

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF RIPLEY HELD ON

THURSDAY 25th APRIL 2013 AT ST MARY MAGDALEN CHURCH ROOM AT 19.30 HOURS

Present:

Cllr Jennie Cliff Chairman
Cllr Lisanne Mealing
Cllr Vernon Wood

Cllr Caspar Hancock
Cllr Suzie Powell-Cullingford

Alison Jones Clerk of the Council

16 Members of Public

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Richard Ayears, Cllr Colin Cross, Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker and Richard Tinson

2. WELCOME

Councillor Cliff welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the difference between the Annual Parish Meeting where the parish council listened to the concerns of the parish and the parish council meetings where decisions could be made.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26th APRIL 2012

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Ripley held on 26th April 2012, were received, confirmed and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairman, Councillor Jennie Cliff.

4. CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman Councillor Jennie Cliff presented the annual report of the Parish Council to the meeting. A full copy of the report is attached to these minutes in the minute book.

5. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM PARISHIONERS

Parishioners were invited to ask questions of the Parish Council.

a) John Hartley reported seeing a number of dead rats in the village near Hartley Antiques. It was thought that they were probably dying as the result of being baited. The Borough Council pest control officers would need information regarding a specific infestation in order to attend to it.

b) Ted Strange asked if the condition of the track from the Milk Road to Acacia Villas could be monitored by the parish council on an annual basis and appropriate repairs made.

c) Clare Grimes thanked the parish council for its project to create a wildflower meadow on the Green and asked if a rustic bench in memory of her husband could be placed nearby. Details of the bench would need to be brought to a parish council meeting for approval.

d) Clare Grimes explained that she has been appointed chair of the Trustees for the Village Hall and Paul Bartlett is chair of the Village Hall Development Committee. She thanked the parish council for their letter explaining the financial position and process for applying for a loan.

e) Paul Bartlett explained that the plan was no longer to build a completely new Village Hall but to make the hall safe by building a new brick wall around it, improving the insulation and re-roofing. Quotes were being sought from local quantity surveyors and builders.

f) Clare Grimes explained that funding would be sought from other sources in addition to the parish council and that the potential for extending the building at a later stage would remain.

g) Edna Millis raised her concern about lorries and cyclists using the pavement on Newark Lane. The bollard outside 26 Newark Lane was missing. She had raised the matter with Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker who was looking into the matter.

h) Mrs C. Sage asked if a sign could be erected which flashed at traffic entering the village from the Ockham roundabout at over 30 mph. The parish council had worked with Highways to put in traffic calming measures in 2009-10 when the new village signs were erected. Mobile speed signs are now allowed but must be moved regularly and require training to carry out battery changes. Speedwatch was effective. It has had to stop at present due to lack of volunteers but it could be started up again if someone was able to organise it.

i) John Pemberton asked if the new Localism Bill had given local residents more power. It was explained that a Neighbourhood Plan was a statutory document which gave local residents control over planning decisions but the plan was costly and time consuming to produce and had to fit in with the Borough Council Local Plan and E.U. legislation. The recent housing survey was the first step towards considering whether to undertake a neighbourhood plan.

Cllr Cross had attended a meeting with various Guildford Residents Associations who were trying to influence the draft Borough Council Local Plan and put forward the rural perspective.

j) John Hartley suggested more parking bays to slow traffic coming through the village.

k) Clare Grimes reported that the barrier fencing around the derelict buildings at White Hart Court was no longer secure. The parish clerk will report the situation to A2Dominion.

l) Mr Howard Sage expressed the opinion that there was not a problem with parking in Ripley and that the car park at White Hart Court was never more than half full. This contradicted evidence from a survey of parking in White Hart Court carried out by residents at the time of the planning application for White Hart Court. He regretted that the parish council had objected to his planning application for the change of use of the building housing Sage Antiques to a restaurant on the grounds of lack of parking. He recommended the use of parking tickets from 10 -1 pm to deter commuters from using the Green car parks and the White Hart Court car park and so to free up spaces for residents and visitors to Ripley. Mrs Sage explained some of the history regarding the Car Park at White Hart Court.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm and refreshments were served.

Signed:

Date: