

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 1st November 2022 at 7.00 pm
at Thursley Village Hall

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

Also attending were: Cllr D. Harmer (SCC)

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr de Vries and Cllr Sellars.

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 4th October 2022 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

4.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(4.1) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he had met with Natural England representative Alistair Helliwell, to discuss the lack of progress made following previous discussions with his colleague regarding a land swap in relation to affordable housing. It was noted that Natural England had appointed a new person who will progress discussions in due course.

Cllr Mendelssohn advised that following discussions at the October Parish Council meeting regarding affordable housing he had met with Mags Wylie, a Housing Enabling Adviser currently working with Surrey Community Action, to discuss the Rural Exception Affordable Housing Scheme. Discussion took place regarding the arrangements for such a scheme including retain local control over the development and letting of the properties. It was noted that developments under this scheme do not set a planning precedent.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council supported further exploration of the scheme. **Cllr Mendelssohn and Cllr Flavell agreed to investigate further and report back to Councillors in due course.**

(4.2) Following discussion at the previous meeting, it was agreed that the Parish Council would register a number of manorial waste areas of land in the parish but start with one to gain an understanding of the process. **It was agreed that Cllr Flavell would complete the required documentation for an area on Dye House Road.**

(4.3) It was confirmed that Cllr Swift had provided Cllr Harmer with the information required to allow him to investigate an area of land in Bowlhead Green. **Following discussion, Cllr Harmer agreed to investigate this further and report back.**

(4.4) The Clerk advised that the new housing at Warren Park does not meet the criteria for CIL funding.

(4.5) It was noted that there had been further communication with SCC following concerns raised regarding deterioration of surfacing on Highfield Lane but that this appeared to have now been resolved.

(4.6) Cllr Mendelsohn confirmed that his report for inclusion in the November issue of the parish magazine made reference to damage caused by high-sided vehicles in the village.

(4.7) It was noted that the WBC Enforcement team are still investigating whether action needs to be taken with regards to a property in Bowlhead Green.

(4.8) **Cllr Swift agreed to provide Cllr Mendelsohn with the Natural England educational materials for sharing with the new Outreach and Education Officer.** It was noted that the works on the boardwalk are due to be completed by Christmas.

(4.9) Cllr Mendelsohn reported that Mandy Jack (WBC) is regularly monitoring fly-tipping on Boundless Lane.

(4.10) It was agreed that the recent Scarecrow Trail had been successful as well as raising funds and creating a lively feel in the village.

Cllr Mendelsohn advised that during the event there was photographic evidence of large military vehicles travelling through the village. He advised that he had communicated his concerns to the MOD and received a response apologising and suggesting that the drivers had not attended the briefing informing them not to travel through the village.

It was suggested that parishioners should take photos of such vehicles as further evidence of continued access by MOD vehicles to ensure that appropriate action is taken.

(4.11) Cllr Swift advised that he had received an acknowledgement of receipt of his email to Kate Stewart (SCC) following the Western Villages meeting but not a response to his comments. **It was suggested that Cllr Mendelsohn raise this at the Western Villages meeting the following week.**

5.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

(5.1) Cllr Harmer advised that the purpose of the Western Village meeting was for Parish Councils to table the required works for roads and rights of way within their parish so that priorities can be agreed. He advised that he would work with Adrian Selby on highways works and John Baker for rights of way. He explained that following receipt of estimates for the required works there may be a need for further discussion to consider changing the priorities depending upon the budget.

Cllr Harmer asked Councillors to provide the Frensham Parish Council Clerk with a list of required works showing their priorities for each section. It was noted that the list recently provided was not the most recent list which the Parish Council had provided in advance of the previous Western Villages meeting. **Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to provide the Clerk with a prioritised list in advance of the deadline for receipt.**

Discussion took place regarding the lack of progress of several of the works on the list and the frustration that there are no outcomes of the meetings as nothing has changed as a result of recent changes to the system.

Discussion took place regarding the footpath wardens in the village. It was noted that the Clerk does receive reports of blocked footpaths etc. and that these are reported to SCC online. It was noted that a recent report of a problem which was communicated via email had been dealt with quicker than those reported online.

(5.2) Cllr explained about the impact which the Care Act would have on County Council funds and resources. Discussion took place regarding budgetary changes and the resulting loss of SCC staff.

(5.3) In response to a question about Cllr Harmer’s ongoing investigations regarding land status and ownership, he explained that he was continuing his investigations. He suggested that an application to register the land may be appropriate.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were in attendance.

6.0 PLANNING ISSUES AND COMMUNICATIONS

It was noted that there were no new planning applications or communications for consideration.

7.0 FINANCE

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

Voucher Reference	Payee		Amount
0047	RJ Playground Services	Play area works	£1,368.00
0048	Richard Knight	Play area works	£210.81
0049	Richard Bates	Grass cutting	£500.00
0050	E. Felton	Salary & expenses	£313.53
0051	HMRC	November payment	£194.80
	TOTAL		£2,587.14

(7.2) It was noted that an additional payment had been approved for payment in October as follows:

Voucher Reference	Payee		Amount
0046	E. Felton	Projector purchases	£266.66
	TOTAL		£266.66

(7.3) It was noted that the Clerk had investigated grant funding for the purchase of new defibrillator units and alternative models and providers but that her recommendation was that the Parish Council continue to source supplies from the current supplier. This was agreed.

Following discussion, it was agreed that **the Clerk should place an order for two new defibrillator units and the spares that are required for the existing units.**

It was agreed that Cllr Flavell and Cllr Mendelssohn would consider where the two new units be located taking into account the need for a power supply.

(7.4) The Clerk advised that in addition to the payments listed, an additional invoice had been received from Thursley History Society for the balance of the Armed Forces Covenant funding held in the Parish Council account. She advised that an additional payment would need to be raised following receipt of the invoice for the defibrillators and spares.

(7.5) Discussion took place regarding the draft budget information for 2023-24 which had been available to Councillors in advance of the meeting. Following discussion, it was agreed that the allocation of funds to footpaths should remain. There was discussion about grass cutting costs and the level of Precept which may be required.

It was agreed that Councillors further review the information so that a final decision regarding the Precept amount for 2023-24 can be made at the December meeting.

(7.6) The updated Fixed Assets register to include the projector was approved and signed by the Chair.

(7.7) It was noted an amount of £2,589.24 CIL funds had been received. **The Clerk was asked to check to see if the purchase of the new defibrillator units could be covered by the CIL funding as both would be for community use and meet the criteria for expenditure.**

8.0 THURSLEY CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

(8.1) Cllr Swift advised that he was completing the Vision 2030 report following the recent survey and that he hoped to be able to include a summary in the December issue of the parish magazine. He advised that there appeared to be a lot of support with only a few contentious issues which may generate further discussion.

(8.2) Cllr Swift advised that the next inter-parish climate and sustainability group meeting was due to take place later in the month.

9.0 HIGHWAYS/VAS

(9.1) It was noted that there are planned closures of the Hindhead tunnel for the next two weeks in order to trial the swift gates.

(9.2) It was noted that residents of Bedford Lane had raised concerns about testing of the tannoy system for the tunnel during the night. Cllr Swift advised that he had spoken to relevant parties about this and been told that it was a requirement that it take place.

(9.3) It was noted that there were a lot of leaves at the junction of Old Portsmouth Road and Dye House Road.

10.0 WESTERN VILLAGES MEETINGS

See (5.1) above.

11.0 MOD VEHICLES

See (4.10) above.

12.0 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

See (4.1) above.

13.0 RECREATION GROUND

(13.1) It was noted that Cllr Mendelsohn and Cllr Owen had agreed that the existing posts on the recreation ground did not need replacing at this time but that they would continue to be monitored.

(13.2) It was noted that when the posts had been dropped to accommodate additional cars on the recreation ground at the scarecrow event, as the ground was soft, the post was high and could have caused damage to vehicles. Cllr Owen advised that he had removed the posts and replaced them following the event. It was noted that there is no action required at this time as there are no further events planned but that it should be monitored.

(13.3) Cllr Mendelsohn advised that there was a group keen to see a padel tennis court on the recreation ground and that this would be self-funded. Preplanning discussions with WBC are envisaged. If these prove to be positive, further discussions will need to be held to consider the usage and management of the court, and the impact on local residents.

14.0 UPDATE ON HANKLEY COMMON FIRE

(14.1) Cllr Mendelsohn reported that the second public meeting to discuss the fire on Hankley common had been attended by all interested parties excluding the MOD and that good progress had been made. It was noted that there was good public representation at the meeting.

(14.2) Cllr Mendelsohn advised that as an outcome of that meeting he had considered the need for improved communication channels in the village in the event of an emergency. He suggested that small community groups be formed geographically and they take responsibility for their own areas in such circumstances to ensure that everyone is aware and vulnerable people are supported. He suggested that the intention would be for every household to be part of a community group so that no one is overlooked.

Councillors were asked to consider the possible groupings so that further discussion can take place at the December meeting.

15.0 NEW PARISHIONERS

CLlr Luff advised that he was aware of new parishioners at Warren Park and would make an introduction.

16.0 DECEMBER MEETING DATE

It was agreed that the December meeting date be changed to Monday 5th December.

17.0 CORRESPONDENCE

It was noted that WBC were running a campaign to recruit Town and Parish Councillors in advance of the election in May 2023. It was noted that the current Councils would remain in post over the weekend of the coronation.

Discussion took place regarding possible Councillor retirements.

18.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward from above
- Precept 2023-24

The meeting closed at 8.53 pm.

The date of the next meeting is **Monday 5th December 2022** at 7.00 pm.

Signed

5th December 2022