



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WONERSH PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 8 March 2012, at 7.30pm at Wonersh Sports Pavilion

PRESENT

Cllr K Bawden, Cllr R Bawden, Cllr G Grant, Cllr L Healy, Cllr B Holtom,
Cllr A Powell-Evans (in the chair);

PCSO P Snow (present for item 12/044 only) and three electors.

In attendance: Mr K Garvey, Clerk to the Council.

12/042 Apologies for absence.

The Council received and accepted apologies from Cllr M Band, Cllr P Brodie,
Borough Cllr M Goodridge and Pc A Kerby.

12/043 Wonersh Parish Code of Conduct – Disclosure of Interests.

No Members declared any personal or prejudicial interests in the after-
mentioned items of business.

12/044 Open meeting for electors to raise matters with the Council on local issues.

1. Mr C Ward, Leader of 1st Wonersh Scout Group made a short presentation about the opportunity to plant a donated Black Poplar sapling to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and sought permission to place it in a visible location somewhere on Council-owned land. He did not anticipate that this would involve any cost to the Council except for the provision of a tree-guard. He confirmed that the Scouts would also purchase a suitable commemorative plaque if the project were to be approved. Mr Ward also stated that another resident had offered to donate a second tree to the parish to mark the Jubilee.

2. Mr G Payne, Wonersh and District Garden Club, made a request for the Council to consider the provision of an additional community notice board in Wonersh. He noted that the present small community notice board in the centre of the village catered essentially for small advertisements for goods and services. There was no room on this or the other board devoted to official public notices for local non-commercial community organisations like the Garden Club to advertise their forthcoming meetings/events.

3. PCSO Snow introduced himself as the successor to PCSO Gowlett within the local Neighbourhood Police Team. He made a brief report about the very low level of reported crime within the parish over the previous month. He highlighted a break-in and theft of equipment from a shed and informed the Council that the police would shortly be undertaking a publicity campaign to local businesses and households about measures to improve the security of sheds/outbuildings. He reiterated the importance of vigilance and care in

dealing with cold-callers/hawkers and the importance of reporting concerns to the police. In response to PCSO Snow's reference to the police speedwatch conducted along Wonersh Common Road (B2128 highway) on Saturday, 25 February, Cllr Powell-Evans urged the police to ensure that the voluntary community speedwatch team co-ordinators in Wonersh and Shamley Green are always alerted in advance to ensure that all speedwatch activities can be complementary and achieve maximum effectiveness.

4. Mrs C Smith introduced herself as a local elector from Shamley Green who had come to observe the Council's meeting.

12/050 To consider further proposals to celebrate HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

1. In the light of Mr Ward's presentation at 12/044.1 above, the Council agreed to bring forward discussion of this agenda item.

2. Members welcomed in principle the proposed gifts of trees to the parish to mark the Jubilee. They noted that the Council owned (or was responsible for) much of Wonersh Common but only small parcels of common land at Shamley Green and Lords Hill. Given that the 1st Wonersh Scout Group Hut was close to Wonersh Common it made sense to locate the Black Poplar there. The Council noted that it could provide a suitable tree guard and was grateful to learn that the Scouts would be responsible for providing a plaque (which could be installed in June at the time of the Wonersh Village Diamond Jubilee Lunch). However, given the height to which a mature Black Poplar could grow it would be essential to identify a suitable location so as not to adversely affect the amenity for the community or neighbouring properties in the future. Members agreed that the Commons Enhancement and Management Working Party should consider the options and make recommendations for consideration and approval at the next meeting of the Council. In respect of gifts of other trees the Council was already committed over time to planting additional, smaller trees along Wonersh Common Road and elsewhere. The Council requested that Mr Ward inform the other potential donor to contact the Clerk directly to discuss ideas and proposals further.

3. Members took the opportunity to seek an update from Mr Ward about preparations for a beacon on Chinthurst Hill. Regrettably, given the imminent move of Mr Ward and his family from the parish he was no longer able to take the lead in organising this. The Council noted the importance of identifying a volunteer within the community who could take this on. Cllr Healy undertook to consult contacts within the Girl Guides to see if someone could do so.

4. The Council discussed further the possibilities of sponsoring an orientation table, lectern or similar display at the top of Chinthurst Hill. Members noted the importance of discussing options about design and costings at an early opportunity if such a project were to be achieved in 2012. The Council was grateful to Cllrs Holtom, K and R Bawden for agreeing to pursue this.

12/045 To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 9 February 2012.

The Council accepted these were a true record of the meeting and Cllr Powell-Evans signed the minutes accordingly.

12/046

Matters arising.

The Council received the latest update presented by the Clerk.

12/047

To receive the approved minutes of the Planning Committee held on 2 and 16 February 2012.

The Council received the approved minutes that had been signed by Cllr R Bawden.

12/048

Finance – to consider and approve the following:

(a) the lists of receipt & payment vouchers in February 2012

The Council *RESOLVED* unanimously that these be approved (proposed by Cllr R Bawden, seconded by Cllr Grant);

(b) the end-February 2012 financial statement

The Council *RESOLVED* unanimously that this be approved (proposed by Cllr Healy, seconded by Cllr R Bawden);

(c) the payment to the Clerk for 21 additional hours of work

The Council *RESOLVED* unanimously that this be approved (proposed by Cllr Healy, seconded by Cllr R Bawden);

(d) the appointment of a suitably qualified contractor and the payment of up to £1,000 for the decent maintenance of the closed Wonersh burial ground for the financial year 2012/13

The Clerk informed the Council that competitive and qualifying quotations had been submitted by three grounds maintenance companies for this contract. The Council *RESOLVED* unanimously that the bid by *Guildford YMCA – Plantation* be approved (Proposed by Cllr K Bawden, seconded by Cllr Grant);

(e) the payment of £46.50 to Surrey County Association of Parish and Town Councils (SCAPTC) for the 2012/13 annual subscription to the LCR magazine

The Council *RESOLVED* unanimously that this be approved (Proposed by Cllr Grant, seconded by Cllr Healy).

12/049

To consider and approve the appointment of a representative of the Council as a Trustee of Wonersh United Charities.

The Council *RESOLVED* unanimously that Lady Kirkwood be appointed as a Trustee for the four year period 8 March 2012 to 7 March 2016. (Proposed by Cllr Grant, seconded by Cllr R Bawden).

12/051

To consider the application by Mr Peter Shayler, Showtime Amusements, for a fun fair on the commons at Shamley Green in September 2012.

The Council noted that the parcel of common land that it owned at Shamley Green was not suitable for use by a fun fair but agreed that it had no objection to Mr Shayler submitting an application for a fun fair to be held on common

land owned by Waverley Borough Council (WBC) in Shamley Green.

12/052 To consider the following application submitted to WBC under the Licensing Act 2003:

Red Lion Public House, Shamley Green, GU5 0UB.

Variation to a premises licence for a new premises plan to cover change of layout and design to include new build restaurant area and removal of conditions relating to “No under 18s allowed in the bar area; Under 18s permitted into the restaurant and gardens areas but only if accompanied by an adult; The restaurant is no smoking; and All kitchen and bar staff shall have health and hygiene certification”. Also the removal of embedded Condition 2 relating to Children in the Bar and a replacement of the condition “Staff shall be trained in fire safety” with “Staff shall be trained in legislation that is relevant to their job role”.

The Council carefully considered this application and agreed that it had no objection to the proposals.

12/053 To consider and approve the process and arrangements to fill the vacancy of Member of the Shamley Green Ward.

The Council carefully considered the procedures to fill this casual vacancy in line with good practice. It therefore *RESOLVED* unanimously that the Clerk advertise the intention of the Council to seek to appoint a qualified person at an extraordinary meeting to be held on Saturday, 28 April 2012 (proposed by Cllr Grant, seconded by Cllr Holtom).

12/054 To consider and approve the adoption by the Council of a project to improve the road-side kerb near Blackheath Village Hall.

The Clerk informed the Council that he had received details of three competitive and qualifying bids from contractors for the proposed works. Subject to written confirmation that the Blackheath Village Society and the Blackheath Village Hall Committee were prepared to underwrite all costs, excepted VAT and the value of the grant made by SCC towards this project, the Clerk recommended that the project be considered for adoption by the Council. The Council agreed that its adoption of the project should be conditional on receiving such written undertakings and that it should therefore consider the issue further, including the selection of the contractor at its next meeting.

12/055 To consider and approve dates for community volunteer litter-picks in Shamley Green and Wonersh in the Spring.

1. The Council agreed that the next community litter-pick in and around Wonersh should take place on Saturday, 21 April 2012. Members requested that the Clerk advertise the litter-pick in the *Wonersh with Blackheath Parish magazine* and on the Council’s noticeboards.

2. In the absence of an available Ward Member to take the lead in organising a litter pick in and around Shamley Green no date was set for one. Cllr Holtom drew attention to the large amount of litter which was being dropped along the roadside between Shamley Green and Rowly and which was not being

removed regularly by WBC. Other Members agreed that this was serious problem elsewhere on many of the roads and lanes between the local settlements. The Council agreed that the Clerk should draw this to the attention of WBC and seek a response.

12/056 To consider the Council's response to the consultation by Surrey County Council (SCC) on the latter's draft Road Safety & Anti-Social Driving Strategy.

The Council was grateful to Cllr R Bawden for agreeing to lead on compiling a consolidated response, in co-operation with the Shamley Green and Wonersh community speedwatch volunteers. Members agreed that they would submit comments to Cllr Bawden no later than 28 April.

12/057 To consider the Council's response to the consultation by WBC on the latter's Local Development Framework (LDF): Core Strategy Revised Preferred Options and Draft Policies.

The Council noted that the deadline for response to WBC was prior to the date of its next meeting. In the absence of a further opportunity to consider and approve a submission at its meeting on 12 April, the Council agreed that Members should be invited to prepare comments for consideration by a meeting of a Working Party of all available councillors to be held on 29 March. The Council further agreed that the Working Party should be responsible for making arrangements to ensure that the consolidated views of Members were submitted to WBC.

12/058 To consider the renovation of existing posts and the potential siting for new posts to protect the registered common land within the Parish which has been damaged or degraded, or is at risk of such damage, by illegal parking of motor vehicles.

The Council agreed that the Commons Enhancement and Management Working Party and the Clerk should undertake an audit of posts and make recommendations for consideration and approval by the Council at its next meeting.

12/059 To consider training opportunities available for Members and the Clerk.

The Clerk commended to Members the shared SCAPTC and Sussex Association of Local Councils (SALC) website at www.sussexalc.org.uk and the accessible training opportunities webpages. Cllr Powell-Evans encouraged all Members to complete introductory and power-of-wellbeing briefings and to consider other relevant training courses for which costs could be met by the Council. Cllr Powell-Evans confirmed that she planned to attend a forthcoming course for Council Chairs and suggested other Members consider attending the forthcoming briefing on Localism or the Legal and Finance training course.

12/060 Reports by Members and the Clerk:

(a) Shamley Green Newcomers' Party

Cllr Powell-Evans confirmed that this had been a well-attended event and a good networking opportunity for the Council;

(b) Buildings of Local Merit;

Cllr Powell-Evans confirmed that the BLM Working Party had met in February and agreed to take forward this initiative after Mr Sean Rix' presentation at the Parish Annual Assembly;

(c) Clerk's Cluster of 24 February 2012.

The Clerk confirmed that this had been a well-attended meeting. A representative of Surrey County Council (SCC) had made a presentation about the new www.surreyi.gov.uk website and he commended it to Members as a useful source of local (especially statistical) information. The Clerk informed Members that neighbouring Councils were pursuing their objections to WBC's road naming policy. He had also learned that Ms Tracey Stanbridge had recently been appointed by WBC to improve liaison with parish and town councils. He understood Ms Stanbridge would be in touch to seek an introductory meeting with Cllr Powell-Evans and the Clerk.

12/061

Correspondence.

(a) South East Water (SEW) Drought Plan Consultation

The Clerk confirmed that SEW had included the parish in its list of key stakeholders by mistake. However, the Clerk would seek relevant information about Thames Water's drought plan and inform the Council;

(b) Fuel Poverty briefings

The Clerk confirmed that he had alerted relevant community contacts in Blackheath, Shamley Green and Wonersh about this *Surrey Community Action* initiative;

(c) Dog-fouling in Shamley Green

The Council noted the complaint and suggestions for remedial action made by a Shamley Green resident concerned about dog-fouling on pavements near the Shamley Green Montessori Pre-School and the alleyways and snickets within residential areas near the Wonersh and Shamley Green Infant School. The Clerk confirmed that WBC had responsibility for street cleaning and would consider requests for urgent cleaning outside the regular schedule within local settlements. However, WBC recommended against installing "dog-mess only" bins within the borough because of the much greater cost of disposal as *controlled waste*. It preferred to encourage the use of ordinary bins for the disposal of dog-mess because the dilution of such matter with other litter meant that it could continue to be handled as *non-controlled waste*. The Council agreed that it should discuss this issue further as a substantive agenda item at its next meeting.

(d) Flytipping and bonfire at Wonersh Common

The Clerk advised the Council that a grounds maintenance contractor working for a local resident had recently set fire to garden waste in the Wonersh Common ditch near the playground. He had spoken to the property owner and the contractor to order that the bonfire be put out immediately and the garden waste removed from the Council-owned registered common land. They had complied. The Clerk subsequently wrote to the property owner and the

contractor to reiterate the illegality of flytipping and the setting of fires on the registered commons (contrary to the Council's byelaws).

(e) SCC Local Committee meeting on 16 March 2012

The Clerk drew attention to the next meeting of this Committee at which, among other things, formal decisions would be made about the Council's application for project funding (£2,000 for additional, complementary works in support of the SCC-funded scheme for traffic calming in Shamley Green) and the recommended road/pavement improvement schemes (dropped curbs along Wonersh Common Road and the extension of the pavement along the northern side of The Street towards Bramley). Cllr Powell-Evans volunteered to attend on behalf of the Council.

(f) Gerald's Wood

Members agreed that this issue should be discussed as a substantive agenda item at its next meeting in the light of the Clerk having discovered that there are restrictive covenants about the use of Gerald's Wood and the Council's ability to dispose of it.

12/062 Members' business for noting or including on a future agenda.

Members expressed concern about the alarm going off at the empty shop/business premises on The Street, Wonersh. Cllr Healy agreed to alert the Directors of Wonersh Stores Ltd, about these incidents.

12/063 Dates of future meetings:

Council:	12 April 2012
Annual Assembly:	26 April 2012
Planning Committee:	15 & 29 March 2012

There being no further business, Cllr Powell-Evans closed the meeting at 9.55 pm.