

**THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Meeting**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30 pm**  
**The Village Hall, Thursley**

**Attendees:** Cllr J. Mendelssohn (Chair)      Cllr S. Edwards      Cllr P. Hunter  
Cllr J. Luff      Cllr J. Malton      Cllr J. Swift  
Mrs E. Felton (Clerk)

**Also attending were:** Cllr D. Harmer (SCC)      Mrs N. Bates      Mr A. Lindley

**1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Clerk reported that apologies had been received from Cllr Horwood who was absent due to business commitments. These apologies were approved by the Council.

**2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No members disclosed any (a) Personal, (b) Prejudicial interests which they are required to disclose by section 94(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Parish Council (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.

**3.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

**4.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

(4.1) Cllr Mendelssohn confirmed that he had had cooperative discussions with the residents of Copper Beeches and WBC regarding the traffic concerns associated with running their business from the property. He advised that WBC were aware of the activity and that they had confirmed that no action was necessary at this time.

(4.2) **The Clerk was asked to obtain an update from the WBC enforcement team regarding the development of Haybarn.**

(4.3) **Cllr Hunter, in his role as Chairman of Help in Thursley, agreed to discuss whether a Dementia Friendly event would be appropriate with the HiT committee.**

(4.4) It was noted that SCC Highways had not yet registered a comment regarding the recent Uplands Stud planning application but that it was felt that this was appropriate in light of the high number of objections received from parishioners highlighting concerns relating to the increased traffic and road access to the site. Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he had been informed that WBC would not make a decision on the application until a communication from SCC Highways had been received.

(4.5) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that following comments made at the previous Parish Council meeting by the Planning Consultant involved in the development plans for Uplands Stud, Cllr David Else had reported that a S106 agreement relates to the land, not the building.

(4.6) It was noted that Cllr Swift had circulated details of the planning application as requested to do so.

(4.7) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that the declarations and documents needed to register the Parish Field had been submitted to Land Registry and that notification should be received shortly.

(4.8) The collection of the bin off of the recreation ground by Veolia actually started a couple of weeks ago and is going well.

## **5.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

(5.1) Cllr Harmer advised that SCC had set their budget during the day which resulted in a 6% increase in the Precept (3% Council Tax and 3% Adult Social Care). He advised that the budget had been confirmed as legal and sustainable for a one-year period.

(5.2) Discussion took place regarding the increased number of pot holes on the roads. It was noted that this was due to the weather conditions and that additional contractors had been employed to resolve the problem. Discussion took place regarding the criteria for Government grant funding received to maintain the roads.

(5.3) Cllr Harmer advised that the educational services provided by SCC had been classified as 'inadequate' by Ofsted. He reported that the new CEO of SCC, due to start in early March, had experience of such a classification in a previous role so the situation should improve.

(5.4) Discussion took place regarding the posts which had been installed in the area by Copper Beeches in Highfield Lane. Discussion also took place regarding the problems associated with water run-off which affects the area. It was noted that the gulleys were due to be cleared. **Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to speak to Mr Steve Lindsey-Clark to understand what SCC's plans were to improve the condition of the area.**

*It was agreed that agenda item 9) Byway 92A be moved to this point in the meeting so that interested parties present could leave the meeting following discussion.*

## **6.0 BYWAY 92A**

Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he had received a letter from Mr Arthur Lindley regarding problems associated with Byway 92A and Bridleway 587. Mr Lindley provided an overview of the problems including the increased level of traffic, both motorised and foot traffic and horses, and the subsequent deterioration of the surfaces due to erosion. He advised that the step area on the BOAT was now so deep that vehicles were not able to pass through without damage to the vehicle and themselves.

Mr Lindley advised that SCC had undertaken some work on the BOAT previously but that this was a short-term fix and that the same problems existed. It was noted that he had spoken to the SCC Countryside team who advised that unless a problem was classified as status '1', no action would be taken and that their understanding of the problem did not classify it as such.

Following discussion it was suggested that a recommendation be made that the BOAT be closed due to concerns relating to the current dangerous condition and possible liability claims due to damage to vehicles and users. **Cllr Harmer agreed to arrange for the relevant SCC member of staff to speak to the Clerk so that the concerns could be highlighted and if appropriate, agree the way forward to ensure closure ASAP.** Discussion took place regarding the erection of notices to inform users of the closure once it had been agreed. It was noted that there were organised trips to the BOAT being arranged by local providers offering 4x4 experiences.

**Discussion took place regarding the identification of vehicles using BW587 illegally. It was suggested that when the Clerk is speaking with the SCC Countryside representative, she ask for advice regarding whether it was possible for the landowner to erect a barrier that would allow access to pedestrians, pedal cyclists and horses only.**

*Cllr Harmer and Mr Lindley left the meeting at 8.25 pm.*

#### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No questions were raised.

#### **7.0 PLANNING**

(7.1) It was noted that the Public Inquiry to deal with the appeal for development of Uplands Stud was due to take place on 15<sup>th</sup> May and that the Parish Council had registered a request that a representative be allowed to speak. It was agreed that further discussion take place in advance of the date.

(7.2) Cllr Mendelssohn reported that the WBC CIL Charging consultation had been discussed at the recent Western villages meeting and it was more relevant for the larger parishes to comment as they were more likely to be affected by the planned changes. It was agreed that a response was not necessary.

(7.3) Cllr Malton provided a report following her attendance with Cllr Mendelssohn at the recent WBC Town and Parish Planning Forum meeting. **The Clerk was asked to provide Councillors with an electronic copy of the presentation which Cllr Malton had provided.**

Cllr Malton highlighted specific points which were raised at the meeting which included advice regarding best practice when commenting on planning applications, Local Plan updates, Dunsfold Park and roadshow visits to Town and Parish Councils. She advised that WBC were keen to improve communications with stake-holders and are keen to engage with Parish Councils.

Cllr Mendelssohn advised that following agreement of the Western Villages group, he had raised two points at the meeting asking that if a Parish Council object to an application, a representative meet with the Planning Officer before a decision is made and that when WBC are attaching a S106 agreement to a development, they speak with the Parish Council to agree the terms. It was noted that Mrs Elizabeth Sims response to the requests had been disappointing.

It was noted that no date had been provided regarding the Local Plan Part 2 which was originally due this month and that no further communications had been received following a meeting with WBC representatives regarding settlement boundaries.

(7.4) Discussion took place regarding the new WBC Planning Portal. It was noted that the previous planning history currently still exists.

## 8.0 FINANCE

(8.1) The financial overview for February was presented, duly authorised and cheques signed:

|              |                |                |                                 |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1001         | Richard Knight | 70.00          | Removal of bins                 |
| 1002         | SSALC          | 57.60          | GDPR training                   |
| 1003         | E. Felton      | 479.97         | Salary and expenses (incl HMRC) |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                | <b>£607.57</b> |                                 |

(8.2) Following discussion, it was agreed that those responsible for printing notices for display on the notice boards, be recompensed for the cost of ink and paper at a rate of 10 pence per sheet. It was agreed that claims for printing costs be received by the Clerk by end March each year.

## 9.0 HIGHWAYS

*See 5.4 above.*

## 10.0 NO PARKING SIGNS

**Cllr Hunter agreed to order one 'No Parking' sign for erection on the Clump.**

## 11.0 SURREY COUNTY COUNCILLOR COMMUNICATION SURVEY

Councillors discussed and completed the Surrey County Councillors communication Survey. **The Clerk was asked to respond.**

## 12.0 WBC HOUSING STRATEGY CONSULTATION

Cllr Swift provided an overview of the recent WBC Housing Strategy consultation meeting which he had recently attended to support the report which he had distributed to Councillors in advance of the meeting.

Discussion took place regarding the need for affordable housing in the village and the process by which land bought for development is managed by housing associations. Discussion took place regarding previous investigations into the possibility of identifying a suitable site. **It was agreed that Cllr Swift report on community housing at the Annual Assembly meeting.**

**It was noted that there was a Community Housing event on 19<sup>th</sup> February in Guildford which Councillors were encouraged to attend.**

## 13.0 PRE-CONSULTATION ON DOG FOULING AND DOG CONTROL PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS

Following review of the consultation documents, **Councillors asked that the Clerk respond to the consultation with the following comments:**

- Dog Fouling, Schedule of Land – although the Parish Council agree that restriction is necessary, the schedule of land needs to be more realistic as it is disproportionate to apply restrictions to all land in the area of WBC. It should apply to areas of land where members of the public regularly walk including, footpaths, parks, recreation grounds etc.
- Dogs on Lead, Thursley Recreation Ground to be included as a restricted area on list of ‘Small parks and open spaces’ and ‘Thursley Play Area’ under ‘Children’s fenced and unfenced play areas’.

#### **14.0 DEFIBRILLATOR SUPPLIES**

Following discussion, it was agreed not to hold a spare set of pads in the defibrillator units as the Clerk was able to obtain a new set, in the event of one being needed, for next day delivery.

#### **15.0 HAMMER POND**

Cllr Mendelssohn provided an update on the progress towards reinstating Hammer Pond following receipt of an email from Natural England. It was noted that there were on-going discussions regarding the proposals with a homeowner in the vicinity of the pond. Natural England will continue to provide updates.

#### **16.0 EMERGENCY PLAN**

Deferred to March meeting.

#### **17.0 ROYAL WEDDING CELEBRATION**

Deferred to March meeting as article in parish magazine asking for volunteers has only recently been published.

#### **18.0 NEW BENCH**

Cllr Mendelssohn advised that a request had been received to site a commemorative bench in the village. Following discussion with Rev. Muir it had been suggested that the bench be placed in the church yard either to replace an existing bench which was in poor condition or close to the same location.

It was agreed that if the costs of the bench and concreting are paid for by the family making the request, the Parish Council and Church agreed to the proposal. It was suggested that there needed to be discussion with the family of the person commemorated on the existing bench to ascertain whether they would like the bench to remain although it was noted that contact details would be needed in order to speak with them. **Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to make the necessary arrangements.**

#### **19.0 GDPR**

The Clerk advised that she had attended a GDPR session during the day and that the Parish Council would be affected by the new regulations which would require some changes to the operating procedures.

Expenditure for new IT equipment to be owned by the Parish Council for dedicated Parish Council work was approved to the amount of £500. It was noted that it was recommended that Councillors have a Parish Council email address. It was agreed that the storage of documents also be reviewed as part of the IT set up. **The Clerk agreed investigate the options by speaking with IT experts to ascertain the best way forward. She agreed to make recommendations in due course.**

## 20.0 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he had spoken to a parishioner about speaking at the meeting but she had declined. The Clerk confirmed that Mrs Goble had agreed to give a short demonstration of the use of the defibrillators and that she had received a request from the manager of The Clockhouse to speak. It was suggested that the Clockhouse manager attend the March Parish Council meeting to see if her presentation is suitable for the Annual Assembly.

It was agreed that the Clerk could send out invites to village organisations to invite them to speak. It was agreed that no external speaker would be invited.

**Councillors were asked to promote the event to their friends and neighbours.**

## 21.0 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported the following items of correspondence:

- An email asking whether the Army would be repairing the grass area by the church which had been damaged by a military vehicle. **The Clerk was asked to respond to advise that the driver of the vehicle had been a civilian sub-contractor and although it was unacceptable, it should be noted that damage to be area appears to be a regular occurrence due to the number of vehicles using the road.** Discussion took place regarding the possible resolutions but it was concluded that the current issue needed to be accepted or the area be maintained as a formal parking area.
- A parishioner had highlighted that the Clump appeared to be reducing in size due to the corners/edges being driven over by vehicles. Following discussion, it was agreed that the installation of posts was not appropriate.
- The Clerk confirmed that a place had been booked for Cllr Horwood to attend the SALC event in Haslemere. **The Clerk was asked to book Cllr Swift a place at the same event.**
- It was noted that Cllr Malton had arranged a litter pick for 24<sup>th</sup> March. It was agreed to advertise the event on the website, in the parish magazine and on the village Facebook page.
- Cllr Swift advised that it had been decided to amend the original version of the Village Design Statement rather than insert an addendum. **Cllr Swift agreed to investigate the printing costs.**

## 22.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward as above

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm

Signed .....

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Date of next meeting is Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.30 pm.

