

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2013

Present: Mr John Chiverton Chairman
Mr David Goldhawk
Mrs Mary Mansell
Mr Charles Hill
Mr Tim Gamblen
PC Jo Dootson Attended part of the meeting

Apologies: Mr Terry Mayne, Mr Stephen Cooksey, Miss Caroline Salmon

MINUTES

ACTION

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 September 2013 were approved and signed as being a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF 15 MAY 2013

PC

A24 The mess left in the road following the reduction in height of the fir trees between Vigo Lane and Pondhead Cottages had still not been cleared despite Stephen Cooksey's request. Pat Clare will contact him again about this matter.

BDO Approval of the external audit had been received.

VILLAGE HALL

Mary Mansell reported that Peter Bray had written thanking the Council for the £2000 donation. This has enabled him to pay all the outstanding repairs invoices. He has commissioned a health and safety inspection and report. When this is received he will plan a future schedule of works and will seek grants towards the costs of replacing the roof. Mary reported that the hall remains fairly well used.

PLANNING

Decisions Made

20 Warwick Close - Erection of side/rear extension, APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS on 14/11/2013

Hope Cottage, Horsham Road - Erection of single storey side extension - APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS on 31/10/2013

Flat 1, Mill House, Mill Road - Erection of car port - APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS on 26/09/2013

North Mill House, Mill Road - Erection of two storey side extension - APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS on 19/09/2013

Applications

The following applications were discussed and there were no objections raised.

Devon House, Horsham Road - Erection of 4 terraced houses and 4 flats, plus parking spaces, bin and cycle storage area. Submitted on 31/10./2013

Scammells Corner, Red Lane - Erect new pool house at rear of dwelling - submitted on 31/10/2013

40 Warwick Close - Amendment to approved planning permission - change kitchen window to doors and move rear windows on ground and first floor to east elevation. Submitted on 25/10/2013.

Swires Farm - A consultation document had been received from Surrey County Council relating to the possible reapplication for a Green Composting Plant to be constructed. The Council had again commented on the road network and the dangers of additional lorries and other vehicles that would be using this plant.

Other Planning Matters - Swires Farm - A resident had raised their concerns that composting may already be taking place on this site. Ian Gray, Enforcement Officer at Surrey County Council, was advised of this and he replied that the site was visited on 21/10/2013 and no development was taking place at that time. SCC has asked to be advised if there is any further information about this.

FINANCE

The financial statement as at 21 November 2013 was discussed. It showed:

Current Account Balance	£6398.61
Add VAT to be reclaimed	£ 830.20
Add Business Reserve A/C Working Balance	£ 406.20
Less Predicted Expenditure	£3458.01
Working Balance	<u>£4177.00</u>

There is £1,445.76 infrastructure levy held by MVDC which can be spent on recreational facilities.

The following payments were agreed:

SLCC	£76.00	Membership
Burleys	£912.00	Fencing in Car Park

PAC

It was also agreed that Pat Clare would advise Burleys that the additional work required to the new hedging in the playground should be added to their schedule for 2014-15 at a cost of £340 + VAT. As a result of this MVDC has been advised that the expenditure for 2014-15 for grass and hedging cutting will be £2801. If MVDC pay 70% of this figure for the concurrent grant, this will leave the Council with a balance to pay of £840.30.

Pat Clare reported the website had been created, but in order to use the domain name "holmwoodparishcouncil.gov.uk" an additional charge by Weebly of \$3.29 per month would be payable. This will be in the region of £25 for the year. This additional cost was agreed.

PAC

It was agreed that a bank mandate be presented to the National Westminster Bank, deleting Victor Mansell from the signatories, and adding Mary Mansell.

PLAYGROUND

Pat Clare advised that Wicksteeds had been instructed to carry out the annual safety inspection including a risk assessment on the playground before the end of the year. Some discussion took place about the broken seat. There are two options - to have the seat repaired, or to have it removed so that a new less robust seat can be installed by MVDC. Mary Mansell will get a price for the repair.

MM

Some discussion took place about the replacement of some of the old playground equipment. Tim Gamblen said that the Council should be planning for this. In the meantime Pat Clare will get advice from Wicksteeds. She will also speak to the Duke's Head pub to see who had supplied their equipment.

PAC

David Goldhawk reported that he had continued to carry out a weekly visual inspection of the playground.

WAR MEMORIAL

MM

Mary Mansell reported that she now had the paperwork from Vic Mansell and she commented on the fact that he had done a great deal of work trying to get the prices for the railings. Mary has now taken over this task and is also encountering a great deal of difficulty in getting estimates, as the companies listed by English Heritage were too far out of the area and were proving unhelpful. Mary has now enlisted the help of Burleys who are trying to assist in this matter. She will also check with English Heritage to see whether the Council can use approved contractors who are not on their list. Mary Mansell reported that there is no way she can get three competitive estimates, as nobody is interested. Once an acceptable estimate is available, Mary will apply for a grant(s) for the work.

In the meantime, Burleys have given a price of £1785 + VAT for laying two strips of hard surface either side of the entrance to the memorial. They will use self-binding gravel for this. They will also dismantle the steps and reset them, and extend the paving from the gate to the base of the memorial, at a cost of £1325 + VAT. This will be in line with the plan approved by the National Trust. Tim Gamblen proposed that this work should be started as soon as possible, and it was seconded by Charles Hill, and approved by the Council. Mary will now instruct Burleys to commence the work.

MM

Terry Mayne has started researching the names on the War Memorial, and has made quite a lot of progress. Once complete, this will be added to the website.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Police Report - PC Jo Dootson reported on the figures for Holmwood, as at November 2013, showing 5 incidents. A serious road traffic collision in Mill Road, one burglary when items were stolen from a rear garden in Mill Road while the owner was in hospital, one assault in Mill Road when someone had thrown an object at a cyclist, which had broken his hand, one burglary of cash in Betchetts Green Road while the owner was on holiday. One drunk and disorderly male in Horsham Road. The roads policing figures for September-October were:

A24 South Bound Beare Green - 403 Interventions
A24 North Bound Old Horsham Road - 51 Interventions
Horsham Road Holmwood - 29 Interventions
Blackbrook near Plough - 7 Interventions
Chart Lane South Dorking - 21 Interventions

David Goldhawk said he was pleased to see that the names of people who were caught speeding have been published in the Dorking Advertiser.

PC Dootson reported that the parking issues around the Dutch houses have been addressed and passed to the roads policing team for monitoring.

PC Dootson said that we are approaching the time when the Police are looking for drivers who are driving while over the limit, and she said parishioners should notify the police should they see a person driving over the limit. There have been incidences of flytipping in Beare Green, and any residents witnessing this should report it to MVDC via their website.

A resident from Blackbrook Road also attended for part of the meeting because she had been very concerned about the speeding along that road. She had been driving along the road within the speed limit and a driver overtook her car and then got out of this car to verbally abuse her. She found the incident very frightening. PC Dootson gave the resident her telephone number and asked her to report any incidents of speeding in the future.

Dog Fouling Pat Clare reported that a letter had been received from Mr and Mrs Buckton of Milford Court about their concern about the dog fouling, particularly in the children's playground. It was agreed that this is a problem over which the Council has little control. Although the Council does have the power to issue Dog Control Orders, it is almost impossible for this to be policed. However, it was agreed that Mary Mansell will ask Ian Parsons to make a noticeboard, which will then be signwritten stating that dogs are not permitted in the playground. This will be erected at the playground entrance. Mary will ask Burleys to move the dog waste bin to outside the fence of the playground. Pat Clare will write to Mr and Mrs Buckton advising them of this action.

PAC/MM

Union Jack Mary Mansell reported that the flag owned by the Council had always been looked after by Vic Mansell. He is prepared to keep the Union Jack and to hoist it as necessary. Tim Gamblen proposed we accept his offer and this was seconded by David Goldhawk.

Fencing in Tyre Service Car Park It was agreed that Mary Mansell should ask Burleys to put reflectors on the posts of this new fence, to make them more visible at night.

MM

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be at 7.45 pm on Thursday, 16 January 2014 in the Village Hall.