRANGEMENTS 2024

See (4.2) above.

13.0 PARISH EMERGENCY PLAN

(13.1) Cllr Dailly provided an update on activity to date to include preparation of a mission statement and logo, planned first aid training and other training, enhanced DBS checks and possible cost implications. It was suggested that she speak to Help in Thursley regarding the DBS checks.

Cllr Dailly advised that the plan was to launch the initiative in April alongside a planned History Society event. It was agreed that it should also be included on the agenda for the Parish Assembly meeting on 25th April. It was noted that there were also plans to have a stand at the Horticultural Society AGM and the group were investigating running a monthly IT help desk event to provide support in a social setting.

Cllr Dailly agreed to circulate an update once agreed.

(13.2) Cllr Mendelsohn advised that the plans to install a screen and sound to the village hall were progressing and should be in place before the Assembly meeting in April.

Cllr Mendelsohn advised that he proposed that the format of the Assembly meeting following the same as previous years with local societies invited to present. Cllr Owen agreed to make arrangements for refreshments to be available at the meeting.

14.0 VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Cllr McClements to provide an update at the next meeting.

15.0 NEW PARISHIONERS

There were no known new parishioners to contact.

16.0 CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence had already been provided to Councillors at the time of receipt.

17.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward from above
- Annual Assembly Meeting

The meeting closed at pm. The date of the next meeting is **Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 7.00 pm.**

Signed **5th March 2024**