

HOLMWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2024

Present: Mr Keith Carter Chairman
Mr James Afford Vice Chairman
Mrs Mary Mansell
Mr Ian Fairbrother
Mrs Rachel Snook
Mr Leslie Lester
Mr Robert Jordan
Mrs Jan Russell Parish Clerk

In Attendance: District Councillors Claire Malcomson and Rosemary Hobbs.
National Trust Rangers Judith Ressler and Max Sheldon.
Surrey Police Constables Gabriella D'Ademo and Andy Whylie.

Apologies: Surrey County Councillor Stephen Cooksey. District Councillor Wellman.

1. MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2024.

The Council agreed the minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting to be a true representation of the meeting and were approved by all Councillors. Proposed by Councillor Fairbrother and seconded by Councillor Mansell.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM 12 SEPTEMBER 2024.

Defibrillator Training: A quote has been received from St John Ambulance to carry out this training, together with First Aid and CPR. The cost, which will be for 12 candidates, was considered excessive. The Chairman has now agreed to try and obtain training at a more reasonable cost.

Money has been earmarked to cover the cost of this training.

3. MILL ROAD JUNCTION.

PCs Gabriella D'Ademo and Andy Whylie attended the meeting and confirmed that surveillance had been carried out at the junction and accidents continue to be reported. It was suggested that if cars were prohibited from turning right at the Mill Road/A24 junction, but directed up to the South Holmwood intersection, this might alleviate some of the issues. PC Whylie said that no action would be considered until the average speed cameras were installed as these might ease some of the problems.

Surrey County Councillor had forwarded a response he had received from Surrey Highways and Transport regarding the installation of the speed cameras.

Highways Reference Number: 186721

Issue: Carriageway enquiry (Carriageway and Footway)

Location: Horsham Road Dorking

So far for this scheme on the A24 (and three others on the A283 in Chiddingfold, A283 in Witley and on the A25 between Dorking and Reigate) we have:

- Tendered and awarded a contract to a camera provider.
- Agreed precise locations on site with the camera provider as to where the cameras will be positioned
- Agreed the electrical enabling works that will be required for those locations with

Milestone and requested quotes. We have just this week received quotes from them.

• Provided a design brief to Highway Design and Delivery team to improve the speed limit signing and provide speed camera warning signing.

The expected implementation date will depend upon how quickly Milestone are able to deliver the electrical enabling works, and how quickly Ringway can deliver the signing improvements required. This will in turn depend upon weather and being able to book road space from street works and agreeing with them the traffic management works that will be required. We hope it will be possible to implement the scheme this financial year, but this is out of our control and dependent on the aforementioned.

4. VILLAGE HALL.

Councillor Carter advised a meeting of the Village Hall Trustees had taken place on 11 September. The kitchen has now been refurbished, including repairs to the flooring as the insurance claim had been settled. The fire doors are now fully operational and the floor in the hall will be resurfaced. New flooring has been laid in the corridors and minor maintenance items have been addressed. An area behind the bar needs to be repaired. The purchase and erection of the new 'Village Hall' sign is still being finalised by the trustees. Itemised accounts for the village hall bank account have still not been submitted however the account shows a balance of £32,800.

5. CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

Councillor Carter advised that the safety surface continues to be a trip hazard and is not fit for purpose. An inspection of the playground had been undertaken recently. The report and quotation to repair the safety surfacing had been circulated to all Councillors. The quotation recommended that the surfacing underneath the Spinner, Dome Climber, Flat Seat Swing and Slide all need to be repaired. However, the repairs are costly and do not carry any guarantee. It was agreed that a further quotation should be obtained, giving the individual costs to completely relay each area. This would provide a full guarantee for the work. Councillors agreed that £15,000 should be earmarked for these works.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- MO/2019/1641 - Carpel House, Horsham Road, South Holmwood. Importation of material to increase level to unused land to create benefit and to cover exposed sewer pipe. Refused by Mole Valley District Council. Appeal Lodged. Mole Valley and Holmwood Parish Council responded to PINS. REFUSED (AND DISMISSED ON APPEAL). PINS appeal and submission.
- MO/2024/0990 - Redlands Lodge, Redlands, South Holmwood. Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed development in respect of a single storey rear extension. Refused.

Councillor Wellman informed the Councillors that it could take up to a year to deal with the appeal relating to application MO/2019/1641. Mole Valley District Council is still deciding whether to go to Court regarding this application or to wait for the decision on the application regarding the mobile home appeal and then deal with both situations.

7. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE:

The Councillors were reminded that the current contract for the Grounds Maintenance finishes at the end of October. Councillors agreed that the contract should be put out to tender for a further year. This was considered appropriate as prices are continuing to increase, and it would not be reasonable to have to predict prices for more than 12 months. The scope of works

remains unchanged and invitations to tender will be sent out. A decision will be made on the 2025 contract at the November meeting.

8. SAFETY FENCING, POND, BETCHETTS GREEN ROAD:

The Councillors were pleased that repairs to the safety fencing around the pond have been undertaken by Surrey County Council. However, the area remains overgrown, and the Clerk will ask the National Trust if a working party of volunteers can be organised to clear the area and the pond.

9. AUTUMN NEWSLETTER:

The first draft of the newsletter has been circulated and will now be amended to include recommendations made at this meeting.

10. FINANCE

(i) Financial Statement and bank reconciliation

The budget analysis was circulated to all Councillors. Balances at 12 September 2024 -

NatWest Reserve Account £17,574.83

Unity Trust Current Account £8,838.86

Unity Trust Reserve Account £3,360.07

Account statements were presented to Councillor Mansell prior to the meeting and the total balances were confirmed as equal to the Budget Analysis statement. Councillor Mansell signed the statements.

(ii) Pass invoices for payment:

Invoice No	Payee	Amount	Purpose
2203	Clovers Ground Maintenance	£511.54	Ground Maintenance
2232	Clovers Ground Maintenance	£511.54	Ground Maintenance
	J Russell	£2,104.00	Half-year salary
	HMRC	£526.00	Clerk's income tax

It is agreed by all Councillors that funds will be earmarked for 2 projects -

- Repairing the safety surface under the apparatus in the playground
- CPR and defibrillator training for Councillors and interested residents.

The NatWest authorisation form has been completed by the approved signatories requesting the balance of the NatWest Reserve Account be transferred to the Unity Trust Account. To date this is still outstanding. The Clerk will make further enquiries and ensure the transfer is actioned. Once this has been completed, the NatWest Reserve Account will be closed.

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

The Clerk will contact Mole Valley District Council Planning and Enforcement Teams again asking them to confirm that the current development at East Lodge, Vigo has not been extended beyond the permitted planning approval.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The Council will meet again on 28 November 2024 at 7:00pm,