

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, 10th September 2009 at 7.30pm
At Wonersh Sports Pavilion

Present: Cllr N Morris (in the chair)
Cllr R Bawden
Cllr M Band
Cllr M Harding
Cllr L Healy
Cllr C Howard
Cllr A Powell-Evans
Cllr A Shareef

3 members of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

09/130 **Apologies for absence** were received from Borough Cllr M Goodridge

09/131 **Local Code of Conduct – disclosures of interests**

09/136c, d, f: Cllr Powell-Evans declared a personal interest

09/136e: *Evacuee visit:* Cllr Harding declared a personal and prejudicial interest

09/136g: *Blackheath village well:* Cllr Morris declared a personal interest as Trustee of the Blackheath Village Society

09/144: *Shamley Green pond:* Cllr Shareef declared a personal interest as its immediate neighbour.

09/132 **Open Meeting for Electors**

- a) **Allotments:** Dr Johnson was concerned that money would be spent on clearing one allotment, and that the access road and water pipe would not be dealt with. The Clerk explained that there was sufficient in the budget to deal with all these, and that the allotment would be cleared for a new user, which would save the cost of cutting back the weeds and branches on a regular basis, as happened at present.
- b) **Lordshill:** Mr Hawkshaw referred to the gratuitous use of the bridleway, maintained by local residents, by heavy lorries. He thanked Cllr Band for obtaining a positive response from WBC on the proposal that planning permissions should contain the condition that contractors lorries should use an appropriate route. Cllr Band confirmed that Elizabeth Simms had committed the Planning Department to attach an advisory note to all future permissions, reminding people to choose a suitable means of access. She had also undertaken to write to those who had recently been given planning permission on the same lines. Cllr Harding advised that the Parish Council had written to SCC Highways requesting a sign at the main road prohibiting heavy traffic. The issue about SatNav had also been taken up with LORD. Cllr Band advised that there was an ongoing discussion

between SCC, Ordnance Survey and LORD to deal with this issue. An agreement had been reached that there should be a separate SatNav for lorries. Cllr Howard suggested that the PSCO be asked to help by stopping HGVs and asking them not to use that route. Registration numbers could also be taken, and reported to the Clerk for action.

09/133 Minutes of the Meeting held 9th July 2009

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

09/134 Matters Arising

08/174: Bye-laws: The recently purchased signs had been removed. Cllr Bawden wondered whether the signs had been removed by someone who objected to being prevented from cycling, and suggested that the signs should be more far ranging. Cllr Howard pointed out that this problem could intensify, as SCC had been directed, as a result of current government policy, to remove cycling bye-laws signs, in order to encourage more cyclists. If this is successful, it will be rolled out over the country.

Action: Obtain a copy of précised bye-laws and decide on what should be used in this parish.

09/121: Parking on Common Land: Members noted that the council has no documentary evidence of the width of the driveway or the parking area, and that the Countryside Ranger was not unhappy with the new arrangement, particularly since bollards had been put in to protect the common land around. It was agreed that any action at this stage could result in a protracted legal battle.

Action: Clerk to speak to History Society and look at Google Earth for pictures of the common.

09/124: Pedestrian Crossing on Wonersh Common Road: Action: Clerk to ask Anne Milton's secretary whether they had heard from SCC regarding a possible meeting with the students.

09/126e: Town and Parish Council meeting: participatory budgeting: Cllr Harding advised that WBC was very keen that all Town and Parish Councils were invited to participate in the consultation. Clerks would be contacted by e-mail and given instructions on how to be involved.

09/135 Current Planning Applications:

The Comments made to Waverley Planning department regarding the following **10** planning applications considered since the last meeting was APPROVED unanimously.

WA/2009/0836 Lynes Farm, Blackheath Lane, Wonersh

Erection of a replacement dwelling (revision of WA/2008/1274)

WA/2009/0906 Brow Cottage, Stonards Brow, Shamley Green

Application for Certificate of Lawfulness under Section 192 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of a detached garage.

WA/2009/0952 18 Hullmead, Shamley Green

Erection of a conservatory

WA/2009/0954 Mulberry Croft, 9 Littleford Lane, Shamley Green

Erection of extensions and alterations (revision of WA/2009/0332)

WA/2009/0964 Pipers Landing, Green Lane, Wonersh

Erection of extensions

WA/2009/1028 Madgehoie, Madgehole Lane, Shamley Green

Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness under Section 192 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of an extension and enlargement of terrace area.

TM/2009/0071 Orchard House, Wonersh Common Road,, Wonersh

Application for consent for works to tree the subject of Tree Preservation Order 06/08

WA/2009/1042 Lynes Farm, Blackheath Lane, Wonersh

Application for change of use to provide ancillary residential curtilage together with the construction of a tennis court

WA/2009/1140 2 Sweetwater Lane, Shamley Green

Erection of single storey side and rear extensions (revision of WA/2009/0679)

WA/2009/1177 Derry Hill Cottage, Littleford Lane, Blackheath

Erection of extension incorporating double garage and habitable roof space following demolition of existing detached garage.

09/136 Finance

- a) Members RESOLVED that the current list of Receipt and Payment vouchers be approved. This was PROPOSED by Cllr Healy, SECONDED by Cllr Howard, with all in favour.
- b) *Allotments*: The Clerk advised that she had a resident interested in taking on the very neglected plot 1b. Although it would need bringing under control before being taken on, its cultivation would mean that expense would not then continue to be incurred on cutting it back on a regular basis. Members agreed that Plot 1b should be rotovated, fenced at the front end and the trees cut back, with a budget of up to £350.00. This was PROPOSED by Cllr Healy, SECONDED by Cllr Harding, with all in favour. It was also agreed that the other work at the allotment should be carried out.
Action: the Clerk to table costings of the water pipe and work to the access road at the October meeting.
Cllr Howard requested that she be advised of the next allotment holders meeting, as she would like to attend.
- c) *Footpath lighting*: Cllr Howard PROPOSED that the two vandalised lights be replaced by those recommended by Simon James, at a cost of £167.30 + vat per light. This was SECONDED by Cllr Band, with all in favour. The Clerk would advise the Police that their grant was to be used for this purpose.
- d) *Renovation of benches at £87 each*: Cllr Band PROPOSED that the parish council allocate the sum of £500 to deal with the most worn benches before the coming winter. This was SECONDED by Cllr Harding, with all in favour. The Clerk would record and number all the parish council benches, so that future renovation could be monitored.
- e) *Evacuee Visit*: Cllr Harding explained that Waverley and Wandsworth Borough Councils would be supporting his team for this event. The group would arrive at Shalford by steam train and arrive at Shamley Green shortly after 11.30am Cllr Harding, who left the meeting for this item, had requested the sum of £100 to be used, if needed, for expenses. This grant was PROPOSED by Cllr Howard, SECONDED by Cllr Band, with all in favour. Cllr Harding returned to the meeting.
- f) *Blackheath traffic calming project*: preparatory work was required for the next stage of this project, and a quotation received from Simon James for the sum of £1650, plus vat. Members were reminded that Cllr Povey had given a grant of £1,000 towards this project, and that £1,000 had been allocated in the current year's budget. Acceptance of this quote was PROPOSED by Cllr Howard, SECONDED by Cllr Healy, with all in favour.
- g) *Blackheath Village Well*: It was PROPOSED by Cllr Howard, SECONDED by Cllr Healy, with all in favour, that £500 be given towards the renovation project. Cllr Morris advised that BVS were very keen that this work be completed before vat returns to 17.5%.

09/137 Section 9 Land:

The Clerk had received advice from Roger Taylor, Hedleys, as follows:

The Land Registry will not register a title to this land unless the Council is able to produce a paper title or justify an application based on adverse possession. The latter is difficult in the absence of the land being fenced, but it has been possible to register after 12 years of possession where the acts relied on are so

substantial that they would normally only be carried out by an owner. The practice between Land Registries appears to differ on this point.

A Caution against first registration is not a method of establishing title to the land, it is a warning to others that the person registering the Caution is claiming an interest in the land. There is no automatic change from a Caution to title by adverse possession after 12 years. All that the Caution would do is give the council warning is a third party tried to register title.

It is also possible, although so far untested, that if money has been spent on improving and maintaining the land and a third party establishes ownership, there would be a claim by the Council for reimbursement. In the circumstances we normally advise that the Council should proceed to maintain the land and keep a record of the works carried out to form the basis of an adverse possession claim in due course.

Members **agreed** that the Clerk should ask Mr Taylor to proceed with a Caution against first registration. This was PROPOSED by Cllr Powell-Evans, SECONDED by Cllr Howard, with all in favour.

Agenda item: *October meeting:* to examine the remainder of S9 land in the parish and decide on a course of action.

09/138 Quality Status: *Promoting Local Democracy and Citizenship:* The Clerk tabled a paper summarising suggested evidence. Members **agreed** that the most important issue to address was how to engage young people.

Action: Clerk to circulate the criteria for Quality Status, and actions so far achieved.

Agenda item: October meeting, to discuss strategies to engage youth.

09/139 Playground Inspection:

The Annual Report from Craigdene had been circulated. The following **actions** were agreed:

1. *Barnett Lane: Toddler Unit:* replace uneven timbers and cable
2. *Barnett Lane: Swings:* establish how we can assess 40% wear.
3. *Swings:* obtain quotations for their replacement.

It was suggested that the company be asked to provide a management summary with the next report.

09/140 Litter Picks: to confirm arrangements:

- a) *Shamley Green: 17th October:* The Clerk will provide 6 more litter pickers, giving a total of 12 to use on the day. She will also provide black bags. Cllr Shareef will provide refreshments at his home after the litter pick, which runs from 10am to 11.15am. Cllr Howard will keep the litter pickers for the following litter pick at Wonersh.
- b) *Wonersh: 24th October* from 10am to mid-day. Cllr Morris will organise refreshments at the pavilion afterwards.

Cllr Howard and Cllr Healy agreed to co-ordinate these events.

Action:

1. Flyers on noticeboards and in the shop

09/141 Youth Shelters:

Cllr Powell Evans perceived that playgrounds, on the whole, were sometimes used by inappropriate groups, and she suggested that a youth shelter in or near the recreation ground in Shamley Green and Wonersh might be helpful. She proposed that this be part of a re-instated youth project.

Cllr Healy suggested that youth and youth shelters should be the focus of the next parish council newsletter.

Cllr Band suggested that the youth club leaders and the police be consulted on what they would consider appropriate. Cllr Howard believed that wide consultation would be necessary.

Cllr Harding observed that the youth in Shamley Green tend to gather on a seat that has very good views and that a resident had wanted the seat moved to deter them. The community policeman had suggested an alternative of a log with a seat cut into it, which could be scrambled on without causing any damage. Cllr Harding suggested that Surrey Hills be asked if they could recommend a design.

Action:

- a) Cllr Howard to investigate this with Surrey Hills
- b) Cllr Band to speak to Tony Hodgson
- c) Cllr Healy to speak to the Guides and Scouts
- d) The Clerk to raise this with the youth club
- e) Cllr Powell-Evans to speak to PCSO Simon Mitchell

09/143 Willow at Shamley Green

Andy Clout, Tree Officer at WBC, had visited the site in Shamley Green and had advised the Clerk that the tree should not be removed immediately, but that another tree should be planted close to it, and the original tree removed once this one was established, in four or five years time.

Action: The Clerk was asked to point out to Mr Clout that the area is already very crowded and that the Council is unsure that another tree would thrive. If he insisted on this course of action, the Clerk would arrange for the tree to be cut back and re-structured, using Mr Draper's original quotation for this work.

09/144 Bonfires

Cllr Healy had received a letter from a neighbour, complaining about the number of recent bonfires. The Clerk had asked the advice of the Countryside Ranger, who had advised that there was no bye-law against the use of bonfires, but that the WBC web site gave useful information on how they should be used to minimise impact on neighbours.

Cllr Howard recalled that the parish plan before last had looked at this issue and had decided that they should not be banned, as enforcement would be unworkable.

Action: Cllr Healy to draft a letter for the Clerk to respond to the complainant.

09/145 Councillors Reports

- a) *Highway issues:* Cllr Harding tabled his paper on current issues. He suggested that all the Waverley parishes might work together on resolving these, and would like to organise a SCC highways officer to come out and review them.

Cllr Morris referred the meeting to his report on the AONB de-cluttering group and its wish to define clutter and develop a strategy for dealing with it. The group's particular concern was regarding street furniture and an excess of white lines on rural roads. One aspect that had come out of the recent meeting was that, in many cases, speed limits are a waste of time and their imposition a very expensive exercise. Cllr Morris was concerned about submitting the list contained within Cllr Harding's report, as it would to a great extent contradict views expressed by the Council elsewhere.

Cllr Howard suggested that these proposals be channelled through the traffic committee in each village. For example, in Wonersh a great deal of work had been undertaken on prioritising, which this list would be in danger of cutting across.

Cllr Band pointed out that SCC is very short of money, and it might be better to try to persuade them to produce a strategy for the area and to agree on what the target achievements should be.

Cllr Morris thanked Cllr Harding for his very useful report, and proposed to write a paper, based on this report, on what he wished to see happen regarding traffic calming at a local level.

- b) *Caring Costs in Surrey:* Cllr Harding tabled his report and confirmed that £20.93 is the maximum charge per hour for home care in Surrey. Concern had been expressed that

Surrey was top of the league for charges, and that for this reason our elderly residents are worse off than those elsewhere, and Cllr Harding asked if Members thought that there was anything that the Parish Council could do. It was agreed that Members should look at the Green Paper and that it should be an individual decision whether to take action or to write to Anne Milton.

- c) *Wonersh Traffic Calming*: Wonersh Ward Councillors and the Chairman had met with the other members of the working party, the focus of the meeting to reach a decision on how the working party and the parish council were to work together and move forward. The working party had achieved a great deal in a year, including the inter-active camera, the pledge and the questionnaire, and now needed a clear strategy for the future. Cllr Morris drew attention to the agreement reached at the meeting it was agreed that there should be a more defined partnership between the Parish Council and the residents, and the working party was re-configured to consist of three residents and three Parish Councillors, to be chaired by the Chairman of the Parish Council pro tem. An understanding was reached that there needs to be more consultation with local residents and agreement on liaison with SCC. Volunteers might receive a monthly newsletter, to improve liaison. Cllr Bawden PROPOSED that this working party should from now on be re-configured as described. This was SECONDED by Cllr Howard, with all in favour. Cllr Bawden said that the working party would need to consider its terms of reference, and how to move from a working party that was probably perceived as a selected group of residents to one that was perceived as having been chosen from the parish as a whole. Cllr Shareef was concerned that this working party might be seen as having become a Parish Council initiative rather than a residents one. Cllr Howard believed that the mandate was made very clear at the meeting, and pointed out that the election of the Chairman of the Parish Council as Chairman of the working party would be a temporary measure. The Working Party will report back to the Council periodically and will seek Parish Council approval for major decisions.
- d) *Village Gateways*: A design had been agreed and white lettering had been discussed, as black would not show against oak when wet. Cllr Howard expressed disappointment that the Parish Council had not used the design created by the Surrey Hills, but Cllr Powell-Evans pointed out that this design had been the result of consultation with the village. Cllr Morris regretted that the Surrey Hills Board had not consulted with the Parishes within the AONB on the design of the village signs and that details of the final design had not been circulated to them.
- e) *AONB de-cluttering group*: Cllr Morris tabled his report and advised that the meeting had been very useful. The Lengthsman agreement had ramifications for the Parish Council, as it was unlikely that Parish Councils would receive additional funding.
- f) *Shamley Green Pond*: Cllr Shareef tabled his report.

09/146 Correspondence

- a) *Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984: Temporary Prohibition of Traffic Order 2009 re: Green Lane, Shamley Green*. The order prohibits any vehicle from either entering or proceeding along that length of Green Lane (D217) Shamley Green that extends from the BT pole next to Haldish Farm to the BT pole 50m north east of the junction with the track that leads to Darbyn's Brook. This is required to enable British Telecom Plc to carry out maintenance work. The order came into force on 24/8/09 for one month, but the work will be completed on one day between 9.30am and 3.30pm.

- b) *Conservation Walks: New Permissive Access:* Punch Bowl Farm, Thursley, have entered into a Higher Level Stewardship agreement with Natural England on the part of their land to carry out conservation management. Part of the agreement is to create public access to provide opportunities for people to enjoy the countryside. The access is permissive only and will not become a permanent right of way. The permissive footpath leads through old pasture land to the Surrey Wildlife Trust nature reserve, Cucknell's Wood. The map was tabled at the meeting.
- c) *Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan 2009-2014:* this was on circulation.
- d) *BT invitation to adopt local red telephone kiosks.* The Clerk explained that BT had issued the same invitation in Guildford, and Albury had taken it up, but GBC had not been agreement and BT were unable to go ahead. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to WBC, copied to Cllr Band, to establish the situation in this borough.
- e) *Surrey Hills Society:* had written to invite affiliate Parish Councils to organise a pub lunch in their parish followed by a walk around the parish showing off places of interest, exceptional views, etc. If Womersley were prepared to be the first parish to do this for the Society, then the event would receive promotion. In a separate letter, they also asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to organise any other events, and gave some examples. Members agreed that this would be good publicity for the parish and that an interest should be expressed, with details to be agreed later. Cllr Harding offered to organise a walk in Shamley Green.
- f) *Water Pipe at Allotments:* The owner of the land had advised that she required a new standpipe to be taken from the supply to the standpipe at the bottom of the allotments, rather than from the one near the stable, as these are on separate water supplies. The Clerk would obtain a quote for this work from Clive Greenland.
- g) *Citizens Advice Waverley:* invitation to the AGM and launch of 70th Anniversary Year, Friday 9th October 2009 at 11.45am, Haslemere Museum. Cllr Harding advised that he had already accepted.
- h) *SCAP&TC and Surrey Community Action:* Joint AGM on 6th October at East Horsley Village Hall, 10am to 4pm, to include sessions on Affordable Housing, Funding and Surrey Hills.
- i) *Local Committee (Waverley) Cranleigh and Eastern Villages Transportation Task Group:* SCC seeks a parish council representative to attend meetings of the relevant task group when matters relevant to that parish are under consideration. Cllr Morris volunteered for this role.
- j) *Traffic on Church Hill:* Mr Page, of Church Hill, had copied the Parish Council into a letter to Dr Povey concerning the speed of traffic on Church Hill. It was understood that he had since had a meeting with the police.

09/147 Councillors Business

- a) *Risk Assessment Committee:* a meeting would be organised shortly, now that the Playground report had been received.
- b) *Budget meeting:* a meeting would be organised shortly.
- c) *Participatory Budget: Waverley Borough Council:* Cllr Band believed that this would take some time.
- d) *Arbuthnot Hall:* a request had been received by the Trustees for a contribution towards the cost of a new kitchen.
- e) *Path re-surfacing opposite the Bricklayers Arms:* quotations should be sought.
- f) *Log seat on Shamley Green:* Cllr Harding hoped that this would be included in discussions about the youth shelter.

09/148 Dates of Future meetings:

Planning: 17th September, 1st October, 15th October, 29th October
 Full Council: 8th October, 12th November, no meeting in December.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11pm