

WONERSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 13th September 2007 at the Sports Pavilion, Wonersh at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Cllr R Bawden Chairman
Mr M.Harding Vice Chairman
Mr M Band Borough Councillor
Dr N Goodchild
Mrs L Healy
Mr A Shareef

Also present were Borough Councillor M Goodridge, Mr A Golden, Surrey Advertiser and 3 members of the public.

07/139 APOLOGIES – Apologies were received from Cllrs N Morris and C. Howard

07/140 CODE OF CONDUCT - Cllr M Harding declared a personal interest in Items 16 and 17 as he is a cricket club supporter over a long period of time and a member of the Wey and Arun Canal Society. Cllr Athar Shareef declared an interest in item 16 as he is a member of the cricket club and the Shamley Green Village Society.

07/141 MATTERS RAISED BY ELECTORS – Cllr Bawden adjourned the meeting for this session. Mr D Thomson asked if the Council is responsible for street cleansing and cleaning. Cllr Band and Cllr Bawden confirmed that this is Waverley's responsibility. Mr Thompson raised his concern about both the volume and speed of traffic through Shamley Green, particularly around the area of the Infant School and his property where mothers are having to pull onto the road at busy times. Cllr Bawden explained about the Parish Plan Committees in the three villages. Each one of them is concerned with the issue of traffic although progress is very different. In Shamley Green the team have instigated the speed watch and were instrumental in getting the mobile flashing sign put up. In Wonersh the decision has been made to seek to get the speed limit in The Street reduced to 20mph and the Council has also put in an application to the Area Committee for funds to extend the pavement down to Gerald Wood to make the crossing less dangerous.

Mr Thompson wondered if the Parish Council could fund the cost for speed cameras in the villages whereby the revenue made from these would be put back into the parish. He also suggested triangles like they have in Bramley or lights. Cllr Shareef explained that the Traffic Calming Scheme has now succeeded in getting the site outside Mr Thompson's house and the school declared as a site where they can mount the speedwatch, and they have already started speed watches there. They have observed that the speed watch campaign has had an impact in slowing the traffic through the centre of the village. Mr Thompson talked about worst time for traffic being 7-9pm particularly on a Friday. Cllr Harding said that when he was Governor at the school they had negotiation with Highways about putting up flashing beacons for the school, and that was part of the detailed plan that was drawn up for traffic calming through the village, on the B2128, but a line was drawn under all that and if we want to raise this again we would have to start from scratch, but we would possibly be able to refer to the documentation and plans that were drawn up at the time. Cllr Harding also informed the meeting that the Borough have an agreement that all funding made from parking attendants goes from the Borough of Waverley back to Surrey County Council and he is sure that will be the same for speed cameras. Cllr Band explained that fines from speed cameras goes through the magistrates courts and back to government and therefore felt it would be an impossibility for monies from speed cameras to ever be handed back to local villages and parishes. Cllr Bawden re-assured Mr Thomson that the voluntary work of the Traffic Calming Committees would continue.

Wendy Henslett spoke about her concern over what she considers to be a health hazard in Wonersh, outside her cottage on the common near the playground. Now that the Borough Council are only doing fortnightly collections, the Wheelie bin particularly in Summer fills up with rubbish and dog waste to overflowing within a week and then has to sit for a further week, creating an awful smell and attracting flies. Her appeal is to looking at an alternative action for the sake of safety. The Clerk explained that she had had a meeting with Veolia to talk about

alternatives that might be suitable. The alternatives explored were that we could remove that bin and put a smaller rustic bin in its place and this could be emptied weekly or even twice weekly; or there is the possibility of purchasing a much larger bin and for the current Litter Picker to empty the smaller bins on a much more regular basis and take the waste to the much larger bin sighted elsewhere, with this rubbish being collected monthly or as and when needed. Wendy also pointed out that the bin needs to be secured otherwise youth come and tip it up and if its windy the rubbish scatters all over the common.

The Open Session was closed.

07/142 MINUTES – TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING ON 14th JUNE 2007 – these minutes were subject to one amendment and then APPROVED

07/143 MATTERS ARISING –

07/030 – Fly tipping in Norley Lane, Shamley Green – Cllr Band raised the issue with Martin Shorten again but has heard nothing and he will continue to pursue. The item has been referred to Waverley Borough Council Clean Up Project. Nothing has been heard back from WBC yet.

07/068 – Bus Shelters - The Clerk has received an email from Gerald Cannon WBC and he has been unable to get quotes as yet and can not supply figures. He has no objection to Council getting quotes directly and would be delighted if we took on all funding for roof.

DECISION - Cllr Bawden requested this be an agenda item at the next meeting.

07/115 – Reports from Councillors

Shamley Green Pond – Cllr Shareef has still been unable to contact contractor and believes he is hospital.

07/144 APPROVAL OF COMMENTS MADE BY WARD PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEES ON CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS- the comments to the Planning Dept regarding these applications were APPROVED unanimously

07/1296 –3, Phillips Hatch

07/1323 – The Old Coach House, Wonersh Common Road, Wonersh

07/1789 – Little Gosden, Stonnards Brow, Shamley Green

07/1384 – Pine Tree Bank, Hullbrook Lane, Shamley Green

07/1385 – 35, Barnett Close, Wonersh

07/1402 – Elmbank, Sweetwater Lane, Shamley Green

07/1405 – Land at Grist Hill Farm, Guildford Road, Shamley Green

07/1408 – Cornwall Cottage, Wonersh Common, Wonersh

07/1417 – Blackmoor Paddock, Green lane, Shamley Green

07/1503 – Strawberry Hill, Church Hill, Shamley Green

07/1509 – Little Potters, Sweetwater Lane, Shamley Green

07/1524 – Grist Hill Bungalow, Guildford Road, Shamley Green

07/1533/1534 – The Cottage, Wonersh Common Road, Wonersh

07/1540 – 2 Sweetwater lane, Shamley Green

07/1564 – 24 Blackheath Grove, Wonersh

07/1578 – Moonrakers, Grantley Avenue, Wonersh

07/1593 – Grist Hill Stud Farm, Guildford Road, Shamley Green

07/1628 – Land known as Sandhurst Copse Shamley Green

07/1685 – Gate House, Chinthurst Lane, Wonersh

07/1533/1534 – The Cottage, Wonersh Common Road, Wonersh

07/1701 – Winter's Sweet, Stroud Lane, Shamley Green

07/1707 – Plonks Farm, Shamley Green

07/1763 – Pound Farm, Norley Lane, Shamley Green

07/1789 – Little Gosden, Stonnards Brow, Shamley green

07/145 FINANCE – APPROVAL OF CURRENT LISTS OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS - the Council resolved that Receipt Vouchers Nos C30 – C35 and Payment Vouchers 07/65-07/88 be APPROVED. Cllr Harding proposed and Seconded by Cllr Healy.

Anne Powell-Evans reported on the Internal Audit. One action was raised that the asset register should carry assets at replacement value and not written down to disposal value. Anne contacted external auditor because she was not agreement with this. Her understanding is that an asset register is the value of the assets to you and what you would be

able to sell them for, not what it would cost to replace them. The External Auditor agreed with Anne and confirmed that these are the NALC guidelines as well. However, the internal auditor had every right to interpret the law in a different way if he so desires. It was agreed to leave the asset register as it is.

07/146 ALLOTMENTS – INCREASE OF RENT FOR 2008 - The clerk reported that the owner of the Allotment Land Mr Hichen has requested an increase of 20% on the annual rent from £250 - £300.

DECISION – That the Council accepts the increase on the basis that £300 is fixed for the next 3 years.

ACTION – Clerk to write to Mr. Hichen proposing the above.

Cllr Band proposed and Cllr Goodchild seconded on the basis that Mr Hichen accepts our conditional proposal and this was unanimously approved.

07/147 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GROUP – ELECTION OF A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL – The Clerk reported that following the closure of the Police and Community Partnership Groups across the County, the constituent members of the previous Cranleigh Area PCPG have decided to continue the organisation as Community Partnership Group (CPG) and would like a representative from the Wonersh Parish Council to represent Wonersh, Blackheath and Shamley Green. Their first meeting is 27/09/07. Cllr Band felt that this is a positive thing and clustering with Cranleigh should be encouraged. Cllr Bawden agreed that in principal it is a good idea. Cllr Healy suggested rolling representation to alleviate the extra commitment by one person. Cllr Shareef, Cllr Healy and Cllr Band are unavailable for the 27th September meeting. The Chairman asked if anyone would consider the post on a permanent basis.

DECISION – Clerk to investigate the frequency of meetings and what is expected of the individual taking on the role. Also to investigate the possibility of a rolling representative.

ACTION – Clerk to write to Jennie Henderson from CPG to source above information and report back.

07/148 LITTER COLLECTION FROM THE PARISH – The Clerk reported that because WBC are to remove the wheelie bin from the Playground and withdraw their collection service that a meeting had taken place with Veolia to discuss possible alternatives. Cllr Band confirmed that WBC have committed to continue to collect until the next financial year. Possible solutions, and key costings are:

1. To replace the wheelie bin with a rustic bin like the ones currently outside the pavilion and on the playground and to have these emptied perhaps twice weekly at busy times of the year and weekly or fortnightly and quieter times. This would be at an approximate cost of £3.75 per bin per empty.
2. To replace the wheelie bin as above, but also purchase either a 660 or 1100 litre bin to be sited behind the pavilion and to arrange for our current litter picker to empty the smaller bins and pit the rubbish into the larger bin behind the pavilion to be emptied on either a monthly or as and when needed basis at a cost of approximately £40.00 per empty.
3. Costs of rustic bins approximately £500.00 and cost of 660 and 1100 litre bins approximately £250.00

Cllr Healy pointed out that pavilion was issued with a large roll top bin and that they had problems with householders filling it so it was removed.

Cllr Harding calculated cost approximately £1100 in the 1st year and £600 thereafter and double if we need to include Shamley Green.

DECISION – That the smaller bins are favourable and to put this back on the agenda when doing the budget for next year.

ACTION – Clerk to confirm how many bins Waverley are expecting us to take over within the Parish and to get exact costings for the collection of rubbish and for the purchasing and installation of the bins.

07/149 REPORT FROM RISK ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE – Cllr Healy noted that Risk Assessment Committee meetings should be public and notices should go up on all the public notice boards. Risk Assessment spreadsheets have been created so that they can be signed and updated regularly and put in a file to show evidence of what has been done. The Committee examined the playground safety report from independent safety inspector which was considerably better than previous ROSPA reports. No items show more than low risk but certain items are being tackled now because it was felt they would represent a higher risk if left. Anne Powell-Evans has organised for this work to be done and it is almost completed.

Gerald's Wood: Cllr Healy has talked extensively with ranger from Hurtwood Control and it was established that his experiences are so different from ours that unfortunately this was no help. This is primarily because they don't allow any built ramps or tracks and any they find they bulldoze. Anne has spoken with Allianz and at one point they told her that if we had an Independent Safety Report and they give a satisfactory report then our insurance would be valid. Allianz then wrote and the information in the letter was different and said in order for it to be safe and for them to insure us the area needs to be fenced and that we would have to undertake weekly and in summer daily inspections, and also that home made ramps would not be allowed. Therefore it was concluded that this discounts us on every ground because we can not comply with the rules and regulations. It is therefore decided that the Independent Safety Report is not worth having. The Committee decided that we should spend no further money in Gerald's Wood. Options discussed included a peppercorn rent to mountain bikers thus transferring liability and insurance. This was discounted because of the insurance implications for them. If we, as a Council, cannot get insurance then as individuals or a group they will come up against the same obstacles as us.

DECISION – To maintain the status quo until the next meeting when a firm decision on Gerald's Wood should be made. In the meantime Cllrs to consider options for the area.

ACTION - To seek advice from NALC and SCAPTC. To speak with Bramley Parish to ascertain if this is an area utilised by walkers and to insert a note in the Parish magazine. To get quote for fencing to create a definite barrier at the bottom of Gerald's Wood.

07/150 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR FOR WONERSH WARD - The Chairman confirmed that we have displayed the required notices for the specified amount of time to see whether there are sufficient electors to have an election. This has not been the case so the Council is in a position to co-opt somebody to represent the Parish Ward.

DECISION – To advertise the position again on the notice boards. For Councillors to consider if they have any names they think should be put forward and names to be given to Clerk one week prior to next meeting. Should there be more than one candidate they will be invited to do a short speech before voting takes place.

ACTION – Clerk to put up advertisement on all notice boards.

07/151 DATE FOR ANNUAL ASSEMBLY - 24TH April 2008

07/152 REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES

a) The Commons Audit – Cllr Shareef reported no progress, but he would chase the ranger to find out when the report would be done. The Chairman reported that there is progress in Wonersh Ward. A meeting was held between volunteers and the ranger, teams of surveyors chosen and each team allocated areas to study. A date has been agreed for responses which will be collated by the ranger.

07/153 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

a) Meeting with Chief Executive of Waverley Borough Council – Cllr Shareef had circulated a report. The meeting was attended by Mary Orton – Chief Executive WBC, Cllrs Band, Harding and Shareef and also the Parish Clerk Anne Powell-Evans. It primarily became a Shamley Green focused meeting. Cllr Band noted that she intends to visit all the Wards. A list of the items discussed was on the circulated report.

b) Parish Plan Process – Cllr Bawden had circulated a report and had nothing to add. The next action is for Cllr Morris to put together a combined document from all three action plans. This will provide a snap shot of where the parish plan process is and the consensus is that the main vehicle to publicise it will be the web, although printed copies will be available to those who request them.

07/154 CORRESPONDENCE -

The Clerk has received a questionnaire from SCAPTC which requires input from Councillors on three questions.

DECISION – For Councillors to see the three questions they need to answer and return to their responses to the Clerk

ACTION – The Clerk is to e-mail the three questions to all Cllrs.

The Clerk summarised a document from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport detailing a Regulatory Reform Order: Proposal to Remove the Requirement for the

Designated Premises Supervisor for Community Premises. The Clerk asked the Council if they wish to comment on this possible reform. The Council had no comment.

The Cricket Green and Waverley Cottage – Christine Howard had circulated a letter from NALC with a similar situation, and in this case it expressed favour to the resident. Cllr Band circulated a response letter which was sent to Mr. Burgess from Waverley Borough Council. It was noted that this is a Waverley issue and the Council is pleased with and supports Waverley's positive response.

Cllr Harding had passed to the Clerk an e-mail from David Law-Smith suggesting a new a bye-law to tackle problem drinking on the cricket green at Shamley Green. Cllr Harding reported that Inspector Rob Harris spoke at The Town and Parish Meeting held on 12th September and Cllr Harding asked him about cover when the community policeman was away. Inspector Harris said they didn't have the resources to provide cover, but they were working on intelligence led principles and try to be at the right place at the right time. He also stated that the police, in his view, have ample powers to deal with under age drinking on public open spaces so that there was no need for Borough bye law to cover this. He did talk about the importance of community watch schemes and how valuable this is. He warned of the need for vigilance of the recording of suspicious lorries in the light of the widespread theft of lead from churches and other public buildings. Crime statistics are not the same as reported incidents so for example if you report someone under age drinking and police are diverted elsewhere then that remains as an incident and not a crime statistic.

DECISION – Even though Cllr Harding has spoken with Mr Law-Smith's wife it was agreed to respond to Mr Law-Smith with the above information

ACTION – Clerk to e-mail Mr Law-Smith

The Clerk has received Waverley Community Strategy Refresh 2007/2008 Pre- Consultation Questionnaire which had already been copied to The Chairman and Cllr Harding. Cllr Harding has completed his and passed to Cllr Bawden.

DECISION – Cllr Bawden to refer to Cllr Harding's completed questionnaire and co-ordinate this with his.

ACTION – Cllr Bawden to circulate what they have jointly suggested allowing Cllrs to express any views they may have. The deadline for the return of the questionnaire is Friday 28th September 2007.

07/155 ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Cllr Healy has been contacted by a member of the Parish about rubbish along Lords Hill Lane which she attributed to local youths who are convening in darkness in The Mill which is unoccupied. This has been reported to the police and they are aware of the people involved. Cllr Harding confirmed the situation Lords Hill Lane is not good, although it is on the street cleansing programme. However, this happens infrequently. Cllr Healy agreed to report back to the parishioner.

Cllr Healy has also been approached by someone in Wonersh asking if we can cut the hazels that are around Lawnsmead Hall on our side of the fence because it is covering the window of the Turner room and making it very dark. Subsequently Cllr Healy has spoken with Mr MacVean who is getting a contractor who is cutting the Sycamore and they are hoping to replace that fence and so he is going to get his contractor to cut the Hazels as well. There is currently no date for this.

Cllr Band drew attention to the Surrey Hills Society – Public Meeting at Denbies on 24 October 2007. Cllr Bawden confirmed that Cllr Morris is to attend and Cllr Band confirmed he also would be attending.

Cllr Harding has met with Mr Harrison from Wey and Arun Canal who is responsible for the area from Shalford through to Bramley. Although they are currently focusing in Loxwood, in a report from Atkins to the Trust it was recommended that they next focus on the section from Shalford southwards as that then links in with the national Canal System and gives extra publicity. They wish everyone to know that they haven't previously been involved in compulsory purchase and do not intend to follow that route if they can possibly avoid it. They would not insist on there being a tow path alongside the route of the canal where it is very close to the Downs Link which applies in our area. When it comes to doing this section it would involve widening the cut at the iron bridge in Shalford, then following a new route very close to the old railway line, crossing the river at the Tangley Crossing where there is a

structure in place already and then running as close to the river on the east bank along to the Bramley bridge. It is only then after another 5 years approximately that they would start to become involved with Wonersh and Shamley Green residents, and at that section it is more likely they will follow the natural water course from the bridge to Birtley and then big engineering project to link with original canal at Run Common. This is all subject to agreement from all relevant authorities and getting funding, getting residents on side. This is a long term project which will continue for 20-30years.

Cllr Harding reviewed the Town and Parish Meeting held 12th September 2007. The main item on the agenda was the Police which was covered in agenda item Correspondence 07/154.

News on the Royal Surrey is good with an upturn in PCT finances so its future looks to be secure with the possibility of enhancement of services such as a renal centre. The future of the Milford and Cranleigh Hospitals are much less certain. A meeting was held on the 13th September and following this Parishes are to be consulted. If Milford closes all palliative care beds got to Farnham.

Community Strategy –a draft questionnaire has been circulated. This was covered under Correspondence 07/154.

Foot and Mouth – the Borough has responded well and by contrast DEFRA has not responded in a co-ordinated way. The Parish responses which are legally binding is control of dogs. Having a local knowledge of footpaths to advise is important and we ought to have a list of equine establishments in the parish so we can inform the Borough. Also a list of properties owning livestock so we can check with whoever is in control that they have all the relevant sites to contact immediately.

If there is a pandemic the parish should have a list of those with skills to help, and those who are the most vulnerable.

Post Office Closures. All postal code areas have to be within 6 miles of a post office, 95% of the national average of population in rural area should be within 3 miles, and 90% of urban within 1 mile. Post offices will close. Waverley has offered to host a local boroughs meeting with post office officials and parish councils will be involved at some stage in consultation.

2 workshops on local area agreements have taken place. Proposals will be sent to parish Councils and SCAPTC and a Surrey Forum is to be held about these agreements in November.

The Clerk reported that proposal regarding the pavement in Wonersh to continue and link with Gerald's Wood has been forwarded to Andrew Povey who was happy with it and it has now been sent to the next level.

07/156 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Parish Council meeting: - Thursday 11th October 2007.
Thursday 8th November 2007

The Chairman officially thanked Anne Powell-Evans for all her hard work over the last four years.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm

Signed-----

Dated-----