

The Chairman welcomed PCSO Dylan Narendra to the meeting and the PCSO was invited to address the meeting.

Police Crime Statistics (Item No. 7)

PCSO Narendra talked through the Crime Statistics and mentioned that there had been some changes to the PCSOs covering Holmwood. Continual speeding along Blackbrook Road was mentioned and the report that drones had been noticed flying over the local area. The Councillors were reminded that drones were not allowed to fly over National Trust land without prior permission. Councillor Snook asked for the vicarage to be checked as the property was now vacant and there had been reports of people loitering near the property.

PCSO Narendra mentioned that there had been reports of men cold calling in the village today, asking residents to sign up to donate to St Catherine's Hospice. The Clerk will contact St Catherine's fund-raising department for confirmation this was legitimate.

3. VILLAGE HALL

Councillor Carter informed the Council that the Trustees had confirmed the kitchen water heater, the water heater and a sink in the Gents toilets and new taps in the Ladies all need replacing and have been ordered. A quote for the repair to the flooring in the hall had been received at a cost of £400.00 plus VAT.

Councillor Carter confirmed the Trustees been contacted regarding the garden furniture in the outside area in front of the hall. The Trustees have asked that the furniture be allowed to remain.

Councillor Mansell informed the Council that permission to use the outside area was given during the Pandemic and future use would be inappropriate in the centre of the village.

The Councillors voted on this request, and it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council, as Managing Agent, recommends that area be cleared and only used on special occasions.

The Clerk confirmed that an application for the Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant from Mole Valley District Council had been submitted.

4. CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND:

The Councillors were informed that the repairs to the safety surfacing in the playground had been completed. The Grant from Surrey County Council Members Community Allocation to assist with the purchase of the two new pieces of playground equipment had been received. Unfortunately, an oversight had occurred and although £2,800.00 had been agreed and received, the County Council was only able to pay £2,597.00. The Parish Council will therefore reimburse £203.00.

The information Board in the playground is to be replaced with one highlighting users' risk and directing enquires to the Parish Council Clerk.

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. Decision outstanding.
- MO/2022/0024 - Warwick House, 19, Warwick Road, South Holmwood, Erection of

detached double garage

Councillor Chiverton asked if there was any further information on the appeal and works at Carpel House. The Council has not been advised of any decisions and thanked District Councillor Caroline Salmon for keeping the Council informed of activity on the site.

8. CHURCH DRIVE:

Councillor Mansell had received a verbal request for funding toward the refurbishment of Church Drive. A written application will be needed to take the matter further but to date no official request has been received. Councillor Mansell reminded the Council that Church Drive is on National Trust land and there is an agreement that the Parochial Church Council should maintain the Drive.

9. THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE

The Council discussed lighting a Beacon for this occasion and was reminded that as the event would take place on National Trust land, a licence must be applied for. The beacon operating instructions were made available and Councillor Mansell agreed to contact the person who lit the beacon in 2000 to see if they would oversee this event.

It was suggested that the Parish Council would donate to the village street party but would not take any responsibility.

It was agreed that the Parish should plant an Oak tree to commemorate the occasion. The Clerk will contact Treeline to obtain a quotation which will include planting.

10. CLERK'S SALARY - ANNUAL INCREMENT FROM 1 APRIL 2022

The Chairman confirmed that the Clerk's yearly salary increment would be in accordance with NALC recommendations. In line with current guidance, the Clerk's salary will be £4,281.00.

This increase was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor Chiverton.

11. FINANCE

• Financial Statement and bank reconciliation.

The financial statement up to the 28 February 2022 was circulated. The bank reconciliation statement to 28 February 2022 was £27,615.58. There are no outstanding cheques. (Reserve account £5,431.30 to 28 February 2022).

The Councillors were reminded that £10,000 had been transferred from the Reserve into the Current Account and a Grant of £2,800 had been received from Surrey County Council Members Community Allocation Fund.

The Council had still not received any correct invoices from ID Verde for 2021.

• Cheques passed for payment:

Invoice No	Payee	Amount	Cheque No	Purpose
PR77874	Wicksteed Leisure	£17,072.71	707	75% payment new Playground Equipment
4997	Image Company	£110.00	708	Printing Spring Newsletter
	Mrs J Russell	£1,678.80	709	Clerk's half year salary
	HMRC	£419.70	710	Clerk's income tax
	Mrs J Russell	£75.00	711	Clerk's expenses
	Surrey CC	£203.00	712	Reimbursement Grant overpayment

- **Online Banking**

The Council discussed the use of online banking for both bank accounts. An Internet Banking Policy had been downloaded, which is NALC approved, and adhering to this would ensure payments are made securely. If an online banking facility is adopted, it would be necessary to update the Finance Regulations. Not all Councillors were in favour of adopting this service, but it was agreed with a majority vote to go forward. The Clerk will contact NatWest and ask for information regarding starting the process. It is hoped this will be in operation ready for the May 2022 meeting.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Council will meet again on Tuesday 17 May 2022 at 7:00pm.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AT CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION:

- The Council was reminded that both Councillors Chiverton and Goldhawk will stand down at the May elections after providing long and valued service to the Parish Council. Councillor Mansell said she would also stand down if there were sufficient candidates to fill vacancies.

Casual Vacancies would be advertised after the election if no additional nominations were received.

The Clerk will ensure all Councillors received their Councillor registration packs as soon as they are available.

The Village Hall will be used for voting on 5 May as usual.

- The Clerk was asked to find out if the post box on the corner of Warwick Road is to be closed. Information will be circulated as soon as it is received.