

# Wonersh Parish Council

BLACKHEATH • SHAMLEY GREEN • WONERSH

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## **PARISH OF WONERSH NOTICE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Local Government Act 1972**

Minutes of a meeting of Wonersh Parish Council held on

**Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at 7.30pm**

At Wonersh Sports Pavilion

**Present:** Cllr M Harding (in the chair)  
Cllr R Bawden  
Cllr M Band  
Cllr L Healy  
Cllr A Powell-Evans  
Cllr A Shareef  
Borough Cllr M Goodridge  
PC Paul Soulsby  
PCSO Simon Mitchell  
3 members of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

**09/95** **Apologies for absence** were received from Parish Cllrs N Goodchild, C Howard and N Morris, and County Cllr A Povey

**09/96** **Local Code of Conduct – disclosures of interests**

**09/105:** *Wonersh United Charities:* Cllr Harding declared an interest as a Trustee.

**09/109:** *Shamley Green Pond:* Cllr Shareef declared an interest as a neighbour

**09/97** **Open Meeting for electors**

1: *Police:* PC Soulsby introduced PCSO Simon Mitchell, who had taken over from PCSO Michael Barker, now working from Godalming. PCSO Mitchell had worked in Cranleigh prior to this posting, and came with a great deal of experience.

- New contact detail posters had been put up, the Clerk held some more for the parish noticeboards.
- Theft from buildings tended to increase at this time of year, as people still believed that they were safe from crime. On a patrol that afternoon, it had been clear that people were not at home, but windows were open. Criminals tended to return to places where they had found the opportunity to commit crime.
- The capping of funding to Surrey Police would result in job cuts, but this would not affect this area. About 50 front line police officers would be cut back, and would not be replaced.
- PC Soulsby had been able to identify some funding and had recently purchased some DJ equipment for the Shamley Green Youth Club. This funding came from the police property fund, derived from proceeds from crime which had not been claimed. PC Soulsby had obtained £350 from this fund for Wonersh Parish Council, and hoped that it would possible for it to be used for street lighting, although he would be happy if it was used in some way for local safety issues.

Cllr Harding welcomed PCSO Mitchell and asked PC Soulsby to pass on the Council's grateful thanks for the donation.

- PC Peter Harris is the new Casualty Reduction Officer. As he had received an injury whilst on duty, he was currently on light duties.

Cllr Harding agreed that people must be made aware of the need to take security measures. He thanked PC Soulsby and PCSO Mitchell for all that they do, and knew how much this was appreciated by the community.

2. *Lords Hill Common*: Mr Hawkshaw advised the Council of the increasing problem of HGV traffic crossing the bridleway when there is a clear alternative route. He had written to Cllr Povey, Cllr Band and the Chairman, and had received replies, but believed that the remit should be widened by calling on the experience on Shere Parish Council, and the assistance of LORD (Lorries Off Rural Detours). He advised the meeting that SCC and WBC had taken the approach that this was the responsibility of the local residents, who are accountable for the maintenance of the bridleway. He believed that full consultation should be undertaken, but that any measures should not result in Lords Hill Common being cut off from the rest of the village.

The Clerk advised that she had been in contact with LORD. Cllr Band agreed that residents and Parish and Borough councils should work together to achieve some action from County Council, and that everyone should be aware of the action being taken.

3. *Wonersh Traffic Calming*: John Mash, who represented the Traffic Calming Group and had attended the meeting in place of David Beevers, was very pleased to hear that the police had donated some money towards improvement of safety in the parish. The Group was very grateful for all the encouragement it had received from the County Council and the Parish Council. He wished to raise two items, both of which required permission and also funding:

- i) *Village Gateways at Shalford end of the village*: The suggestion was that the village gateways should be nearer the corner, just after Chinthurst Lodge, so that drivers approaching the village will have more warning that there is a village around the corner. It had been hoped that the 30mph speed limit sign could be moved back to this location, although Mr Mash understood that this was unlikely (see 09/103).
- ii) *Pavement outside the Grantley Arms*: The Group had received a letter from the resident of Grantley Cottage, concerning an incident that had happened on Palm Sunday, when a car coming from Shamley Green at speed had to swerve and break sharply to avoid parked cars. The proposal was that the pavement should be widened in front of the Grantley Arms so that cars have to slow down in order to negotiate the bend.

4. *Goal posts at Lords Hill Recreation Ground*: Mrs Cooper represented Lords Hill Playground Committee and is also a helper at the Youth Club, who are trying to increase the number of meetings from monthly to weekly. There were a number of boys at the club who very much enjoyed playing football and who currently used a climbing frame on the recreation ground as a goal. She did not want to encourage this, as the committee had raised the money for the equipment and had talked to the person who installed the posts around the wickets on the Green, who had agreed to supply and install goal posts, measuring 7' high by 9' across, for £450 plus VAT. Mrs Cooper acknowledged that there would be maintenance issues for the Parish Council, but was happy to take on raising of the money for the posts. The posts would be installed away from the recreation ground equipment.

Cllr Harding advised that the Council would need to discuss this with the Countryside Ranger, but that it might be possible to receive some funding from WBC.

5. Mrs St John was concerned that Cllr Harding did not receive the support that he should from other councillors, and believed that the councillors should get out and talk to people, and find out what is going on, as Cllr Harding does. Cllr Harding stated that he received full support from members of the Council. Cllr Shareef advised that Cllr Harding's work was greatly valued. However, all councillors were contactable by telephone or e-mail, and contact details were published. There was a rota of councillors to take care of the playground, and this was carefully adhered to. Cllr Healy believed that members of the public needed to be encouraged to attend Council meetings, which they rarely did at present.

**09/98 Minutes of the Annual Meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

These were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**09/99 Matters Arising**

**09/90:2: Planning: extending conservation areas:** Cllr Band advised that he was expecting a response from Mr Evans.

**Agenda item:** September meeting.

**09/43c: Resurfacing pavilion approach road:** The Clerk advised that she was still awaiting two responses.

**09/65: Common Land: cars parking:** the Clerk would re-draft the WBC notice and circulate for approval.

**09/66: Litter Picks:** Cllr Healy would be unable to attend the Wonersh litter pick.

**09/71: Closure of footpath from Wonersh Mill:** This was so the dam could be repaired. The Clerk would take this up with Cllr Povey.

**09/100 Current Planning Applications:**

The Comments made to Waverley Planning department regarding the following 8 planning applications considered since the last meeting was APPROVED unanimously.

**WA/2009/0539 Pippins, Guildford Road, Shamley Green**

*Erection of two dwellings, following demolition of existing bungalow (details pursuant to WA/2006/0964) (resubmission of WA/2008/2151)*

**WA/2009/0541 Ardath, Run Common Road**

*Upgrading of vehicular access track*

**WA/2009/0562 Lapscombe Farm, Smithwood Common, Cranleigh**

*Application under Section 191 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the use of land as residential curtilage (revision of refused part of WA/2008/0482)*

**WA/2009/0563 Wistaria Cottage, Guildford Road, Shamley Green**

*Erection of extensions and alterations*

**WA/2009/0624 Lapscombe Farm, Smithwood Common, Cranleigh**

*Retention of boatshed, timber pontoon, small beach and deck in connection with the leisure use of the lake*

**WA/2009/0627 Shamley Wood House, Woodhill Lane, Shamley Green**

*Change of use of part of farm building to provide ancillary accommodation*

**WA/2009/0628 St Johns Seminary, Cranleigh Road, Wonersh**

*Application for Listed Building Consent for installation of emergency lighting to five floors.*

**WSA/2008/0644 Littledene, East Whiple Lane, Shamley Green**

*Erection of a two storey extension (revision of WA/2009/0350)*

Cllr Harding had attended a recent planning consultation at WBC, and the three presentations made were all on the WBC web site. Cllr Harding was concerned that the proposed changes to how councils received planning applications would have significant implications for councils, and that members would probably need training on the portal system and considerable skill with a computer. He considered that the planning portal would undermine the democratic right of neighbours to raise issues with their local council.

**09/101 Finance**

- a) Members RESOLVED that the current list of Receipt and Payment vouchers be approved. This was PROPOSED by Cllr Bawden, SECONDED by Cllr Band, with all in favour.
- b) *Annual Return and Governance Statement*: Members RESOLVED that the Annual Return be approved. This was PROPOSED by Cllr Healy, SECONDED by Cllr Band, with all in favour. Members RESOLVED that the Governance Statement, having been duly completed, should be adopted. This was PROPOSED by Cllr Bawden, SECONDED by Cllr Band, with all in favour.

#### 09/102 **Bridleway at Lords Hill**

Following the discussion in the Open Meeting concerning this, the following action was agreed:

- The Parish Council to ask WBC to impose a condition on each planning approval for this area that traffic is directed through the village.
- Ask SCC for a sign to ban heavy traffic. To be placed at the top of Norley Lane, on the crossroads.
- Ensure that LORD register this road as unsuitable for HGVs.

#### 09/103 **Village Gateways**

Cllr Powell- Evans expressed her wish to progress this matter and had asked Mr Mash to speak in order for the Parish Council to hear another point of view. She appreciated that moving the gateways might slow the traffic down, but she had been given to understand that, as a traffic calming measure, they were less effective when separated from the speed limit signs. She commented that signs like those in Blackheath would not stand out sufficiently in that position, and that they would need to be white to be effective.

1. *Design*: Cllr Bawden reminded the meeting that this discussion had been initiated, not as a traffic calming measure, but because the old gateways were in a bad state of repair. Given that the rural aspect of the village should be retained as much as possible, he considered that wooden gateways would be better. He suggested that white lettering could be used instead of black. Cllr Healy agreed that this was an opportunity to prevent encroaching suburbanisation, by removing some white signs. **Action**: Cllr Powell-Evans to seek some advice.
2. *Position*: Cllr Powell-Evans had discussed this in full with John Hilder, who did not mind if the gateways were moved, but the 30mph sign could not be. Cllr Harding considered that corner to be lethal and that anything that slowed traffic down would be a benefit. It was **agreed** that the Parish Council would take guidance from John Hilder on this.

#### 09/104 **Lordshill Common – Request for Football posts**

Following the earlier discussion during the open meeting, Members agreed that there was sufficient unused land for it to be possible to have an area for football, and were happy for this to be progressed, and to take on the maintenance of the posts.

**Action**: Clerk to discuss with Sarah Henderson.

#### 09/105 **Wonersh United Charities: Trustee**

Cllr Harding's term as Trustee would expire in July. Members asked if he would consider remaining for a further term, to which he agreed. This was ratified by a PROPOSAL from Cllr Bawden, SECONDED by Cllr Shareef, with all in favour.

#### 09/106 **Youth Portfolio**

In the absence of Cllr Goodchild, no report was tabled. Cllr Band advised that he had spoken to Katie Webb, the Youth Officer, who was very keen to support initiatives. For example, the Army were organising events in Aldershot and the Borough Council had put aside funding to support this. She was very keen that the matrix on the web site should include WBC.

#### 09/107 **Quality Council**

The Clerk tabled the current status of the proposed application. There were some matters to be completed before the application could be made, as follows:

- *Clerk's qualification*: The Clerk advised that she would be ready to submit her portfolio by the end of June.
- *Newsletter*: This was now on target, but 4 newsletters must be achieved within one year
- *Communication (discretionary)*: The Council had achieved 13 out of the 17 points, 9 was the minimum.
- *Accounts*: An unqualified report from the external auditor is required
- *Promoting local democracy and citizenship*: After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk would seek advice concerning this mandatory criteria
- *Training*: approval to be sought at this meeting.

#### **09/108 Training Policy:**

The proposed policy was tabled. Members RESOLVED to adopt the policy, PROPOSED by Cllr Bawden, SECONDED by Cllr Band, with all in favour.

#### **09/109 Reports from Councillors:**

1. *Shamley Green Pond*: Cllr Shareef reported that an application for funding had been made to COMMA, via Surrey Community Action. This included letters of support from Shamley Green Village Association, the History Society and Sarah Henderson. Two quotations for the work were submitted, one from Land and Water and the other from Simon James. Cllr Shareef advised that the Council should hear further from COMMA in July.
2. *Carbon Neutral Project*: Cllr Bawden advised that there had been 8 names on the signatory list in Wonersh Shop and 1 on the list in Shamley Green. A number of people had said that they did not know what it was about.

#### **09/110 Correspondence**

1. *Waverley Borough Council's Statement of Gambling Policy Review consultation with interested parties*: the consultation period starts on the 1<sup>st</sup> June and ends on 24<sup>th</sup> August. All comments received by that date will be considered by the Licensing and Regulatory Committee and the Council prior to adopting the Statement of Policy in time for publication in January 2010.
2. *1<sup>st</sup> Wonersh and Bramley Guides*: are planning to go pine pulling on 15<sup>th</sup> June at Blackheath Nature Reserve to raise money for International Guiding opportunities for their unit, and have written to request a contribution to their funds. A donation of £100 was agreed, PROPOSED by Cllr Powell-Evans, SECONDED by Cllr Band, with all in favour.
3. *Surrey Crimestoppers*: have written to thank the Parish Council for its letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008. They are unable to give evidence that Crimestoppers has been able to help a resident in this parish, as that would undermine the integrity of having an anonymous service.
4. *Four villages Day Centre*: have written to invite the parish council to their 21<sup>st</sup> AGM, at the Turner Room, Lawnmead Hall, on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, at 7.30pm.
5. *Sports England*: has £10 million to help boost participation in rural area, both to improve facilities and access to sport. Surrey Community Action is preparing a bid to respond to the needs across rural Surrey and have asked that, if the parish has an activity or project that they wish to be included, this is submitted by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June.
6. *Allotments*: The allotment holders had requested permission to erect a polytunnel on the spare allotment. Cllr Powell-Evans pointed out that the owner would have to be approached, and that the terms of the lease almost certainly did not allow this. Planning permission might also be required. Members objected to this proposal.

**09/111 Councillors Business**

- a) *Church Green: refurbishment of benches:* As Chairman of Trustees, Cllr Healy requested that the Council might consider refurbishing these benches when attending to its own.
- b) *Wonersh Memorial Hall:* The boiler and central heating needed to be replaced. Cllr Healy requested the support of the Parish Council in seeking funding.  
**Agenda item:** July meeting.
- c) *Book-Keeper:* Members were sorry to hear that Mary Tatlow had decided to retire from her post as book-keeper to the Council, with effect from the 31<sup>st</sup> August, which she hoped would allow enough time for a replacement to be found, to whom she would give her support.
- d) *Emergency Planning:* The Clerk advised that she proposed to table a draft plan at the July meeting.  
**Agenda item:** July meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.33pm.