

HAMBLEDON PARISH COUNCIL Minutes

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Hambledon Parish Council Meeting on 7th November 2023 at 8pm in Hambledon Village Hall.

Present Cllr Stewart Payne, Cllr Alison Scott-Bishop, Cllr Robin McKeith, Cllr Jude Milan, Cllr Simon Rhodes, Cllr Andy Hinde, Cllr Michael Goodridge (WBC), Cllr Lauren Atkins (WBC), Cllr Jane Austin (WBC), Catherine Russell (Clerk).

23/152 Questions from Members of Public

Christine Baker, resident and former Waverley Borough Councillor, was present. She asked for further information regarding a news article on government monitoring of Waverley's Planning department which was recently published in the parish magazine. The article was not written by the parish council and had been taken from public sources by the magazine's editors. The parish council stated that the problems with the planning department have not been hidden and SCC Councillor Kevin Deanus has been giving full briefings to HPC. She also wanted to discuss the pothole / leak on Rock Hill. HPC confirmed it has taken photos and published the issue on the village website. HPC escalated the issue following two separate accidents involving cyclists. Both SCC and Thames Water have been on site since then. As of 7th November the road is closed for repairs. Thames Water has 3 days to fix the leak and SCC has 8 days to fix the hole. The road must be closed to fix the hole as it is so narrow.

23/153 Apologies for Absence - Cllr Sean Sinnott, Cllr Kevin Deanus (SCC/WBC).

23/154 Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd October 2023 were agreed and signed.

23/155 Declaration of Interests, no change:

- a) Cllr Sean Sinnott: Treasurer, Hambledon Village Shop; Treasurer, Hambledon Festival Association; Member, Hambledon Community Fund; Trustee, Hambledon Almshouses; Trustee, Henry Smith Charity.
- b) Cllr Alison Scott-Bishop: Chair, Hambledon Village Shop.
- c) Cllr Stewart Payne: Trustee, Hambledon Almshouses; Member of the Village Website Team.
- d) Cllr Jude Milan: Trustee, Henry Smith Charity. Trustee and Parish Council representative, Hambledon Nursery School; Parish Council representative Hambledon Community Fund.
- e) Cllr Andy Hinde: Member of PCC, St Peter's Church, Hambledon.

23/156 Brief Verbal Report from the County Councillor on matters from Surrey County Council (SCC) affecting this Parish.

Cllr Kevin Deanus was not present.

23/157 Brief Verbal Report from the Borough Councillors on matters from Waverley Borough Council affecting this Parish.

Councillors stated that Waverley Planning's problems are due to staff leaving. It is causing angst as when councillors write to planners they are not receiving an acknowledgement. The collaboration with Guildford is also causing angst. The council risk assessment has been moved from amber to red on some areas due to staff issues. Guildford has financial problems and senior members of the team are trying to focus on Guildford. Waverley are also losing senior management. The temporary finance officer on an expensive daily rate is still in place after more than a month.

Councillors also updated HPC on the current water problems which have not been a concern for the parish. The number of households without water has gone down from 12,000 to 1500. Those still affected are more rural or areas at the end of pipe runs. There has been no continuity planning from Thames Water and it has been chaotic. Households have struggled to obtain water from water collection points. It is now at the tail end. Thames Water have confirmed there will be automatic compensation.

23/158 Finance

- HPC is slightly under budget. SCC were meant to have taken back the grass verge maintenance, however HPC have also budgeted for this. SCC contractors have been through the village but have completed a poor job. This issue of poor work has been raised by HPC at the SALC Conference, but there has been no feedback yet. Colin Rapley, HPC's contractor, has also been through the village and the result has been better.
- Budget FY 24/25 - The precept request will be submitted in January and therefore the forecast budget will be put together for next month.
- Approved payments:
 - Clerk expenses - £26.60
 - SLCC - CiLCA qualification fee - £450
 - SALC - SCAPTC and NALC subscription - £259.06
 - Nigel Jeffries - Cricket Green - Oct - £133.20
 - CJ Dozers - Hedge cutting - £1992.00
 - Mary Grove - Defibrillator Battery replacement - £306.00
- Neighbourhood CIL - There are no new applications
Henry Smith Charity verbal update - Councillors agreed a payment of £100 to The Fountain Centre, which has supported a number of Hambledon residents.

23/159 Planning Matters Update

Vann Lane Piggeries / The Bungalow - The Bungalow has been demolished in readiness to produce a new build which the owner had permission to do. Despite requests to Waverley Enforcement, there is no update on Vann Lane Piggeries.

Livery Close Development - The planned site meeting was cancelled due to poor weather. Properties are being advertised. English Rural have been in touch to confirm applicants' local connections.

Feathercombe Farm - The owners of Feathercombe Farm contacted HPC that they would be replacing rotten fencing around the farm. This is not an area for HPC to comment on. HPC notes that the farm has equine use limited to specific fields.

The fencing on footpath 181 has highlighted issues with dog mess. HPC will continue to monitor it as it seems to have improved. Councillors note someone has put a sign in place to remind dog walkers to pick up after their dog. This was not placed by HPC. Councillors discussed whether a bin could be installed nearby so poo bags could be disposed of. Cllr Hinde suggested the idea that volunteers could clear a bin on rota. Perhaps the idea could be placed in the parish magazine to see if there are any willing volunteers. Cllr Hinde will ask the church whether they had thoughts on leaving their bins nearby. Councillors will review again next month.

23/160 New Planning Applications

TM/2023/02260 1 THE HYDONS SALT LANE HYDESTILE GODALMING GU8 4DD Application for works to tree subject of tree preservation order 37/99. When the estate was built in the 1980s all trees received a TPO, now the trees are decaying and require removal.

WA/2023/02213 HOMELEA COTTAGE LANE END GODALMING GODALMING GU8 4HD Alterations to roof space including installation of dormer window and roof lights to provide habitable accommodation (revision of wa/2023/01075). HPC notes there are no neighbourhood complaints. It is a modest change. HPC has no comments.

WA/2023/02215 Feathercombe Farm, Feathercombe Lane, Hambledon, Godalming. Construction of equestrian exercise track and arena. Councillors note that the box stating that there would be no commercial activity was marked 'no'. The clerk will check with Waverley Planning what constitutes commercial activity. Councillors have no objection to commercial activity but query why this box would be marked 'no'.

WA/2023/02251-52 Burgate House, Markwick Lane, Loxhill, GU8 4DB. Erection of extensions and alterations to elevations alterations to two existing outbuildings; erection of two pairs of gates pillars and wall. Listed building consent for erection of extensions and alterations to elevations alterations to two existing outbuildings. HPC has no comments to submit. HPC notes that the house is tucked away. The nearest neighbour has written in support.

West Surrey Golf Club have put in an application to vary the license for sale of alcohol on Saturday and Sundays.

23/161 Recent Planning Applications

WA/2023/02002 HAZELS VANN LANE HAMBLEDON GODALMING GU8 4EB. Erection of two storey extension and alterations.

WA/2023/02066 WHITE WARREN VANN LANE HAMBLEDON GODALMING GU8 4DY. Certificate of lawfulness under section 191 for existing building works; a material operation started within three years of the date of permission under wa/2020/0921 (erection of store building; replacement stable block following demolition of four outbuildings.) And as such the permission remains extant and implementable. **GRANTED**

TM/2023/01940 CEDARWOOD 9 THE HYDONS SALT LANE HYDESTILE GODALMING GU8 4DD. Application for works to trees subject of tree preservation order 37/99. **CONSENT GRANTED**

WA/2023/01819 Bermonde, Hambledon Road, Hambledon, Godalming, GU8 4DR.

Erection of extensions and alterations (revision of WA/2023/01351) **GRANTED**

WA/2023/01805 ANNEXE HYDON WOOD HOUSE FEATHERCOMBE LANE GODALMING Erection of an ancillary annexe building following demolition of existing annexe building **PENDING**

WA/2023/01750 2 AND 3 CRICKET GREEN COTTAGES THE CRICKET GREEN HAMBLEDON GODALMING GU8 4HF Listed building consent for replacement roof to numbers 2 and 3 cricket green cottages. **PENDING**

TM/2023/01709 TOLT HOUSE 10 THE HYDONS SALT LANE HYDESTILE GODALMING GU8 4DD. Application for works to and removal of trees subject of Tree Preservation Order 37/99 **GRANTED**

West Surrey Golf Club Halfway hut - An application to vary the license for sale of alcohol on Saturday and Sundays has been posted in areas around the golf club. Councillors discussed how the site is not close to any properties. HPC has no comment.

23/162 Village Matters

- HGV report - Cllr Deanus emailed an update that all was on track
- The Future of 503 Bus Service. The 503 will cease in September 2024 and HPC will work with SCC to make sure the replacement on demand service (Digital Demand Response Transport) will work for the village. Current route issues have been flagged to HPC. A driver not used to the route did not want to drive down Malthouse Lane due to parked cars and so diverted along the Petworth Road. People were waiting for the bus and it didn't turn up. This has been reported to SCC, and the driver has been told to stick to the route. It has been noted that the bus is taking the correct route again.
- Surrey Hills AONB Boundary Review - Consultation on the proposed extension to the boundary. No update
- Play Area. The play area is complete and the item can now be removed from the list.
- Maintenance, highways, roadworks, hedges/ditches and rights of way. There will be a meeting on Thursday 9th November with a member of the Rights of Way team to walk and discuss Bridleway 186, a number of councillors will be attending. New correspondence from the secretary of a rambling group has requested a meeting to discuss the Rights of Way Improvement Plan. Cllr McKeith will follow this up. Cllr McKeith will write an application for funds from the Community Ownership Fund to maintain the village pound.

- **Village Winter Emergency Plan** - The village emergency plan was first written in 2010 by Cllr Payne. It is updated each year. Following the new template produced by Surrey Prepared it will be revised again. Hambledon's main risks are from fallen trees and power loss. The village is not at risk of flooding. In case of emergency, the nursery school is the main collection point. A local resident has access to a snowplough. Many residents own chainsaws and there is an emergency team who can address fallen trees. Cllr McKeith will check the HPC salt bins to ensure they don't need filling.
- **Traffic and Speedwatch**. There have been three speedwatch sessions with 4 recordable offenders. Roughly 15% of traffic were exceeding the speed limit by 2-3mph.
- **Welcome Packs** - any new residents known who could receive a village welcome pack. No new residents known.
- **Review of the following HPC policies on:** Expenses, Email, Data Protection, Equality and Diversity, Sickness, Disciplinary, Grievance. Councillors agreed to the policies.

23/163 Village Organisations

- **Almshouses** – No update.
- **Nursery School** – The nursery has a comfortable surplus. The new stand is up in the garden. There will be a Christmas fair on 3rd December.
- **Village Hall** – The moss has been cleared from the roof tiles so it is now possible to have a closer look at the condition of the roof. The floor will be sanded and resealed. The art show was excellent and there are a number of upcoming events for the village.
- **Website** - The committee has a busy calendar to work through.
- **Hambledon Festival** – No update
- **Village Shop** – Everything is gearing up to Christmas, a staff party will be held at the Merry Harriers. Carols will be on 24th December. The interviews with volunteers will continue.
- **St Peter's Church** – There is a PCC meeting tomorrow which will be focusing on the Minster project.

23/164 Reports from outside meetings.

The owner of Orchard Cottage is trying to retain the cottage as an affordable home. It is due to be demolished as part of a previous planning application which allowed a new structure at a different position if this cottage was demolished. The owner submitted an application to allow the cottage to stay as an affordable home. Waverley refused this application and so the owner is appealing this decision.

23/165 Forthcoming outside meetings.

Interparish Climate Group - 9th November
 Bridleway 186 - 9th November
 Orchard Farm site visit - tbc
 Suggested meeting with new owners of the Merry Harriers - tbc

23/166 Correspondence.

- None

23/167 Dates of next meetings:

5th December 2023	9th April 2024
9th January 2024	25th April 2024 (Parish Assembly)
6th February 2024	14th May 2024
5th March 2024	

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 21.39pm.