

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

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.30 pm**  
**Thursley Village Hall, Thursley**

**Attendees:** Cllr J. Mendelssohn (Chair)      Cllr S. Edwards      Cllr T. Horwood  
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 B. Welch (to 9.30 pm)

**1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Clerk reported that apologies had been received Cllr Jenny Else (WBC) who was absent due to business commitments. These apologies were accepted by the Council. It was noted that Cllr J. Else had provided a written report providing an update for Councillors in her absence.

**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 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

**4.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

(4.1) **Cllr Hunter confirmed that the ‘No Horse’ signs would be erected on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March.** It was agreed that only one sign should be placed on the far side of the Clump at this time.

(4.2) It was noted that Cllr J. Else had provided details of a meeting which had been arranged to discuss the egress/access for Warren Park with interested parties. **The Clerk was asked to confirm to Cllr J. Else that Cllr Luff and Cllr Hunter were available to attend the meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March.**

(4.3) It was noted that the meeting of representatives from the Western Villages Parish Councils to discuss planning issues was due to be held at 10.00 am on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March at the Frensham Parish Council office. **Cllr Mendelssohn, Cllr Malton and the Clerk were due to attend.**

(4.4) Following discussion regarding the recent Neighbourhood Watch communications, it was agreed that Cllr Malton and Ms Christmas would continue to monitor activity and report accordingly. Cllr Malton agreed to prepare an update for inclusion in the parish magazine.

(4.5) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that a message had been left for him from a representative of the Surrey Hunt organisation but he had not yet spoken to them.

(4.6) It was noted that there were plans for another tri-adventure event to take place in the village. Discussion took place regarding the damage to the recreation ground during the previous event due to the volume of cars being parked on the site.

**Cllr Hunter agreed to provide Cllr Mendelssohn with the legislation regarding use of public amenities for commercial use.** It was noted that consideration should be given to whether planning permission was required for a commercial venture.

**Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to write to Mrs Valerie Ferris and Mr Barry Rapley** to highlight the concerns of the Parish Council regarding the event/s and highlight that works were planned to take place to the track and parking area on the recreation ground.

(4.7) Cllr Mendelssohn reported that a meeting had taken place the previous day to discuss closures of the Hindhead tunnels with representatives from all interested parties in attendance. He reported that he had highlighted the failure of Highways England to respond to emails from Parish Councillors and the Police regarding arranging a meeting to discuss the problems associated with traffic when the tunnel was closed but they had only responded to a communication from Mr Jeremy Hunt MP.

Cllr Mendelssohn advised that Highways England had accepted the need for three additional signs, one to be located on the southbound slipway restricting access to Bowlhead Green, one on the junction with Dye House Road and one at the junction of Thursley Road with Dye House Road to restrict the access of large vehicles through the village. Highways England advised that they believed that these arrangements would not require any additional resources but that they would revert with a response before the April Parish Council.

(4.8) Cllr Malton was thanked for coordinating the Spring Clean event which had taken place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March which had resulted in eighteen bags of rubbish being collected.

(4.9) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that the consultant engineers working on behalf of Natural England to provide a full options appraisal for resolution of the problem with Hammer Pond had completed their modelling and were now preparing a cost/benefit analysis. He reported that the deadline for completion of the report to Natural England was 27<sup>th</sup> March so an update should be available for the April Parish Council meeting. Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he had informed Natural England that if a resolution is not agreed by the next meeting, the issue will be escalated.

#### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Mrs Nicki Bates highlighted the success of the Spring Clean event. It was also noted that WBC had repaired the broken road sign for The Lane very quickly.

Mrs Bates advised that Mr Richard Bates had repaired the broken latch on the barrier onto the recreation ground. Discussion took place regarding an email communication from a parishioner complaining about the poor state of the recreation ground and whether there was a need to lock the barrier overnight. It was noted that discussion regarding this had taken place the previous month and it was impractical for this to take place regularly but would happen if required on occasions. **Cllr Edwards was asked to respond to the parishioner to provide an update.**

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

(5.1) Cllr Harmer explained the circumstances regarding the cancellation of the Council Tax referendum in Surrey following a recent news update.

(5.2) Cllr Harmer advised that details of the proposal to provide Superfast Broadband to hard to reach areas was available on the SCC website. He provided an overview of the proposal in the areas affected within the village. These areas include Dye House Road which may benefit from the proposed improvement by Christmas 2018 although how many properties or how much of the road will experience an improvement is not known (phase 1/no build), Hyde Lane which would not benefit at all and Warren Park and Warren Mere which should benefit by an improvement in service by Easter 2019. There was some uncertainty regarding the service to properties in Highfield Lane/The Street but potentially there would be an improvement.

Cllr Harmer advised that he was encouraged by the proposal and that he would continue to monitor and report on progress.

Cllr Hunter made reference to communications between Cllr Harmer and a parishioner regarding the 'Gainshare Deployment' of superfast broadband. Cllr Harmer confirmed that this was separate from the SCC proposal and that he would continue to speak to the parishioner on the subject.

(5.3) On behalf of Cllr J. Else, Cllr Mendelssohn confirmed that the appeal for Old Mill Farm had been allowed for a further period of four years. Discussion took place regarding the ability of WBC to find a suitable alternative site within this timeframe.

(5.4) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that Cllr Else had reported that the Acute Stroke unit at the Royal Surrey had been relocated to Frimley Park Hospital and that there was some concern about the increased travel times to the new location. He reported that he was due to attend a meeting at the Haslemere Town Council offices on 16<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the matter further.

## **6.0 PLANNING**

(6.1) WA/2017/0182 - Pitch Place Farm, Pitch Place, GU8 6QW  
Construction of swimming pool and pool house and associated works.

Following review of the plans it was resolved that the Parish Council had no comment regarding the application.

(6.2) WA/2017/0215 – Hazel Cottage, The Lane, GU8 6QB  
Erection of first floor extension and alternations

Following review of the plans it was resolved that the Parish Council had no comment regarding the application.

(6.3) WA/2017/0244 – Heath Hall Cottage, Bowlhead Green, GU8 6NW  
Erection of 4 bay garage and workshop above following demolition of existing garage

Following review of the plans it was resolved that the Parish Council had no comment regarding the application.

(6.4) WA/2017/0269 - Thistle Rough, High Button, Thursley GU8 6NR  
Erection of dwelling and detached carport/outbuilding following demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding (revision of WA/2015/2297)

Following review of the plans it was resolved that the Parish Council supported the application.

(6.5) WA/2016/2312 – Kestrel Woods – amendment

Following discussion it was agreed that the amended car parking arrangements did not address the concerns raised by the Parish Council in their original objection to the development. **The Clerk was asked to register a further objection and comment that the original concerns had not been addressed.**

(6.6) WA/1998/1240 – Uplands Stud Update

It was noted that WBC had provided an update to the Parish Council following their decision to refuse to discharge the legal agreement attached to the above application number. It is understood that further discussion between WBC and the applicants' agenda is taking place but in the meantime WBC will start the process of seeking authority to apply for an injunction but this required Full Council approval which cannot take place until 25<sup>th</sup> April.

(6.7) Pre Planning Application Statement – Mathwall Ltd

Discussion took place regarding possible development on the Mathwall site following receipt of the pre-planning submission and the impact that this may have on the discussions taking place regarding the land swap with Natural England.

Discussion took place regarding the ability of WBC to approve development outside of a rural settlement area if a Neighbourhood Plan does not exist and the possible impact on the frontage onto Dye House Road should a continuance of development along the road be allowed.

It was noted that Natural England had sold a piece of land to Mathwall and that this had not been mentioned during recent discussions with them.

Cllr Mendelsohn outlined the three options which were discussed at the previous meeting and which were still available to the Parish Council: 1) do nothing or 2) swap the land but then do nothing or 3) swap the land and develop the site to generate village funds.

Following discussion regarding the merit of each of the options, a majority vote of 5:2 suggested that 2) was the preferred option of Parish Councillors at this time. It was agreed that possibly the land value had diminished following previous discussions with Natural England and development of the site was a less attractive option.

It was agreed that no further action takes place until the options have been discussed with parishioners. **Cllr Mendelsohn agreed to include as part of his report at the Annual Assembly meeting and include an article in the parish magazine so that views could be sought to inform the decision making process.**

A question was raised about whether the land acquired by Mathwall from Natural England had been deregulated as common land.

It was agreed that the topic be discussed again at the April Parish Council meeting following a visit by Councillors to the Mathwall site arranged for 14<sup>th</sup> March.

## 7.0 FINANCE

(7.1) The following financial overview for March was presented, duly authorised and the cheques for payment were approved and signed:

945	SSALC Ltd	48.00	Conference attendance
946	E. Felton	306.60	Salary & Expenses
947	Post Office	189.60	HMRC payment
948	Hill House Farm Partnership	4800.00	Recreation Ground materials
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£5,344.20</b>	

(7.2) The Clerk reported that the works to improve the access surface on the recreation ground would start within the next 2-3 weeks.

(7.3) The Clerk reported that she had been advised that she would hear from the Trustees of the Billmeir Trust shortly regarding funding for purchase of a defibrillator unit.

## 8.0 HIGHWAYS

See 4.7 above.

## 9.0 THURSLEY VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

Cllr Swift advised that following a meeting of the VDS sub-committee, he had drafted revised wording for some of the sections include in the plan. It was noted that the document has been adopted by WBC Planning department and should be referred to by them as a material consideration when determining planning applications.

**Following discussion Cllr Swift agreed to complete the redrafting exercise by the end of March** so that the Parish Council could consider the changes further at the April meeting in advance of obtaining feedback from parishioners at the Annual Assembly meeting. Cllr Edwards agreed to present the amendments at the meeting to Councillors in April in Cllr Swift's absence.

It was agreed that consultation with the parishioners should take place prior to further discussion with WBC regarding the adoption of an appendix to the current VDS.

In response to a question from Mr Brian Welch regarding the revision/amendment process, it was highlighted that an article had been included in the parish magazine asking for feedback regarding the revisions and suggestions for amendments had been sought. It was noted that new people to the village may not be aware that the plan exists but there was a lot of publicity and an exhibition when the document was first prepared in 2009 and it is available on the Parish Council website.

## 10.0 HAMMER POND

See 4.9 above.

### **11.0 PARISH FIELD**

See 6.7 above.

### **12.0 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**

Cllr Edwards confirmed that a representative from the MOD had agreed to give a short presentation at the Annual Assembly meeting. **He was asked to provide the Clerk with details so that the notice for the event could be completed.**

Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to include opportunity to discuss the parish field options and the village design statement update as part of his annual report to obtain the views of parishioners at the meeting.

**The Clerk was asked to ensure that presenters were aware of the time constraints.**

**It was agreed that Cllr Malton would prepare an article to provide an update of the Firewise Scheme for inclusion in the parish magazine.**

It was agreed that the arrangements for refreshments would be as per previous meetings. Cllr Horwood agreed to manage the drinks with light nibbles to be provided FOC.

### **13.0 HELP IN THURSLEY**

Cllr Luff advised that following a recent Help in Thursley meeting, he had been asked to approach SCC and WBC to see if there was funding available to support the initial set up costs. Cllr Harmer advised that SCC were only able to support capital expenditure.

It was agreed that Cllr Luff should speak to Cllr J. Else to determine whether funding was available from WBC. Cllr Luff was asked to report back at the next Parish Council meeting as in principle, the Parish Council may be willing to contribute some of the funding shortfall subject to final budget approval.

It was noted that modest contributions from parishioners to support the initial costs would also be sought.

### **14.0 WBC TOWN AND PARISH MEETING FEEDBACK**

Cllr Horwood provided details of the topics presented at the WBC Town and Parish Council meeting which she had attended the previous evening (details of which had been circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting).

It was agreed that the Parish Council purchase a book of condolences which would be made available in the church when required as part of the Operation Bridges project.

### **15.0 SALC MEETING UPDATE**

Cllr Horwood provided details of the topics presented at the SSALC conference which she had attended the previous week (details of which had been circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting). It was noted that the event had been very informative and it was recommended that a Thursley Parish Council representative should attend such events in the future.

**16.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported the following items of correspondence:

- A document had been received showing the amount of Precept for each WBC Town and Parish along with a comparison of the Council Tax Band D amounts for 2017-18 compared with 2016-17. It was noted that Thursley was one of only three areas (of 21) that had not increased their Precept amount and as a result the Band D amount had decreased.
- A request from Surrey Play Fields had been received asking for a contribution to the organisation to enable them to provide grants and loans to sports clubs within the county. It was agreed not to contribute.

**17.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING**

- Items carried forward from above.

The meeting closed at 10.15 pm

Date of next meeting is Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 7.30 pm.

Signed .....

**4<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

