

Wonersh Parish Council

BLACKHEATH • SHAMLEY GREEN • WONERSH

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WONERSH PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 12 July 2012, at 7.30 pm at Wonersh Sports Pavilion

PRESENT

Cllr P Brodie, Cllr K Bawden, Cllr R Bawden (in the chair for items 12/150(c) & (e) only), Cllr G Grant, Cllr L Healy, Cllr A Powell-Evans (in the chair, items 12/150(c) & (e) excepted);

and PCSO P Snow (for items 12/142 to 12/144 only), Mr N Studer (for items 12/142 to 12/145 only).

12/142	<p>Apologies for absence.</p> <p>The Council received and accepted apologies from Cllrs M Band, B Holtom and Mr K Garvey (Clerk to the Council). In the absence of the Clerk, Cllr Powell-Evans agreed to be responsible for recording the proceedings of the meeting.</p>
12/143	<p>Wonersh Parish Code of Conduct – Disclosure of Interests.</p> <p>Cllr Powell-Evans declared a personal interest in items 12/150(c) & (e) because of a family relationship.</p>
12/144	<p>Briefing by the Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) on issues of local interest and concern.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. PCSO Snow outlined incidents of crime over the previous month: a house and vehicle break-in at Wonersh Park and three vehicle break-ins at Shamley Green.2. Cllr R Bawden referred to the latest traffic speed survey within Wonersh village, which the community traffic calming working group would be analysing along with the local speedwatch volunteers. The Council reiterated the importance it attached to enhancing cooperation between the police and volunteers. Members requested that the police make more regular contact with the speedwatch teams in Wonersh and Shamley Green to offer training and advice, and to demonstrate that they were valued partners of the police.3. The Council welcomed the ongoing commitment by the NPT to regular drop-in surgeries at the village shops and the other community venues. Members invited Pc Kerby and PCSO Snow to consider making a crime prevention presentation at next year's Annual Assembly.
12/145	<p>Open meeting for electors to raise matters with the Council on local issues.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mr Studer spoke about the forthcoming consideration by the Waverley Borough Council (WBC) Planning Committee (Eastern) of the Old

	<p>Forge/Speckledy Hen planning application (WA/2012/0625. He raised concerns about factual inaccuracies in the Planning Officer's report, including about the number of legal/safe on-road parking spaces available along Woodhill Lane. The Council agreed that it was important for Mr Studer to draw to the attention of WBC any such inaccuracies.</p> <p>2. Cllr Powell-Evans confirmed that the Council would be taking up its invitation to speak at the APC(E) meeting and would reiterate the points it had made in its earlier written submission. The Council understood that the way ahead proposed by Planning Services was to grant temporary permission together with a requirement for a vehicle parking management plan and a robust monitoring scheme. Members agreed they would support such an outcome.</p> <p>3. Mr Studer remarked about the possibility of encouraging more drivers to park along the Guildford Road through the village, which might have a beneficial knock-on traffic calming effect. The Council recommended that Mr Studer consult the police to confirm that there were no parking restriction issues but agreed it had no objection to safe on- road parking along the B2128 highway.</p>
12/146	<p>To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 June 2012.</p> <p>The Council accepted that these were a true record of the meeting. Cllr Powell-Evans signed the minutes accordingly.</p>
12/147	<p>Matters arising.</p> <p>(a) 12/076: Marking HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.</p> <p>Cllrs K and R Bawden confirmed their willingness to investigate further proposals for an orientation table on Chinthurst Hill and to see if other organisations would be interested in subscribing to such a project.</p> <p>(b) 12/132: Future of Gerald's Wood.</p> <p>Cllr Powell-Evans informed the Council that a Land Management Company had expressed strong interest in selling the land on behalf of the Council and had valued it at in excess of £30,000 (based on an examination of the Land Registry records and aerial photography. Members agreed that Cllr Powell-Evans should invite the company to make a site visit and to report back the findings to a future meeting of the Council.</p> <p>(c) 12/124(c): Blackheath Lane flooding.</p> <p>Cllr Powell-Evans expressed serious concern that three successive letters to Mr John Hilder, Surrey County Council Highways Department had not been acknowledged. Neither she nor the Clerk had received any indication of when the agreed flood mitigation works would begin. Cllr Powell-Evans recounted the difficulty that an elderly resident had had in missing an appointment in Cranleigh because she could not cross the flooded road without returning home to change into wellington boots and missing her bus connection in Wonersh as a result. The Council agreed that, having received no response from the County Council about this long-standing and recognised problem, it would be appropriate to write to the local MP to seek her support in getting</p>

	<p>SCC to address the issue and requested that the Clerk do so.</p> <p>(d) 12/140: Blackheath verge improvement project.</p> <p>Cllr Brodie informed the Council of a request by the Blackheath Village Hall Committee (one of the Council's project partners) to include further works, at a cost of £1,279 which the Village Hall would pay for. The Council noted that it would need to hold an extraordinary meeting in order to meet its legal obligations to give notice to the electorate about the proposal and to consider and agree this in an open, transparent manner. Cllr Powell-Evans gave notice under Standing Order 17(a) of her intention to call a meeting of the Council on Saturday 19 July to address this issue.</p>
12/148	<p>To receive the approved minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 7 & 21 June 2012.</p> <p>The Council received the approved minutes which had been signed by Cllr R Bawden.</p>
12/150	<p>Finance – to consider and approve the following:</p> <p>(a) the lists of receipt & payment vouchers in June 2012</p> <p>The Council <i>RESOLVED</i> unanimously to approve these (proposed by Cllr R Bawden, seconded by Cllr Brodie);</p> <p>(b) the end-June 2012 financial statement</p> <p>The Council <i>RESOLVED</i> unanimously to approve this (proposed by Cllr Healy, seconded by Cllr K Bawden);</p> <p>(c) the payment of £1,335 (ex VAT) to Mr Simon James for the renovation of existing protective posts and the installation of additional posts around Wonersh Common</p> <p>The Council <i>RESOLVED</i> to approve this (proposed by Cllr Healy, seconded by Cllr R Bawden). Cllr Powell-Evans did not vote;</p> <p>(d) the payment of £900 (ex VAT) to Harry Stebbing Workshop for a new community noticeboard in Wonersh to mark HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee</p> <p>In the light of the size and cost of the proposed notice board the Council requested that Cllr Healy seek the further views of Wonersh community organizations about their potential contributions towards the purchase before making a decision. The Council therefore agreed to defer consideration of this item to its next meeting;</p> <p>(e) the payment of £1,320 (ex VAT) to Mr Simon James for maintenance work at Wonersh Common Playground, including the re-raking and top-up of the wood-chip safety surfaces around all play equipment and the replacement of the timber edging retaining the wood-chip safety surface around the "green" multi-unit.</p> <p>Members noted that the original scope and quotation for the proposed works of £2,095 would have exhausted the allocated 2012/13 budget for playground maintenance. Having received a revised quotation that included a re-raking,</p>

	rather than the replacement, of the existing wood-chip safety surface around the “green” multi-unit, the Council <i>RESOLVED</i> to approve this (proposed by Cllr K Bawden, seconded by Cllr Grant). Cllr Powell-Evans did not vote.
12/151	<p>To consider and approve the proposed contents of the Council’s Summer Newsletter to all residents.</p> <p>The Council welcomed the new mast-head design and layout of the newsletter. Following agreement about a number of minor amendments the Council <i>RESOLVED</i> unanimously to approve this (proposed by Cllr K Bawden, seconded by Cllr Brodie).</p>
12/152	<p>To consider and approve the Council’s policy for responding to anonymous correspondence.</p> <p>The Council <i>RESOLVED</i> unanimously to approve this (proposed by Cllr Brodie, seconded by Cllr Smith).</p>
12/153	<p>To consider a request for a new bus shelter in Wonersh village.</p> <p>Cllr Grant raised this issue on behalf of a number of concerned local residents about the present lack of any shelter at the bus stops on either side of <i>The Street</i> or for real-time electronic messaging about the bus service. The Council agreed in principle to consider this further but noted that it would be helpful in the first instance if Cllr Grant could consult WBC about the latter’s requirements, if any for the style of bus shelter in a conservation area. The Council noted that it did not own any land itself on The Street on which a shelter could be erected. The Council therefore agreed to consider this issue again at a future meeting.</p>
12/154	<p>To consider the next steps for producing a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish.</p> <p>Cllr Powell-Evans reminded the Council of the importance of producing a Neighbourhood Plan in due course in order to contribute to ensuring that development within the parish takes account of its unique characteristics and is in the public interest. However, the Chief Executive of WBC had contacted all parish and town councils inviting them to wait for the Planning Authority to complete its Local Plan first, from which Neighbourhood Plans would cascade. The Council noted that this was sensible but reiterated the priority it attached to taking forward work on producing a Neighbourhood Plan once the provisions of the Local Plan were agreed.</p>
12/155	<p>Reports by Members and the Clerk:</p> <p>Traffic calming in Wonersh</p> <p>The Council noted the findings of the latest traffic speed survey report, which showed little change in the average speed over the last two years (at just over the 30 mph limit – but closer to 40mph on the straightest part of Wonersh Common road). However, Members also noted much higher speeds late at night and in the early hours of the morning. The Council accepted Cllr R Bawden’s recommendation that the community traffic calming working party investigate what new initiatives or measures might contribute to improving the situation for consideration by the Council at a future meeting.</p>

12/156	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>(a) Barnett Hill Traffic Management Consultation Committee (BHTMCC) meeting</p> <p>The Council agreed that it should consider the 2012 report submitted by <i>Sundial Group</i> at its next meeting. It further agreed that it should consider whether or not a formal meeting of the BHTMCC would also be valuable or desirable in the light of the report.</p> <p>(b) Car-parking in Shamley Green</p> <p>The Council acknowledged with thanks the offer of Mrs Jane Bowden, WBC Countryside Manager, to prepare a paper about potential options for additional, parking ahead of further consideration of this issue at the Council's September meeting.</p> <p>(c) Lordshill playground, Shamley Green</p> <p>Cllr Healy informed the Council of correspondence from a Shamley Green resident expressing concern about the state of playground. Members noted that required repairs, including some caused by vandalism, had been recorded in the regular weekly inspections undertaken by Members and were in hand. The Council acknowledged that this summer's mixture of heavy rain and sunshine had increased the growth of the grass but noted that this continued to be cut on a regular basis within the budget available. The Council also noted that the annual professional and independent inspection of playgrounds was due to take place in August. Cllr Healy agreed to reply to confirm the Council's commitment to maintain the playground to a good standard and to invite the correspondent to get in contact with the volunteer playground committee who were responsible for fund-raising for improvements and new equipment.</p>
12/157	<p>Members' business for noting or including on a future agenda.</p> <p>Cllr Powell-Evans informed the Council about unacceptable behaviour by a resident of Wonersh who had been abusive towards a Member who had drawn attention to illegal car-parking on a road-side verge which was registered common land. The Clerk had written a polite letter to explain that while the Council was grateful to all residents (<i>frontagers</i>) who helped to maintain and/or mow common land adjacent to their properties this did not give them any rights or privileges to park vehicles on it. The Clerk had also made clear that abusiveness towards Members of the Council or its staff was not acceptable.</p>
12/158	<p>Dates of future meetings:</p> <p>Council: 13 September 2012. Planning Committee: 19 July & 2 August 2012.</p>

There being no further business, Cllr Powell-Evans closed the meeting at 9.30pm.