

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 5th March 2019 at 7.30 pm
Thursley Village Hall, Thursley

Attendees: Cllr J. Mendelssohn (Chair) Cllr S. Edwards Cllr H. Flavell
Cllr J. Luff Cllr J. Malton Cllr J. Swift
Mrs E. Felton (Clerk)

Also attending were: Cllr D. Harmer (SCC) Mr Boyden Mrs B. Wedge

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Clerk reported that apologies had been received from Cllr Hunter who was not able to attend due to business and personal commitments. These apologies were accepted by those present.

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 held on 5th February 2019 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

4.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was noted that actions from the previous minutes were due to be discussed under agenda items.

5.0 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

(5.1) Cllr Harmer reported that following the overall budget agreement last month, the SCC departments are now working on finalising their individual budgets to agree expenditure amounts for 2019-20. He advised that the challenge was for SCC to be more efficient at less cost.

(5.2) Cllr Harmer advised that SCC were involved in discussions regarding the proposal for an additional runway at Heathrow airport.

(5.3) Cllr Mendelssohn raised a concern from residents regarding the road closure signs which had been erected on Highfield Lane which would affect access to properties. He advised that no one at SCC appeared to know about it. **Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk speak with Mr Steve Lindsey-Clark to ask that they be removed.**

(5.4) Cllr Malton asked a question regarding the pot holes that had appeared on a private lane due to vehicles attempting to avoid the road bumps. It was confirmed that this was a matter for the residents of the private road to resolve.

(5.5) Discussion took place regarding the access/egress at Warren Park. It was confirmed that there was no funding available in the current financial year to undertake the work as originally planned, before the end of March. Cllr Mendelssohn advised that it was a serious safety issue. **It was agreed that Cllr Mendelssohn and Cllr Hunter arrange a meeting with Highways England to discuss the matter further.**

6.0 PLANNING

(6.1) WA/2019/0265 – Forge Cottage, Dye House Road, GU8 6QA
Erection Of extensions and alterations following relevant demolition of part of an unlisted building in a Conservation Area.

Following review of the plans and documents, it was resolved that the Parish Council had NO COMMENT regarding the proposal.

Mr Boydon left the meeting at 7.55 pm.

(6.2) Following discussion regarding the car spraying operation at Uplands Stud, **Cllr Swift agreed to investigate further and draft a letter to the Health and Safety Executive and WBC Environmental Team to raise concerns if necessary.**

(6.3) It was highlighted that there may be unlawful commercial storage taking place in Bowlhead Green as WBC had no record of permission be granted for such activity. **Cllr Swift agreed to draft a letter to WBC so that investigations could take place.**

(6.4) As Mrs Wedge was present at the meeting, Cllr Mendelssohn enquired whether there was an update regarding their application for a groom's house. Mrs Wedge advised that there appeared to be a discrepancy regarding the land on which part of the house was built but that this was being resolved and if necessary, a new application would be submitted in due course.

(6.5) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that concerns had been raised by parishioners regarding excessive traffic movements at two properties on Highfield Lane and pouring of large amounts of concrete at one of them. Cllr Edwards advised that he understood that the property with concrete being laid was due to problems associated with the septic tank. **The Clerk was asked to write to the owners of both properties to inform them that concerns had been expressed with regards the level of activity on the sites which may suggest development was taking place.**

Cllr Swift highlighted that there was a similar concern for a property in Bowlhead Green. **The Clerk was asked to write a similar letter to the home owner to ascertain if development was taking place.**

7.0 FINANCE

(7.1) The following list of payments for March was presented, duly authorised and approved for payment:

Payee		Amount
Lindsey Clark Bros	Defibrillator materials	£81.95
Harvest Wood	Defibrillator materials	£53.58
DJK Electrical	Deposit for defibrillator works	£411.34
SSALC	Briefing and Conference	£102.00
J. Swift	Printing costs	£3.90
J A Farley	PP defibrillator works	£175.00
E. Felton	Salary & Expenses February	£391.16
HMRC	March payment	£182.40
TOTAL		£1,319.38

(7.2) It was noted that the first two payments listed had been approved by Councillors for payment outside of the meeting.

(7.3) The Clerk highlighted that no invoices for room hire had been received from the village hall for the 2018-19 period.

(7.4) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that Mr Richard Bates had highlighted that he may not be able to undertake the mowing in the village this year. He suggested that it may be appropriate for volunteers to undertake the mowing of grass areas close to their property. It was noted that Mr Richard Knight could also be called upon if required. The Clerk advised that she had spoken to the insurance company and they advised that volunteers were covered under the public liability policy already in place. Mrs Wedge offered the services of her workmen for grass cutting if required.

It was agreed to review the situation once the grass required cutting.

8.0 FIXED ASSETS REGISTER

The Fixed Assets register was approved by Councillors. It was noted that it may be necessary to amend the Defibrillator equipment costs associated with the Pitch Place unit once it had been moved to its new location. Cllr Swift asked whether the solar panels could be used for an alternative function. **Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to speak to Cllr Hunter to see if this was feasible.**

9.0 HIGHWAYS

(9.1) Cllr Harmer provided an overview of the discussions which had taken place at a recent Western Villages meeting which included the allocation of £5k towards continuance of the Lengthsmen Scheme. **The Clerk was asked to contact the Tilford Parish Clerk to obtain details.**

(9.2) Cllr Harmer provided an update on plans to close the bridge at Tilford and the highway repairs works that needed to take place prior to this on the road from Elstead to Farnham.

(9.3) Discussion took place regarding previous concerns raised with regards SCC Highways Planning commenting on applications which did not impact upon classified roads. It was agreed to monitor the situation and consider when discussing any relevant planning applications so that it could be highlighted to WBC Planning if appropriate.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs Wedge highlighted the need for a communication channel with equestrian users within the village. She provided an example of the need for them to be aware of the arrangements in place to get permission to ride through the Polish Camp. It was suggested that contact could be made on the village Facebook page or the village magazine.

Cllr Mendelssohn apologised for the lateness of the public question time.

Mrs Wedge left the meeting at 8.40 pm.

10.0 THE CLUMP

Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he understood that the group which had been formed to discuss the erosion of the corners of the Clump had extended their brief to include replanting possibilities. Cllr Edwards advised that the group were due to meet on 15th March to discuss options for both the erosion and whether replanting was appropriate. It was noted that there were mixed opinions on whether any replanting was necessary. **Cllr Edwards agreed to report back at the next meeting so that the Parish Council could make a decision.**

It was noted that Cllr Hunter had highlighted that the triangle of grass at Sailors Lane was also being eroded. Cllr Swift advised that there was a similar issue in Bowlhead Green. It was suggested that the proposal to resolve the erosion issue on the Clump could also apply in the other two areas.

11.0 TREE INSPECTIONS POLICY

(11.1) The draft Tree Inspections Policy was approved and adopted by the Council.

(11.2) **The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Richard Knight to request that he undertake the first annual inspection of the two trees close to and in the play area.**

(11.3) It was confirmed that potentially dangerous trees overhanging a road were the responsibility of the land owner to make safe. **Cllr Swift agreed to draft a letter to a land owner to highlight a concern.**

12.0 HAMMER POND

Cllr Mendelssohn provided an update regarding the communications with Natural England regarding the problems associated with Hammer Pond. He reported that he had received an email from them just prior to the meeting to confirm that the funding had been agreed to replace the dam so that the pond could be reinstated as a natural habitat for wildlife.

Councillors confirmed that this was an excellent result and thanked Cllr Mendelsohn for his work on the matter. **Cllr Mendelsohn agreed to write to Natural England to thank them and request a timescale for the works to take place.**

13.0 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Cllr Mendelsohn advised that another meeting had been arranged with the relevant people from the Community Led Development Team to discuss affordable housing options in the village. He highlighted that he was confident that it would be possible to ensure that there were rules in place to ensure the housing was available to local people at a reduced rent.

14.0 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY 2019

The Clerk advised that a note about the annual assembly had been included in the March issue of the parish magazine. It was confirmed that there would be no external guest speaker at the event.

Cllr Swift agreed to source the drinks requirements for the evening. The Clerk was asked to invite the village organisations to speak.

It was noted that the event would take place during purdah and that no political references should be made but that thanks for support to the County and Borough Councillors was allowed.

15.0 ELECTION

The arrangements for the parish council elections on 2nd May were discussed. It was noted that purdah begins on 22nd March once the Notice of Election is published. It was highlighted that if Councillors wished to stand again, they needed to submit their completion form to WBC by 4.00 pm on 3rd April.

The Clerk confirmed that the Notice of Election will be posted on the noticeboards and website.

16.0 CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

- Discussion took place regarding the SSE funding opportunity that was available to communities. **Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Flavell look at whether an application to remove the electricity pole on the Clump was appropriate and Cllr Swift prepare an application for the supply of salt bins.**
- The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Mr Wedge following the submission of the letter from the Parish Council to WBC in response to his planning application for the grooms' house. This was noted by members. It was agreed that no further action was necessary.
- **The Clerk was asked to post details of the Surrey Fire and Rescue consultation on the Parish Council website.**
- It was noted that Cllr Hunter intended to investigate the red beacon that appeared to be flashing during the night on Hankley Common.

17.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward from above
- Illegal use of Byways by vehicles. **Cllr Malton agreed to provide Cllr Flavell with a Police contact to discuss the matter.**

18.0 EXEMPT BUSINESS – EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Councillors approved the Clerk’s remuneration from 1st April 2019 based on the recommended salary scales provided by SSALC. The Clerk was informed that she would also be paid for additional hours worked for preparation of the account’s information as per the previous year.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

It was agreed that the date of the April meeting take place on Tuesday 2nd April instead of Monday 8th April as previously agreed.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 2nd April 2019 at 7.30 pm.

Signed

2nd April 2019

