

HAMBLEDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 March 2012 in the Village Hall

Present: John Anderson (Chairman), Mike Parry, Paul Pattinson, Stewart Payne, Sarah Stuckey and Mike Whittall; Cllr. Elizabeth Cable; and Jane Woolley (clerk)

Apologies: Philip Underwood and Cllr. Adam Taylor-Smith

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2012 were **agreed** and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

3. FINANCE

Cheques

Agreed and signed the following

- Tim Coleman, clearance of leaves from Village Hall roof £100.00

Risk assessment

On an oral report, noted the following, arising from Paul Pattison's recent annual inspection

- on-going problems with potholes;
- some obstruction of electricity cables by overhanging branches;
- a possible need for some tidying-up of the informal play area adjacent to the Village Shop;
- otherwise, everything in order.

4. PLANNING

WA12/0254: Hydon Wood, Feathercombe Lane - construction of dormer windows

WA12/0287-8: Tigbourne Cottage, Lane End - new garage, boundary wall, pier gates

Confirmed the Planning Committee's decision not to object to either application.

Nutbourne Brickworks. Noted that the transfer of Coleman's Copse to the Parish Council was now registered at the Land Registry; that the original transfer deed was in the post; that an up-dated title would be forwarded once an irrelevant item had been removed; and that, on receipt of the deed, the Parish Council's insurers would be asked to make any necessary amendments to the insurance policy.

WA11/1777 - Springfields, Woodlands Road. Noted that a revised planning application for dormer windows had now been validated and that the Parish Council would be advised of the planning reference as soon as possible.

Tuesley Farm. Noted that the Chairman of Busbridge Parish Council, John Graves, had been informed that Hambledon Parish Council would support the establishment of a community farm management team and remedial work on the Quite Lane path that crossed the farm; and that liaison would be maintained via Stewart Payne. Noted that, in a subsequent discussion with Stewart Payne, Mr Graves had agreed that Tuesley Farm was not legally required to

establishment a farm management team and that he had accordingly accepted Stewart Payne's offer to address the issue of the Quite Lane and any other current problems in an informal note to Harry Hall.

5. WAVERLEY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: DRAFT CORE STRATEGY

The Chairman invited individual Councillors' initial comments on the previously circulated individual core strategies. The general feeling was that these captured current issues and did not include anything that specifically impacted on Hambledon; though reservations were expressed about the achievability of housing targets.

It was noted that local plans would be judged against the policies of the National Planning Policy Framework: this had not yet entered into law but its presumption in favour of sustainable development had underpinned the drafting of the Waverley Core Strategy.

The Clerk reported on the immediately preceding Waverley briefing meeting for Town and Parish Council at which she had queried SCC's claim that it could provide sufficient schooling for the amount of housing envisaged over the plan period (2013 – 2028). In this context the importance of sufficient medical facilities was also noted. The Clerk also referred to the newly-introduced possibility of including a small element of market housing where this was needed to secure the delivery of affordable housing on rural exception sites.

The Chairman outlined the various points on which he felt it might be appropriate for the Parish Council to comment.

It was **agreed** that Councillors would further review the individual core strategies and send any additional comments to reach the Clerk before the end of March; that the Chairman and Clerk would then draft a Parish Council response; and that agreement to the draft would be sought by e-mail from all other Councillors prior to the consultation closing date (11 April). It was **agreed** to publish the consultation via a short note in the Parish Magazine and on the village web site. The complexity of comment forms, and the prior need to have read the document on-line, were noted, as were problems in finding the document on the Waverley web site and the lack of any synopsis – eg an executive summary, a press article; and Councillor Cable **agreed** to take these comments back to Waverley.

6. UPPER TUESLEY FARM: DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

On consideration of the previously circulated background note, noted that Stewart Payne had discussed with John Graves his idea of a joint submission by Busbridge, Hambledon and perhaps other Parish Councils/outside bodies; **agreed** that Hambledon should submit individual comments; and noted that Witley Parish Council was also in favour of individual responses.

Thanked Stewart Payne for offering to draft the Hambledon response and noted that the Clerk would immediately forward the web version of the consultation document to him; noted that printed copies would be circulated to all Councillors as soon as possible and that comments of substance should be sent direct to Stewart Payne by the beginning of April; and **agreed** that the draft response should be circulated at the very latest (ie around 14/15 April) with the agenda for the Parish Council meeting on 24 April.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Mike Parry and Paul Pattison reported on Waverley's Neighbourhood Planning event on 28 February, comprising an overview of the process by Dave Chetwyn and a case study of Bookham's Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). The following points were made in the ensuing discussion

- the amount of time and effort, the number of people and the level of community engagement required to produce an evidence-based document that adhered to all the prescribed processes;
- the complexity of those processes and whether a small community could realistically be expected to have sufficient resources to undertake an NDP;
- if a community's needs were satisfactorily addressed by its Local Development Plan (LDP)/Core Strategy, was an NDP needed?
- alternatively, consider an NDP to amplify and/or address issues missing from the LDP/Core Strategy;
- NDPs have to reflect government policies; some of those that impact on Hambledon could change (eg the future of the Green Belt, the extent of the Surrey Hills AONB).

Agreed that consideration of an NDP for Hambledon should be deferred, pending adoption of Waverley's LDF/Core Strategy and decisions on the future of the Green Belt and the Surrey Hills.

8. VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

On consideration of Mike Whittall's previously circulated note and a further tabled note of two telephone discussions

- noted that Thursley and Churt had both endorsed the worth of a VDS;
- reiterated many of the points recorded in the minutes of the previous meeting, including (i) the need for a VDS to reflect government's presumption in favour of development and (ii) the inability of a VDS to affect development under Permitted Development Rights (PDRs), which were the two main causes of concern for Hambledon;
- noted the protection which existing policies (Green Belt, AONB, AGLV, non-settlement status) already gave to Hambledon;
- noted that further protection was afforded by the fact that almost all people who moved to or already lived in Hambledon did so because they appreciated the character of the village and the consequent need for house alterations to be well designed;
- nevertheless noted that these protections could not be relied on in the long term
- noted that .

Agreed the importance of knowing much weight Waverley was likely to give to a Hambledon VDS before reaching a final decision; noted Cllr. Cable's comment that the best person to address Hambledon's concerns and queries would be Cllr. Taylor-Smith; and thanked her for her offer to pass on an invitation to him to attend the next Parish Council meeting (or to meet Councillors on another mutually convenient date) and to brief him in advance.

9. VILLAGE FETE AND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Noted that planning was proceeding well; that Catherine McBride, Hambledon's incoming Associate Minister, would be invited to open the fete on 2 June; that Karen Sehmer, Surrey's incoming High Sheriff, had been invited to light the Hambledon bonfire on 4 June; and that a formal invitation would be sent to Mrs Sehmer at the appropriate time

Agreed that it would be appropriate for the village to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee, possibly by the addition of appropriate notices to the Coronation signs at each end of the village; and asked the Clerk to pursue this idea and report back to the next meeting.

10. VILLAGE MATTERS

Police

Noted that, since the new year, there had been two car thefts from Lane End (one car subsequently recovered) and three assaults (no further details) and that there had been a reoccurrence of ex-offenders selling from door to door. **Agreed** that a note should be included in the Parish Magazine reminding everyone immediately to report unlicensed sellers to the Police.

Maintenance

Noted that Thames Water were addressing the water leak by the village pond.

Noted the repairs that had been carried out to the edges of the Hambledon Road and that the possibility of these being continued as far as the A283 junction were being pursued.

Electricity supplies

On consideration of the previously circulated note, **agreed** that it would be useful to remind landowners, in the next issue of the Parish Magazine, of their obligation to keep trees clear of power lines. Noted that the Clerk had arranged for trees at the foot of Hundred Guinea Lane to be inspected and **agreed** that Councillors should advise the Clerk within the next 10 days of any other trees adjacent to roads/footpaths in the village which might need trimming.

11. PARISH ASSEMBLY, 19 APRIL; VILLAGE CLEAN-UP, 21 APRIL

On consideration of the previously circulated draft Parish Assembly agenda and accompanying note

- **agreed** the agenda for the Parish Assembly and those from outside the village to be invited;
- noted that Philip Underwood would organise the pre-Assembly drinks;
- **agreed** that rubbish sacks for the clean-up should be available at the Parish Assembly and thereafter at the Village Shop, together with a map or plan on which villagers could note the areas they were prepared to clear (Clerk to organise);
- noted that the Chairman, Philip Underwood and Stewart Payne would be available to organise the barbeque at the Village Shop, that it would start at 12.00 and that the food would be ordered by Philip Underwood.

12. VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Almshouses

Noted that the fund-raising leaflet and launch had been agreed.

Village Shop

Noted the forthcoming promotion for Mother's Day; that a partition was being erected in the garage to provide additional storage and display/selling space; and that the Police had been in contact regarding rules governing alcohol sales.

Oakhurst Cottage

Noted that Daniel Duthie, the National Trust manager responsible for Hambledon, had suggested that he attend the Parish Assembly. **Agreed** that it would be useful to be up-dated about those NT policies that currently affect the management of its properties in the village; that this might best be achieved at a smaller, more focused event; and that Mr Duthie should therefore be invited to meet the Chairman of the Parish Council, Ion Campbell (immediate

past chairman, also chair of the NT's Oakhurst liaison group) and Elizabeth Waring (who, as the previous chair, had overseen the establishment of the liaison group).

13. CORRESPONDENCE

SCC: request for details of locally organised transport schemes in Surrey

Noted that, in response, the Clerk had provide information about the Waverley Hoppa service and Hambledon's Good Neighbour scheme.

14. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Noted the previously circulated list.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

Noted Sarah Stuckey's comments, arising from her attendance at a Surrey Wildlife Trust seminar in November, on wildlife corridors and the potential invasiveness of Himalayan balsam along the Pock adjacent to the Winterton Arms (which she had raised with Chiddingfold Parish Council).

The Chairman closed the meeting at 22.20

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 24 April 2012