

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 7.00 pm
at Thursley Village Hall

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

Also present: Cllr D. Munro (WBC)- from 7.45 pm to 8.40 pm) Cllr D. Harmer (SCC) – to 7.45 pm
Mr D. Rowntree (from 7.50 to 8.50 pm)

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

No apologies were necessary.

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 6th February 2024 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

4.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(4.1) Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to include reference to drone activity in his magazine article.

(4.2) Cllr Flavell confirmed that a licence for the Coffee Pod had been prepared.

(4.3) It was noted that the History Society had postponed their launch event until 1st June.

(4.4) Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to investigate concerns regarding the specification of the equipment due to be installed in the village hall.

5.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

(5.1) Cllr Harmer provided an overview of the process of reporting potholes and inspection to determine the level of severity and timeline for repair. Discussion took place about why the pot holes close to the one that was deemed to require repair, were not also being fixed as the recent changes to the contracts/policy.

It was acknowledged that Cllr McClements had done a good job of reporting faults with some success stories but the repair process is not working efficiently. It was suggested that a more proactive approach is required to resolve issues within an area rather than specific pot holes.

Cllr Mendelsohn asked Cllr Harmer to do what he could to highlight the concerns and inefficient process with the appropriate SCC departments.

It was noted that Boundless Lane had been closed for a month with no sign of any work taking place and that the works to the bridge over the A3 had been completed to a good standard.

(5.2) Cllr Harmer reported that the SCC Council Tax had increased by 5% with the majority being attributed to social care.

(5.3) Cllr Munro advised that WBC had increased their Council Tax by 3%. He provided an overview of plans to increase social housing rents.

(5.4) Cllr Munro advised that the collaborative arrangements at WBC/Guildford are settling with recruitment underway.

(5.5) Cllr Munro advised that car parking charges will be increasing.

6.0 PLANNING ISSUES AND COMMUNICATIONS

(6.1) WA/2024/00256 – Uplands Park, Bowlhead Green Road, GU8 6NW
Erection Of Agricultural Building And Formation Of New Vehicular Access.

It was agreed that Councillors **objected** to the application due to concerns regarding the proposed access onto a narrow road and removal of trees when the application shows that no trees will be required to be removed as part of the development.

Cllr Harmer left and Cllr Munro arrived at 7.45 pm. Mr Rowntree arrived at 7.50 pm.

(6.2) WA/2024/00286 – The Lodge, Uplands Park, Park Lane, GU8 5LA
Certificate Of Lawfulness Under Section 192 For The Stationing Of A Shipping Container For Purposes Ancillary To The Lawful Residential Use

Following review of the documents, the Parish Council had NO COMMENT regarding this application.

(6.3) WA/2024/00323 – National Trust, Emley Farm, Rutton Hill Road, GU8 6NW
Listed Building Consent For Repairs To Three Timber Framed Barns.

Following review of the documentation, the Parish Council agreed to **SUPPORT** the application.

(6.4) APP/R3650/D/23/3324957 – Hill Farm Barn

It was agreed that no further comments were required at this time.

(6.5) Cllr Dailly advised that works were due to start on her property later in the week and it had been confirmed that planning permission was not required.

(6.6) Cllr McClements advised that works were due to start on his property including the removal of trees, and that there was permission to do so.

(6.7) It was noted that Natural England had withdrawn their application for development at Truxford.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present and no questions had been received in advance.

7.0 FINANCE

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

0057	J. Swift	Printing costs	£6.70
0058	E. Felton	Salary & expenses	£348.46
0059	HMRC	March payment	£220.40
0060	Axtell	Works	£576.00
	TOTAL		£1,151.56

(7.2) It was confirmed that approval had been given for transfer of £30k to the deposit account.

(7.3) The Fixed Assets list to include the recently purchased camera was approved.

8.0 BOWLHEAD GREEN SIGNS & POSTCODE UPDATE

Cllr de Vries advised that her contact at WBC had been very helpful in resolving the concerns raised by Bowlhead Green residents regarding the proposed change of postcodes. She advised that Rutton Hill Road residents would retain their current postcode.

Discussion took place regarding WBC's concerns regarding Bowlhead Green not having road signs. A number of possible solutions were discussed but it was agreed to take no action at this point and await further contact on the matter.

9.0 NATURAL ENGLAND

Cllr Mendelssohn provided an overview of previous discussions last year with Natural England and other interested parties regarding signage on the common and the agreed outcomes of these meetings. He advised that Natural England had made no progress in sourcing the required signage in time for the start of the nesting season on 1st March.

Discussion took place regarding the Friends of Thursley Common and changes to the warden scheme.

It was agreed that an article be included in the parish magazine regarding the frustration of the Parish Council with regards to the lack of progress.

10.0 HIGHWAYS/VAS

(10.1) Cllr McClements confirmed that a list of works had been submitted for consideration at the Western Villages meeting.

(10.2) Cllr McClements advised that of fifteen highways issues that he had logged online, only two had also been reported by others. It was noted that all had been fixed part from two that had been rejected but he intended to report these again. He advised that he had been assured that there was a plan to address the issue for the area opposite Foldsdown.

(10.3) It was noted that the VAS unit was operational and working well.

(10.4) Cllr de Vries highlighted the outstanding issue of fence panels. It was noted that these had been reported to National Highways but no action had been taken to date.

(10.5) Cllr Owen confirmed that the blocked drain by the Cricket Club had been reported.

(10.6) Cllr McClements advised that he had asked Cllr Harmer and Patrick Giles for an answer about Boundless Road being closed.

(10.7) Cllr Owen advised that during the recent tunnel closure, the increased traffic through Pitch Place had resulted in widening of the road as the verges are eroded with crevices at the side of the road.

(10.8) Cllr McClements agreed to follow up on the recent tunnel closure.

11.0 SURREY RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Cllr Flavell suggested that the rights of way in the village, apart from vegetation in places, is fit for purpose and provides a good network including disabled access. She advised that the problem is damage caused by mountain bikers and motorised vehicles on the footpaths/bridleways and BOAT's that the improvement plan does not refer to.

Cllr Munro agreed that the network is satisfactory but could benefit from improved signage. He advised that this is a good opportunity to raise concerns and that he would be commenting on bikers and wildlife/environment.

Cllr de Vries raised concerns on behalf of the equestrian community and British Horse Society regarding bikes and motorbikes travelling at speed on bridleways making it dangerous for horse riders.

Cllr Flavell agreed to submit comments on behalf of the Parish Council. She suggested that following recent discussions with the Forestry Commission, all incidents should be reported to the Police and a crime number obtained.

Cllr Munro left at 8.40 pm.

12.0 THURSLEY CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

It was noted that there was some on-going activities and these will be reported in due course.

13.0 MOWING ARRANGEMENTS 2024

Cllr Owen advised that there were on-going discussions regarding mowing arrangements. Following discussion he agreed to investigate the option of contractors undertaking the work.

14.0 PARISH EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr Dailly referred to draft documents provided to Councillors in advance of the meeting. She reported that volunteers had been identified and first aid training was planned. Discussion took place regarding the offer being different from Help in Thursley and the plan for regular events in the village. It was noted that Cllr Dailly would provide further details at the assembly meeting.

Mr Rowntree left at 8.50 pm.

15.0 VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Cllr McClements had provided details of completed actions and proposed actions in advance of the meeting. Discussions took place about the proposed wildflower planting and alternative low maintenance options. He advised that it may be worthwhile asking parishioners for their suggestions at the assembly meeting.

Discussion took place regarding erosion of the Clump.

Following discussion it was agreed to review security arrangements on the recreation ground in due course.

16.0 NEW PARISHIONERS

Although there were no new parishioners to report, it was noted that the vehicle marketing new homes at Warren Park had appeared by the access to the site again. Cllr Luff advised that this had already been reported to WBC.

17.0 CORRESPONDENCE

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

18.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward from above
- Annual Assembly Meeting

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm. The date of the next meeting is **Wednesday 3rd April 2024 at 7.00 pm.**

Signed **3rd April 2024**