

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Present: Mr John Chiverton Chairman  
Mr David Goldhawk Vice Chairman  
Mrs Mary Mansell  
Mr Terry Mayne  
Mrs Jan Russell Parish Clerk

In attendance: Cllr. Malcomson - District Councillor (Part meeting)  
County Councillor Cooksey  
Mr Guy Davies and Mr Andrew Barber - Mole Valley District Council  
Planning; (Part meeting)  
Mr Daniel Pearson - Member of the Public - (Prospective Councillor)

Apologies: Mr Fairbrother  
Mr Foster  
Cllr. Wellman

FUTURE MOLE VALLEY - MODEST VILLAGE ADDITIONS

Mr Guy Davies and Mr Andrew Barber from Mole Valley District Council attended the meeting to explain the proposed changes/additions to South Holmwood. Copies of a map with the proposed changes were circulated and Mr Davies confirmed that information would be made public on Friday 7 September on Mole Valley's website - [futuremolevalley.org](http://futuremolevalley.org).

It was explained that following a public consultation in the summer of 2017, Mole Valley District Council agreed to the 'Modest Expansion of Existing Villages' as one of the options to take forward as part of Future Mole Valley. In January 2018 Ms Claire Mallalieu from Mole Valley District Council attended a Parish Council meeting to discuss possible sites for development within the village boundary. The Parish Council had formally responded to these proposals. Mr Davies explained that plans were now being proposed so the village would be inset - taken out of the Green Belt. This would allow modest infilling and limited small-scale development to take place. There would also be minor changes to the village boundary. The Councillors emphasised the physical limitations of the village and agreed it was difficult to see where there was an opportunity for development. Mr Davies asked the Parish Council to debate the changes and respond accordingly. The draft Local Plan will be made available in the Spring of 2019.

1. MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 12 JULY 2018.

The minutes were read as a true representation of the meeting. They were proposed by Mr Goldhawk and seconded by Mrs Mansell.

## 2 MATTERS ARISING

- #### • Children's Playground Gate

Mrs Mansell said she had concerns as the gate opens outward and it was easy for children to push the gate open onto Betchets Green Road. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Wicksteeds and Burleys to see if the gate could be reinstalled so that the gate had to be pulled to open.

- ## • Noticeboard

The new noticeboard has now been correctly installed outside the Village Hall.

### **3. VILLAGE HALL**

The remedial work to the heating system had been carried out. It will be necessary to install a new boiler in the cottage. Bookings for the hall were still very slow which is usual for the summer season. However, the regular events are continuing.

### **4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- MO/2018/0364 - Halls House, 4 Old School Place, Horsham Road, South Holmwood. Erection of detached 3-bay garage at rear. Statutory consultation period ended. Decision still pending.

This decision has been outstanding for a long while. The Clerk will contact Mole Valley and ask why a decision has not been made.

### **5. LAND ADJOINING CARPEL HOUSE (GRANDON LODGE)**

Mr Chiverton said that at the last meeting it had been thought that a Planning Contravention Notice would be issued to the property. This has not been done. A team from both Mole Valley District Council and Surrey County Council planning departments had made a site visit and saw no unlawful commercial activity. However, the matter of the hard standing was discussed. A Planning Contravention Notice for a mobile home and two caravans is being prepared. Jack Straw will keep the Parish Council informed of any further developments. Mr Goldhawk asked if the inspectors had made any comment regarding the number of horses being kept on the site. Mr Chiverton said he had not been made aware of any observations.

### **6. PEER REVIEW - MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Mr Chiverton had attended a Peer Review of the Planning Department at Mole Valley District Council. A team of planning experts from the Local Government Association had been invited by Mole Valley to assess and review Mole Valley's planning process. Parish Councils had also been invited to attend and comment on Mole Valley's planning processes. There were concerns regarding how much the District Council listens to local Parish Councils. Comment was also made regarding the time it takes for enforcements to be actioned. The general feeling was that Parish Councils were not very impressed with the planning department.

The invited Local Government Association and Mole Valley District Council will both prepare reports and a scrutiny panel will review both. A full report will be made available late autumn. It was discussed whether Mole Valley had the staff resources to ensure the planning department was fit for purpose.

### **7. PLAYGROUND ANNUAL INSPECTION AND RISK ASSESSMENT**

Wicksteeds had undertaken the annual playground Inspection and Risk Assessment and several items are now in need of attention.

- There are some gaps/lifting of the wet pour around the climbing frame and sputnik. This is likely this is due to the long period of dry weather recently. These gaps must be filled.
- The safety surface has been damaged again under the swings.

- The slide fails a BS test EN1176 at the stair rails/side barriers and although no immediate action is required this needs to be monitored. The ground had shrunk away around the edges of the safety surface area around the slide and it is recommended the addition of soil or turf be laid to reduce the risk of slips, trips and falls. It was agreed this needs to be done but not until there has been more wet weather. Mrs Mansell and Mr Mayne both agreed to meet with Burleys on site to discuss having this work done.
- The concrete ends of the bench are cracked and damaged and need to be repaired or replaced. Mr Mayne has agreed to inspect this.
- The excess thread on the bolts on the recently refurbished benches need to be cut back to reduce the risk of a snagging hazard. This is something Burleys will be asked to address when they visit the site.

The total cost of the remedial work required by Wicksteeds is £575.00 plus vat. Burleys costs will be extra.

Mrs Mansell asked for the Risk Assessment to be added to the Parish Council Risk Register.

## 8. FINANCE

The Clerk circulated a budget analysis, giving details of all payments to date, cheques awaiting payment. The bank reconciliation statement at 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018 was (current account) £7,763.01.

The following cheques were passed for payment:

Invoice No.	Payee	Amount	Cheque No.	Purpose
69068	G Burley and Company	£1,701.50	607	Safety Gate
69632	G Burley and Company	£918.48	608	Grounds maintenance 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter
4011	The Image Company	£65.00	609	Autumn newsletter
	GACC	£10.00	610	Subscription
	Mrs J Russell	£1,248.00	611	Clerk's Salary
	HMRC	£312.00	612	Clerk's Income Tax
	Mrs J Russell	£307.32	613	Clerk's Expenses
	Holmwood Village Hall	£2,000.00	614	Donation
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,562.30</b>		

The Clerk told the meeting that there had been no communication to date from the external auditors Littlejohn regarding the end of year audit for 2017/18.

The Parish Council again discussed transferring funds into the Reserve Account and it was agreed that £1,000 should be transferred immediately. This was proposed by Mrs Mansell and seconded by Mr Mayne.

## 9. DONATIONS

The committee discussed donating to the Village Hall to assist with all the work that had been undertaken. The Councillors unanimously agreed to donation £2,000.00. This was proposed by Mr Goldhawk and seconded by Mr Mayne.

The Councillors then discussed donating to the Veteran's Annual Taxi Day, which usually takes place on the second Tuesday in June. This year was the 70<sup>th</sup> year the Taxi Day had taken place. It was unanimously agreed to donate £500 to the London Taxi Drivers Benevolent Fund in recognition of this event. Proposed by Mr Mayne and seconded by Mr Goldhawk.

**EUROPA OIL AND GAS, BURY HILL WOOD:**

Mr Cooksey said that all three remaining planning applications for the site had been withdrawn just after it was announced that DEFRA had resolved not to renew the lease for the well-site with the applicant.

**MOLE VALLEY CHILDREN'S SERVICES:**

Mr Cooksey also mentioned that it had been proposed to reduce the funding for Children's Services in Mole Valley by 70%. This was very disappointing news.

**10. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on Thursday 15 November 2018 at 7.00pm.