

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2015

Present: Mr John Chiverton Chairman
Mr David Goldhawk Deputy Chairman
Mrs Mary Mansell
Mr Terry Mayne
Mr Ian Foster
County Councillor Stephen Cooksey
District Councillor Mick Longhurst
Mrs Pat Clare Parish Clerk

Apologies have been received from Mrs Kathy Wheeler.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON 6 JANUARY 2015

The minutes were signed as a true record of that meeting.

MATTERS ARISING

Subway - The graffiti and the damaged mirrors had been removed from the subway. Mr Goldhawk who had attended a Mole Valley Rural Panel, said the only suggestion he had been given was that we could have CCTV cameras at both ends of the subway, erected high on the lamp posts. But the installation would not be straightforward as the cameras have to be on private property and planning permission would be needed. There is also the question of who pays for them. Councillor Cooksey said that SCC was investigating the use of anti-vandalism mirrors. The Clerk was asked to contact SCC, with a copy to Councillor Cooksey, to ask them to install barriers which comply with the Disability Discrimination Act. **PAC**

Heartstart - The Clerk reported that she had been advised by the organisers that the group can be made up of 12-16 people, but they would prefer it to be in the evening. We have 14 people interested in doing the course, and once the newsletters have been delivered, we will wait for a week or two to see if anyone else responds. The Clerk will then liaise with Mrs Mansell and the people running the course to see what dates might be available, and also to decide on a basic cost to cover the expenses. **PC**

Forestry Commission - recreational motorcycling - The Clerk will find out whether PC Mark Tresize, Rural Affairs and Wildlife Crime Officer has contacted the new Forestry Commission Manager to discuss the problems concerning recreational motorcycling. **PC**

Church Drive - Nothing is being done by the Church to put posts along the road, as the first priority is to get the drive itself repaired. It is in a poor state and full of potholes. Cars are already tearing up on the playground side, and Mrs Mansell reported that she had asked Sam Bayley of the National Trust if it is possible to put posts in before the drive is repaired.

Bus Shelter - The Clerk reported that the badly damaged bus shelter by the War Memorial had been repaired again. The people who work for Mole Valley do a fantastic job in restoring these to their former glory.

Email from Mr David Lloyd The Clerk wrote to Mr Lloyd advising him that the Council are not empowered to organise a "walking for fitness" activity, but if he was able to arrange something, the Parish Council would be happy to publicise it on the website. No reply has been received from Mr Lloyd.

GATWICK AIRPORT

The Clerk reported that the noise monitor which Gatwick Airport offered to install in Holmwood was now on the premises of Mr and Mrs Andrew Smith of Redlands. MVDC made the decision to oppose the Gatwick expansion. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman had written to the Aircraft Commission objecting to the expansion.

VILLAGE HALL

Mrs Mansell stated that there was little to report. The Cottage bedroom will be redecorated, and the bathroom refurbished. They will be removing a lot of rubbish from the back of the hall. The renewal of the fencing will take a little longer to get done.

PLANNING

Decisions Made

Moorfield, Mill Road - MO/2014/1847 - Remove the lowest 6 branches from one Douglas Fir tree. REFUSED ON 6/03/2015

1 Moorfield, Mill Road - MO/2014/0006 - Loft conversion with new rear rooflights and window to gable end. (amended application) APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS ON 20/2/2015

Mill Lodge, Mill Road - MO/2014/0263 - Retrospective application for conversion of garage/store to habitable accommodation. APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS 6/02/2015.

3 Mill House, Mill Road - MO/2014/1692 - Retrospective application for erection of a summerhouse and patio area in rear garden. 5/12/2014. Approved with conditions 24/12/2015.

Applications

Grandon Lodge, Beare Green, Holmwoods. MO/2014/1722 - Erection of a detached double garage. 5/12/2014 (Capel Parish). No decision yet.

Grandon Lodge, Beare Green, Holmwoods. MO/2014/1928 - Erection of replacement dwelling and conversion of outbuilding to dwelling, following removal of existing semi-detached dwellings. Alternative scheme to that approved under planning permission MO/2013/0896. No decision yet.

Devon House, Horsham Road - MO/2014/1460 submitted on 9/10/2014 - Erection of 7 terraced houses with parking and bin storage following demolition of existing buildings - no decision yet.

Hectar solar farm, Beare Green. Appeal Ref APP/C3620/W14/3002006. Council sent letter 29/1/2015 opposing the application.

Underground drilling corridor, Bury Hill Road. Further documentation had been received by Council, and a letter was sent opposing the application on 29 January. Councillor Cooksey reported that this application will be determined either in May or June. There are a number of hurdles which the applicant needs to get over, including environmental requirements.

Swires Farm - Mr Foster stated that it seemed the officers concerned were unable to understand the questions we had asked them. As a result because the SCC officers appeared not to understand what lay behind the questions the Council had raised with them on several occasions regarding this development, it was decided that the Council would not pursue the matter further. It was agreed that the Council would seek evidence of compliance with the Planning Consent Record Keeping requirements by means of Freedom of Information enquiries at the appropriate times.

Mr Goldhawk reported that he had walked down Mill Lane as far as Mill House and found that at least at two points the road is collapsing on the side where the traffic uses it. If everything goes ahead, the road will deteriorate more quickly.

PLAYGROUND

The Council has no current plans to replace or add new equipment in the playground. But the Council could start to build up a small fund if they so wished. Mr Goldhawk confirmed that he continues to inspect the playground each week.

WAR MEMORIAL

Mrs Mansell reported that an estimate for putting slabs under the railings will not be obtained until after the daffodils have finished blooming.

LOCALISM

The Clerk had obtained costs from Burley for the cutting back of hedges and overhanging branches between Spring Cottages at the Brook and Betchets Green Road, in the autumn. For the first year they quoted £340 excluding VAT, and if this work continues, the cost will increase by 2.5% each year. Councillor Cooksey agreed that this was a suitable project for funding from SCC through the Localism scheme. The Clerk will liaise with Councillor Cooksey about this matter. **PC**

PARISH ELECTIONS

Nomination forms were completed by the six councillors, and there is one further resident who is willing to stand. The Clerk will arrange for all the completed forms to be taken to MVDC before the final deadline date of April 9. **PC**

RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEW

The Clerk reported that there had been a number of incidents requiring attention during the year. This included vandalism to the subway and to the bus shelters. The steps to the War Memorial had been relaid. The broken manhole cover in Warwick Road had been replaced. Overhanging branches on the pathway on the A24 had been cut back. Following a resident's concern expressed to the Council, Wicksteeds had inspected the drop-off at the end of the slide and decided that no action was needed. A new information board had been installed in the playground. A notice banning dogs from the playground had been installed there. New safety surfaces to the two swing areas had been provided.

The see-saw had been repainted. The Village Hall staff had dealt with any issues there. Mr Goldhawk regularly inspects the playground. It was confirmed that the Council were happy that all risks had been handled appropriately.

FINANCE

The following payments were approved:

The Image Company	£60.00	Newsletters
Society of Local Council Clerks	£77.00	Clerk's Affiliation
Village Hall	£60.00	Hire of hall for PC meetings
Clerks Expenses	£433.11	Including Broadband/Telephone
Clerk's Salary	£1092.00	
Clerk's Income Tax	£273.00	

The Clerk said that MVDC has confirmed they will be paying the £10,500 Precept over two payments, and had also agreed to an increased concurrent grant of £2455, which was 50% more than in previous years.

Financial Statement for period ended 31/3/2015

A financial statement presented to Council showed payments made to date. The predicted balance on 31/3/2015 is £4670.81, £2000 of which is for contingencies.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities - This document was circulated to Council. This will be adopted with effect from April, 2015. The website is already in place, so it will be relatively simple to change it so we can record the necessary data required by this document. Clerk to ascertain whether, dependent on 'turnover' the form of reporting had to be reviewed annually on an 'opt in/opt out' basis.

PC

Fly Tipping - Mr Goldhawk reported that he was advised during his attendance at a Mole Valley Rural Panel, fly tipping is a problem in the Mole Valley area, but there had been very little reported in Holmwood. The number of prosecutions arising from fly tipping is very low.

Posts installed on the verge down the end of Warwick Road - Mr Goldhawk asked if anyone knew who had put these there, presumably to prevent vehicles going on to the verges.

Litter Bin, Church Drive - Because MVDC said only one bin could be installed there, the dog bin had been replaced with a litter bin because dog bags can be put in litter bins. Councillors were unhappy about this and have asked for the dog bin to be put there alongside the litter bin. Councillor Longhurst agreed to try and get this matter resolved.

ML

Police Commissioner Mole Valley Crime Summit - This takes place on 19 March, at 18.30. Mr Foster, the Chairman and the Clerk will be attending.

Dorking Cotmandene Alms Houses Committee - Mr Mayne continues to be the Council's representative on this committee.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This will take place at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 12 May, 2015, and will include the Annual Statutory Meeting before the Parish Council Meeting.