

HAMBLEDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 2 July 2013 in the Village Hall

Present: John Anderson (Chairman), Mike Parry, Stewart Payne and Peter Spall; Jane Woolley (clerk); Cllr. Victoria Young ; Cllr. Elizabeth Cable; and one member of the public

Apologies: Karen Jones, Paul Pattinson and Philip Underwood

The Chairman welcomed Cllr. Young, who was attending her first meeting of the Parish Council following her election as Councillor for Surrey's Waverley Eastern Villages ward. A card to Karen Jones, who had just undergone surgery, was signed by all Parish Councillors wishing her a speedy recovery.

QUESTION TIME

Harry Hall attended on the invitation of the Parish Council and provided the following update on activities (including grants of planning permission where required) at Tuesley Farm during the past year

- conversion of existing buildings to provide accommodation for the Farm manager and for four families with children
- installation of a biomass boiler to provide sufficient hot water for the site
- 750 sq.m. barn to provide a storage facility
- more use of peripheral land for plant propagation.

The Farm was now employing 250 workers and the annual returnee rate was 75 per cent. The Farm remained keen to work closely with its neighbours, helping out wherever it could (and snow ploughing was cited as an example); and the possibility of its employing local youngsters during the summer was noted for following up in about six months' time.

Cllr Young expressed her concern about the state of the local roads and ensured the Parish Council of her support for the funding that the Parish Council had requested from SCC's Local Committee in Waverley to enable Colin Rapley carry out work on drains and ditches. She referred to SCC's offer of £2k to enable her to access the services of two men for a week to undertake unspecified low-grade highways maintenance and both she and the Parish Council **agreed** that this money would be better utilised by individual Parish Councils who had already identified and costed specific works. Cllr. Young undertook to pursue repairs to the large potholes on Rock and School Hills and to support any application which the Nursery School might make to the SCC Community Improvement Fund.

FORMAL BUSINESS

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 May 2013 were **agreed** and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

3. FINANCE

Direct Debit

Information Commissioner – data protection fee (mandate approved at the last meeting) £ 35.00

Cheques

Agreed and signed the following

| | |
|--|---------|
| - Tim Coleman, June maintenance and repairs to footpath steps | £172.00 |
| - Norris & Gardiner, Cricket Green cutting, May | £308.92 |
| - Jane Woolley (for Ollie Cane), repairs to seats, Cricket Green | £ 34.00 |

4. PLANNING

Planning applications

WA13/0735 – 9 Nutbourne Cottages, extensions

WA13/0856 and 0888 – Hambledon Nursery School, outdoor classroom and replacement windows

Confirmed the Planning Committee's decision not to object.

WA13/0943 – 8 Nutbourne Cottages, extensions

Agreed that the application itself appeared reasonable but noted the construction of a new driveway, security gates and a substantial shed (approx. 30 x 15 ft and not included on the drawings accompanying the application); queried whether these were appropriate ancillaries for a purely residential development; and **agreed** that they should be brought to Waverley's attention with the suggestion that a condition be imposed restricting the property to residential use.

Upper Tuesley Farm

Noted that the outline planning application had been approved and that the only improvement to the original proposal was the inclusion of a modest bus service. Expressed the hope that this would be integrated into the design of the estate at the detailed planning stage and that there would be scope for its enhancement at a later stage. Noted that Barratts had been appointed to develop the site; that the S.106 and 278 conditions were to be finalized within the next two months; and that development on site was unlikely to commence for another six months.

Noted that the Chairman had prepared a note on lessons learned from the handling of the development and **agreed** that this should be sent to Cllr. Cable for comment and advice as to its possible circulation within Waverley.

Permitted development

Noted the Farnham Society's initiative to seek improvements to legislation on this topic.

Waverley Core Strategy

Noted the reservations and alternative ways forward expressed by the Inspector and that these were currently under consideration by Waverley Councillors.

5. VILLAGE MATTERS

Police

Noted one threat and one actual incident of criminal damage during June, a renewed increase of shed and garage break-ins and the execution of two drugs warrants in Milford.

Highways

Noted that the application to the SCC Local Committee in Waverley to fund drains and ditch work by Colin Rapley would be considered on 5 July; that his actual programme of work would be finalised in the light of allocated funds; and that work would probably be delayed

until the autumn when growth had died back and land would be available for dumping of spoil from ditches.

Hambledon Hurst grass

Noted that this had been cut on 24 June and that the next cut was planned for early July. Noted the advice which Mike Parry had received from CABI (the Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International) about ways of maintaining the area, ranging from manicured lawn to wild flower meadow; noted that wild flower meadows required cutting or grazing during the autumn/winter, leaving the area to lie fallow during the spring/early summer and mowing and removing cut grass only when the seeds had set. Noted that few if any wild flowers (including orchids), insects or butterflies of any consequence currently colonized the area and that its future maintenance as a wild flower meadow, perhaps with some strategically mown paths, might be the best way forward; and noted that clearing up cut grass was essential to any successful maintenance.

6. VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Almshouses

Noted that Mike Whittal had produced drawings needed for applying for building regulations to start work on the empty property and that structural engineers had been instructed to proceed with the installation of steel beams in the roof.

Agreed that Peter Spall and Mike Parry would ascertain whether a grant had been received from the Hall Hunter Partnership and, if not, pursue with Harry Hall.

Nursery School

Noted that enrolments were picking up but that some staff rationalisation might still be required.

Village Hall

Noted that the second door had been repaired; that problems with the cesspit had probably been caused by excessively wet weather but that the situation was being monitored; that a replacement fridge had been donated; and that a fish and chip fund-raising quiz night would be held on 23 November.

Village Shop

Noted that the AGM had been held on 28 June, that takings remained flat-lined and that the Chairman would in future e-mail a monthly newsletter to all volunteers.

Oakhurst Cottage

Noted that a recent structural survey had identified damp and decay around the dormer windows and that essential repairs, including to the roof, would be carried out in September subject to the necessary funds being secured; that Guildford Museum would be taking back the items from the Gertrude Jekyll collection which had been on loan to Oakhurst since it opened, on account of conditions there falling short of those required by Museum Accreditation Status; that visitor numbers were down on the same period last year due to the return to pre-booked tours only; that the existing complement of volunteers was insufficient to cope with free-flow; and that there would be a further report to the Parish Council after the cottage closed at the end of October.

7 OUTSIDE MEETINGS

Waverley Joint Meetings with Town/Parish Councils

Noted that the next meeting would now be held on 30 July and that the Clerk would attend in the Chairman's absence on holiday.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Millgate Homes

Noted the previously circulated exchange of letters between the Chairman of Millgate Homes, Graeme Simpson, and the Clerk on the subject of the grant to the Almshouses which Millgate had confirmed would be paid; and **agreed** that it would be helpful to know when it might be received.

Alleged Public Right of Way, Coleman's Copse

Noted the confirmation sent in response to a request from SCC that free access to these paths had pertained for many years.

Superfast Broadband in Surrey

Noted information received regarding the dates when properties in Hambledon were likely to have access and that dates for the few post codes omitted from the list had been requested.

Agreed that, when known, the full list should be publicised on the web site and in the Parish Magazine.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Footpath cuts: see minute 10 of the previous meeting.

Bus stops: noted that SCC was still checking their location with the utility companies.

Defibrillators: noted that some villages had these available for 24/7 access by the public and **agreed** to consider further at the next meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 22.00

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 13 August 2013