

Wonersh Parish Council

BLACKHEATH • SHAMLEY GREEN • WONERSH

www.wonershparish.org



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WONERSH PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 10 November 2011, at 7.30pm at Wonersh Sports Pavilion

PRESENT

Cllr M Band, Cllr K Bawden, Cllr R Bawden, Cllr P Brodie, Cllr G Grant, Cllr L Healy, Cllr B Holtom, Cllr C Howard and Cllr A Powell-Evans (in the chair);

Pc A Kerby (present for items 11/167 to 11/169 only).

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

11/167 Apologies for absence.

The Council received and accepted apologies from PCSO H Gowlett.

11/168 Wonersh Parish Code of Conduct – Disclosure of Interests.

Cllr R Bawden declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 11/180 because of his membership of Wonersh Sports Club. Cllrs Band and Holtom declared personal interests in item 11/174(d) as *Friends of the Hurtwood*. Cllr Powell-Evans declared a personal interest in item 11/181 because of a family relationship.

11/169 Briefing on local community policing and crime-prevention issues.

1. Having noted an uneventful summer and autumn Pc Tony Kerby informed the Council of five criminal incidents in the previous week, including one burglary and one attempted break-in of domestic dwellings within the parish plus the theft of ornamental stone from the entrance to Wonersh Park. Now that the clocks had gone back to GMT, with earlier sunsets and longer hours of darkness it was essential for householders to be vigilant and to secure their property.

Action:
PcK

2. Pc Kerby commended the Surrey Police Active Citizen scheme and invited Members and the Clerk to consider joining. Cllr Band confirmed that he was already a participant. Pc Kerby undertook to send the Clerk more information about the scheme and to clarify what, if any, differences there were to the separate Surrey Police Countryside Watch scheme.

Action:
PcK

3. Cllr Powell-Evans highlighted the recent theft of copper cabling from a British Telecom junction box in Guildford Borough which had caused widespread disruption to telephone/broadband access for local householders and businesses in Waverley Borough too, including in the parish to the north of Wonersh village. Pc Kerby was unsighted on the incident but undertook to consult Guildford Borough colleagues about the criminal investigation.

- Action:**
Members 4. Members expressed concern about hawkers calling at isolated properties within the parish. While acknowledging the lawfulness of registered doorstep sellers Pc Kerby invited the Council to pass to him descriptions of individuals and vehicles (including number plates) acting suspiciously.
- Action:**
PcK 5. Cllr Bawden noted the usefulness of access to accident data to inform local traffic calming initiatives. Pc Kerby undertook to pass the relevant statistics held by SCC to the Council and the Parish traffic working parties.
- 11/170** **Open meeting for electors to raise matters with the Council on local issues.**
- No issues were raised.
- 11/171** **To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 October 2011.**
- Having agreed a number of minor textual amendments the Council accepted these were a true record of the meeting. Cllr Powell-Evans signed the minutes.
- 11/172** **Matters arising.**
1. The Council received the latest update by the Clerk.
 2. The Clerk informed the Council that Mr Nick Morris had written to make clear that he had attended the October meeting of the Council to provide a factual report about *Surrey Heathland* (see items 11/150 and 11/159) and had not expected nor sought to make the case for the Parish Council to provide future financial support to the organisation. The Council was glad to clarify that, while it had expressed its support in principle for the future activities of *Surrey Heathland* within the Parish, it had not come to any decision for or against making a further financial grant and would not do so until after the outcome of the review of the organisation's future direction.
- 11/173** **To receive the approved minutes of the Planning Committee held on 6 October 2011.**
- The Council received the approved minutes that had been signed by Cllr R Bawden.
- 11/174** **Finance – to consider and approve the following:**
- (a) the lists of receipt & payment vouchers in October 2011**
- The Council *RESOLVED* unanimously that the receipt and payment vouchers for October 2011 be approved (proposed by Cllr Band, seconded by Cllr Holtom);
- (b) the end-October 2011 financial statement**
- Action:**
KG The Council agreed to defer consideration of this statement until the next meeting;

(c) the payment of £104 (ex VAT) to Seton Company for 20 high visibility waistcoats

Action:
KG

The Council *RESOLVED* unanimously that this be approved, subject to confirmation from the Shamley Green Montessori Pre-School of acceptance of the use of the HVWs by parents accompanying children across Church Hill (proposed by Cllr Band, seconded by Cllr R Bawden);

(d) the donation of £30 to Friends of the Hurtwood

The Council noted the valuable work of the Friends of the Hurtwood in preserving heathland within the parish and *RESOLVED* that this be approved (proposed by Cllr R Bawden, seconded by Cllr Howard). Having declared their personal interest, Cllrs Band and Holtom did not vote.

11/175 To consider and approve the Council's Planning Code of Good Practice.

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

11/176 To consider the Council's draft budget and precept for the financial year 2012/13.

Action:
KG

The Council carefully considered the draft budget and precept required for the next financial year, and requested that the finalised version be presented to its next meeting for formal approval.

11/177 To consider and approve the date and arrangements for the 2012 Annual Parish Assembly.

Action:
KG

1. The Council *RESOLVED* unanimously that the 2012 Annual Parish Assembly should take place on Thursday, 26 April at the Arbuthnot Hall, Shamley Green (proposed by Cllr Grant seconded by Cllr Holtom).

Action:
KG

2. The Council agreed that, in addition to the 2011/12 reports from the Council and United Wonersh Charities, the main presentation at the meeting should be about traffic calming and signage de-cluttering within the parish. The Council therefore agreed that Mr Colin Davis, consultant to the English Heritage/Surrey County Council (SCC) traffic calming scheme for Shamley Green be invited to make a presentation. The Council also requested that Mr John Hilder and Mr Bahram Assadi, Surrey Highways Department, be included in the list of special invitees.

11/178 To consider the Surrey County Council (SCC) consultation about the provision of local bus services.

1. The Council noted that no changes were proposed to routes 53 & 63 or the frequency of buses which were of interest to most residents of Shamley Green and Wonersh. However, the Council further noted that changes and diminished frequency of service were being considered for routes 503/523, which would affect users living in Blackheath, and for routes 21/22/32, which would affect users living to the north of Wonersh village, near Rice's Corner.

Action:
PB, GG,
AP-E, KG

2. The Council agreed that affected residents should be encouraged to make individual representations to SCC, copying their comments to the Council so that it could consider this issue further at its January meeting, ahead of submitting its own comments to SCC. Cllr Powell-Evans volunteered to collate and compile the draft such a submission. Cllr Grant agreed to prepare a notice for inclusion in the Wonersh with Blackheath (ecclesiastical) parish magazine. Cllr Brodie agreed that he would also arrange to publicise the consultation to all Blackheath residents via the Village Society. The Clerk agreed to publicise the review on the Council's notice boards.

11/179 To consider proposals to submit to County Cllr Povey for small project funding relating to: (a) highways; and (b) the 2012 Olympics.

1. The Council agreed to support bids for:
 - (i) cutting back laurels beside the B2128 highway in Wonersh (Mellersh Hill);
 - (ii) improving the verges in Blackheath; and
 - (iii) contributing to a controlled speed check through Wonersh.

Action:
KG

2. The Council requested that the Clerk submit these proposals to County Cllr Povey.

11/180 To consider further ideas and proposals to celebrate HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Clerk informed the Council that he had not so far received any comments or suggestions from parishioners (as invited in the latest Parish newsletter) for lasting memorials to the Jubilee. The Council agreed to consider this issue further at its meeting in January 2012.

11/181 To consider and approve the offer of a donated park bench on Wonersh Common.

The Council noted that Mr Simon James, who had offered to donate a new bench, was a contractor to the Council. The Council agreed that it could accept such a transparent "gift" on the basis that by doing so it did not, or would not in future, place it under any obligation to Mr James in relation to work or contracts with the Parish Council. The Council therefore *RESOLVED* to approve acceptance of the gift of a new bench (proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr K Bawden). Having declared a personal interest, Cllr Powell-Evans did not vote.

Action:
KG

11/182 Reports by Members and the Clerk:

(a) Bramley Library

The Council received a written report by Cllr K Bawden;

(b) Wonersh Traffic calming

The Council received a written report by Cllr R Bawden;

(c) Blackheath Village Society

Cllr Brodie briefed the Council about issues discussed at the most recent meeting of the BVS Committee, including the ongoing initiative of a local consortium to preserve/enhance *The Villagers* public house as a community amenity. He confirmed that he would also be taking forward more consultation about allotments in Blackheath before bringing the matter for discussion by the Council. Cllr Brodie informed the Council of the BVS Christmas Fair due to take place on 19 November and the invitation to Members and the Clerk (with spouses) to the BVS Christmas Party on 17 December.

(d) Local affordable housing

The Council received a written report by Cllr Holtom;

(e) Clerks' Cluster

1. The Clerk informed the Council that the Cluster had discussed the value of the joint WBC T&PC Eastern Villages meeting. The Group had expressed support for a more informal setting than the main Council Chamber and for the opportunity for Parish Councils to host future meetings too. The Cluster had considered the different proposals being considered to commemorate the Jubilee permanently, including tree planting, and for more immediate celebrations, eg beacons and community parties. Cluster members who had been able to attend the WBC Community Safety workshop on 12 October had found it a useful networking opportunity.

2. The next meeting of the Cluster would be on 13 January 2012. Before that, the Clerk planned to attend the next meeting of the Surrey Branch of the Society of Local Council Clerks on 6 December 2012 at which Mr Robin Pellow, WBC, was the invited guest speaker.

(f) Open meeting with Wonersh Allotment Holders

The Council received a written report by the Clerk.

11/183 Correspondence.

1. The Council received the letter from Mrs Anne Milton MP of 31 October 2011 and noted her comments about the Government's proposed National Planning Policy Framework.

Action:
MB, KG

2. The Council noted the invoice from WBC for the Parish share of costs towards the May 2011 elections. Cllr Band undertook to consult WBC about the costs. The Clerk confirmed that the proposed charge of £279.69 fell within the sum set aside by the Council for such an eventuality.

Action:
KG

3. The Council noted the invitation to attend the Waverley Age UK AGM in Cranleigh but regretted that no Member was available to represent the Council on this occasion. The Council requested that the Clerk reply in these terms.

4. The Council noted the concerns raised by a resident about placing goods

for sale together with an advertising A frame on the pavement outside *Le Petit Atelier* on The Street in Womersley. The clerk confirmed that the shop owner required the consent of WBC (planning) and SCC (pavement owner) to do so. The Council agreed that it did not wish to hamper unnecessarily the activities of local businesses. However, it also recognised the importance of ensuring that no obstruction was caused to other users of the pavement. The Council requested that the Clerk inform the shop owner of the legal requirements to secure permission for approved use of the pavement that was considerate to all pedestrians. The Council agreed that it should consider the matter further at its next meeting.

Action:
KG

11/184 Members' business for noting or including on a future agenda.

Action: Cllr Howard requested that consideration of the future of Gerald's Wood be included on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council.
CH, KG

11/185 Dates of future meetings:

Council: 12 January 2012.
Planning Committee: 17 November, 1 & 15 December 2011,
5 January 2012.

There being no further business, Cllr Powell-Evans closed the meeting at 9.50 pm.