

HAMBLEDON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

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Hambledon Parish Council meeting on 5th April 2022 at 8pm in Hambledon Village Hall.

Present

Cllr Stewart Payne (Chairman), Cllr Alison Scott-Bishop (also Clerk), Cllr Sean Sinnott, Cllr Philip Underwood, Cllr Mary Grove (Vice Chairman) Cllr Kevin Deanus (SCC) and Cllr Trevor Saddler (WBC).

22/53 Questions from members of the public. Simon Willetts attended to update Councillors on the work of Busbridge and Hambledon Church in relation to the conflict in Ukraine. Work is focused on supporting any parishioners who offer to host Ukrainian families. It is recognised that such hosting will pose challenges and villagers are encouraged to put any potential hosts they are aware of in touch with Simon. The church has also been fundraising. Some donations are being routed to the Disasters Emergency Committee's Ukraine Appeal, while others are being routed to Sophie Keir who has established a link with the Polish Club in Southampton which is acting as an aid distribution centre. So far, around £7,000 has been raised, with some coming from large individual donations. In addition, weekly prayer vigils are being held and Hambledon Nursery School is exploring whether it can take in any children from Ukrainian families.

Cllr Payne reported that the Parish Council has been actively involved in the village initiatives and especially the fund raising via collections and setting up of the Hambledon Ukraine appeal. It had been approached by a resident to investigate the potential purchase of a property for refugee accommodation. However, such a purchase would be way beyond the council's limited budget and, after seeking professional advice, it had been concluded that the prospects of borrowing such a sum were complex, unlikely to be successful and likely to be beyond the Council's capacity.

22/54 Apologies for Absence – Cllr Jan Floyd-Douglass (WBC).

22/55 Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1st March 2022 were agreed.

22/56 Declaration of Interests

- a) Cllr Mary Grove: Member, Village Hall Committee; Trustee, Hambledon Football Club.
- b) Cllr Sean Sinnott: Member of the Management Committee, Hambledon Village Shop; Member of the Management Committee, Hambledon Festival Association; Member, Hambledon Community Fund; Trustee, Hambledon Almshouses.
- c) Cllr Alison Scott-Bishop: Chair of Management Committee, Hambledon Village Shop.
- d) Cllr Phillip Underwood: Parish Council representative of the Parochial Church Council, Hambledon Parish Church.
- e) Cllr Stewart Payne: Member of the Village Website Team.
- f) Cllr Jude Milan: Trustee and Parish Council representative, Hambledon Nursery School.

22/57 Brief Verbal Report from the County Councillor on matters from Surrey County Council (SCC) affecting this Parish. Cllr Deanus reported that, in the next 12 months, Waverley and Guildford Borough Councils are intending to undertake a review of speed limits on all rural roads with a current limit of 60mph, with the intention of seeking a reduction in the limit to 40mph.

Cllr Deanus reported that the purchaser of Dunsfold Park is still undertaking due diligence on the site and associated proposals.

Cllr Deanus reported that the issue of HGVs on Salt Lane and Markwick Lane is still live and has been raised at Local Committee. However, the Local Committee structure is in the process of changing. Large projects will continue to have Local Committee involvement but, for smaller projects, Cllr Deanus will be given a £50,000 budget.

Cllr Deanus noted the outcome of the recent Local Government Boundary Commission review and the new electoral arrangements for Waverley Borough Council. Cllr Payne observed that the recommendation is that Hambledon Parish should become part of the proposed Bramley & Womersley ward. This is both unsatisfactory and disappointing as Hambledon has no links with these parishes and the inclusion of Hambledon in this ward was not even consulted on in the review. Cllr Deanus suggested that, as the next stage is Parliamentary approval, the Council might wish to raise the issue with Jeremy Hunt MP.

Action: Cllr Payne to draft letter to Jeremy Hunt MP regarding the unsatisfactory nature of the outcome of the Local Government Boundary Commission review.

- 22/58 Brief Verbal Report from the Borough Councillors on matters from Waverley Borough Council affecting this Parish. Cllr Sadler noted that the failure of Waverley Borough Council to have a five-year land supply plan and to approve the Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2) is causing significant planning issues. If LPP2 is not approved, LPP1 will become obsolete.

In relation to the outcome of the Local Government Boundary Commission review, it was noted that, from May 2023, Witley Councillors would no longer attend meetings of Hambledon Parish Council. While there will be three Councillors for Bramley & Womersley, they will have no links to Hambledon and will have to travel some distance to Hambledon Parish Council meetings.

22/59 Finance

- Verbal update on monthly finances, month 12 budget update.
Cllr McKeith reported that there had been a small underspend in 2021/22 and the balance will be retained in reserves. There had been an unexplained £25 refund to the Treasurers account which Cllr McKeith was trying to identify. The Council had received the 2021/22 AGAR external auditor instructions.
- Funds held at the bank were as follows:
 - Current (Treasurers) Account - £6,394.56
 - Reserves Account - £10,845.00
 - Henry Smith Account - £1,900.00
- Payments to be approved:
 - Hambledon Village Hall hire June 2021 to March 2022 £225. Agreed.
 - Surrey ALC and NALC subscription for 2022/23 £257.74. Agreed.
- Henry Smith Charity verbal update.
All vouchers issued in the run up to Christmas 2021 have been submitted to the Village Shop which now requires a refund of £50. The balance on the Henry Smith Account needs to be spent by 31 December 2022.

Action: Parish Clerk to contact SALC to ensure that SALC and NALC publications are sent to Cllr Payne.
Action: Cllr Milan to ask the Nursery School whether any children with special educational needs would benefit from a grant from the Henry Smith Fund.

22/60 Planning Matters Update

Cllr Payne reported on a complaint received from a Hambledon resident regarding the clearance of the Orchard Farm site which he considered to be sub-standard. Cllr Payne had spoken to a representative of English Rural Housing Association (ERHA) who provided assurances that all relevant authorities and the Planning Officers are happy that the work is being undertaken properly and professionally. Progress on the plot has been slow. Remediation work has been completed but a new contract needs to be signed for the drainage work required on the site. It is hoped that work will start on this phase of the project within six weeks. The building phase is unlikely to start until Autumn 2022 at the earliest, with the initial focus being on the affordable housing units. ERHA had been successful in their application for a grant of £100,000 from Waverley Borough Council.

22/61 New Planning Applications

- **WA/2022/01014 – Hydestile Paddock, Hambledon Road, Hydestile, Godalming GU8 4DE.** Erection of extensions and alterations and the installation of a ground source heat pump. No objection, Waverley to determine.
- **CA/2022/00963 – Court Vale, Church Lane, Hambledon, Godalming GU8 4DS.** Hambledon B Conservation Area works to trees. No objection, Waverley to determine.
- **WA/2022/00744 – Hambledon House, Vann Lane, Godalming GU8 4HW.** Erection of a new dwelling; demolition of existing coach house and associated landscaping within a conservation area. Councillors expressed concern regarding the extension of the overall Hambledon House site into the Green Belt. The coach house had originally been ancillary to the main house and had therefore been close to it. Moving it to another location on the site would take it outside the residential curtilage of the house. Council to object.
- **TM/2022/00726 – Cedarwood, 9 the Hydons, Salt Lane, Hydestile, Godalming GY8 4DD.** Application for works to and removal of trees subject of Tree Preservation Order 37/99. No objection, Waverley to determine.

Action: Parish Clerk to seek extension to comments deadline for WA/2022/00744.

Action: Parish Clerk to send letter of objection to WA/2022/00744 to Waverley Borough Council.

22/62 Recent Planning Applications

- **WA/2022/00415 – Enton End, Station Lane, Enton, Godalming, GU8 4AN.** PENDING
- **WA/2022/00398 – Stone Cottage, Vann Lane, Chiddingfold, Godalming, GU8 4XU.** GRANTED
- **WA/2022/00294 – Vann Lane Piggeries, Vann Lane, Hambledon, Godalming, GU8 4EB.** PENDING
- **WA/2022/00109 – Burgate House, Markwick Lane, Loxhill, Godalming, GU8 4BD.** PENDING
- **WA/2021/03181 – 1 & 2 Redroof Cottages, Malthouse Lane, Hambledon, Godalming GU8 4HH.** PENDING
- **WA/2021/03180 – 1 & 2 Redroof Cottages, Malthouse Lane, Hambledon, Godalming GU8 4HH.** PENDING
- **WA/2021/03147 – Feathercombe Farmhouse, Feathercombe Lane, Hambledon, Godalming, GU8 4DP.** PENDING
- **WA/2021/03135 – The Bungalow, Feathercombe Lane, Hambledon, Godalming, GU8 4DP.** PENDING
- **WA/2021/03122 – Burgate House, Markwick Lane, Loxhill, Godalming, GU8 4BD.** GRANTED
- **WA/2021/03079 – Feathercombe Farmhouse, Feathercombe Lane, Hambledon, Godalming, GU8 4DP.** PENDING
- **WA/2021/03064 – The Old Coal Yard, Hambledon Road, Godalming, GU8 4DR.** PENDING.
Councillors noted the email from Waverley Planning regarding the amended plans received on 26 March and the proposed change of location of the two units. Councillors also noted that Waverley Planning does not appear to have addressed the Council's original comments on the existence of two stream abutting the property, which had not been mentioned in the original application, or on

the suggestion that the applicant be requested to produce a biodiversity report. However, Councillors agreed they had no comments on the revised plans.

- **WA/2021/03038 – Hambledon Cricket Club, Cricket Club Pavilion, The Cricket Green, Godalming, GU8 4HF. GRANTED**
- **WA/2021/03007 – 9 The Hydons, Salt Lane, Hydestile, Godalming. PENDING**
- **WA/2021/02969 – Sunfield, Petworth Road, Wormley, Godalming, GU8 5TU. PENDING**
- **WA/2021/02315 – Feathercombe Farm, Feathercombe Lane, Godalming, GU8 4DP. CERTIFICATE GRANTED**
- **WA/2021/02085 - Former Nutbourne Brickworks, Roundalls Lane, Hambledon. GRANTED**

Action: Parish Clerk to advise Waverley Borough Council that Hambledon Parish Council has no comments on the amendments to WA/2021/03064.

22/64 Village Matters

- Proposal from Chiddingfold Parish Council to adjust the boundary with Hambledon Parish to include one of the Pockford Estate Cottages and Brookside in Chiddingfold Parish

Councillors noted that, in their response to the recent Waverley Borough Community Governance Review, the Council had noted that it did not seek any change to the Parish boundaries but would listen to any proposals from neighbouring parishes which involved Hambledon. Having received such a proposal from Chiddingfold Parish Council, the only course of action open to the Council was to seek the views of the residents of the impacted properties. Cllr Payne would advise Waverley Borough Council of the Parish Council's intentions in this regard and would seek the views of the residents of the impacted properties.

- Village response to the situation in Ukraine

Dealt with under item 22/53.

- NALC Smaller Council Committee

Councillors noted the communication issued on 11 March, and also that it had not been possible to obtain any further information on the role of the committee.

- Maintenance, highways, hedges, ditches and rights of way

It was noted that the drainage issues on Rock Hill had finally been dealt with on 4 April. Cllr McKeith reported that Thames Water had cancelled a road closure on Malthouse Lane from 11 to 16 April which would have overlapped with the closure of Woodlands Road from 13 to 15 April. Cllr McKeith also noted that he had repeated his request to Surrey Highways for repairs to be made to the road outside Vann Lane Piggeries.

- Traffic and Speedwatch

Cllr Grove reported that speed watches had recommenced, although there were very few volunteers so she might seek an indication of the level of support for this activity at the forthcoming Parish Assembly. Cllr Grove also reported that progress was being made on the installation of a vehicle activated sign (VAS) by King Edward's School on Petworth Road. It was noted that the issue of HGVs using Markwick Lane had been covered under item 22/57.

Parish Assembly

Councillors expressed their satisfaction with the draft agenda for the Assembly which had been prepared by the Parish Clerk and the document outlining Hambledon Parish Council Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021, both of which would be circulated at the Assembly, together with a record of the 2021 Assembly. Cllr Sinnott will organise welcome drinks for attendees and Cllr Grove has contacted Waverley Borough Council for litter picking equipment for use in the village clean up on 23 April.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Cllr Grove reported on the successful initial open meeting in the Merry Harriers to discuss ideas on how to mark the Jubilee. A second meeting, also in the Merry Harriers, has been arranged for 13 April. Plans so far include the lighting of a Platinum Jubilee Beacon at the Cross's on the evening of Thursday 2 June; open gardens in the village; a booklet describing previous village jubilee celebrations; flower displays in the church; treasure hunts; and the flying of the Union Jack from the church bell tower. The main event will be a street party in Malthouse Lane to coincide with the Big Jubilee Lunch on Sunday 5 June. The Village Hall will be open for the duration of the street party to provide toilet facilities and a back-up in the event of bad weather.

Offer of 12-month SIM-Only package for Parish Clerk mobile telephone for £6 per month

The Parish Clerk advised Councillors of the offer that had been made by Vodafone. It was agreed that she should take it up.

Moving all Councillors to HPC email accounts

Councillors agreed that the use of specific Hambledon Parish Council email addresses was a good idea and asked Cllr McKeith to investigate the possibilities and what would be involved.

Recruitment of new Parish Clerk/Proper Officer/RFO

Cllr Payne reported that two applications had been received for the vacant role of Parish Clerk. Both applicants had been interviewed but one had subsequently withdrawn her application, having reconsidered in the light of information she received on the role during her interview. Cllr Payne therefore recommended Catherine Russell for the role and his recommendation was endorsed by all Councillors. The standard NALC contract will be adapted to meet the specific needs of Hambledon Parish Council. 1 May will be suggested as a start date and Catherine will attend the Village Assembly on 21 April.

Action: Cllr Payne to contact Chailey Gibb at Waverley Borough Council regarding his intention to contact the residents of the properties which would be impacted by the parish boundary change proposed by Chiddingfold Parish Council.

Action: Cllr Payne to contact the residents of the properties which would be impacted by the parish boundary change proposed by Chiddingfold Parish Council.

Action: Parish Clerk to contact Vodafone to take up their offer of a 12-month SIM-only package for the Parish Clerk mobile phone.

Action: Cllr McKeith to investigate the scope for the use of specific Hambledon Parish Council email addresses by Councillors for Parish Council business.

22/64 Village Organisations

- **Almshouses** – Cllr Sinnott noted that there was no update.
- **Nursery School** – Cllr Payne reported that, after 19 years as a Trustee, he had stood down at the most recent Trustee meeting and had been replaced as the Parish Council representative by Cllr Milan. Cllr Payne noted that the school had been very generous in providing him with a number of very thoughtful leaving gifts. He also noted that the school's financial situation was challenging, and it was likely to have made a small loss in the most recent financial year.
- **Village Hall** – Cllr Grove reported that the hall was opening up a bit more, but there was still a requirement to provide areas for people who feel vulnerable.
- **Hambledon Festival 2021** – Cllr Sinnott reported that a meeting to find helpers had been arranged for 19 April. Further announcements would be made on the village website.
- **Village Shop** – Cllr Scott-Bishop reported that a recent recruitment drive had been successful, but shop opening hours would not be extended over the summer as staffing levels could not

support this. Prices will be increased for some items due to increases in the costs of underlying goods and also to ensure the shop is not out of line with other similar businesses in the area.

- **St Peter's Church** – Cllr Underwood reported that the church was being very well used and had recently been fully occupied by guests for a wedding and a christening.

22/65 Reports from outside meetings. There were no meetings to report.

22/66 Forthcoming outside meetings. A 20's Plenty webinar is scheduled for 6 April.

22/67 Correspondence. Councillors noted the email received by the Parish Clerk from the Green Lane Association.

22/68 Dates of next meetings:

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| - 21 st April 2022 (Parish Assembly) | - 10 th January 2023 |
| - 10 th May 2022 | - 7 th February 2023 |
| - 7 th June 2022 | - 7 th March 2023 |
| - 5 th July 2022 | - 4 th April 2023 |
| - No meeting in August | - 27 th April 2023 (Parish Assembly) |
| - 6 th September 2022 | - 9 th May 2023 |
| - 4 th October 2022 | |
| - 1 st November 2022 | |
| - 6 th December 2022 | |

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 22.13.