



Ripley Parish Council

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MINUTES OF RIPLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19th JULY 2012 AT 7.30PM AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RIPLEY PARISH CHURCH.

Present: Cllr Jennie Cliff (Chairman)
Cllr Lisanne Mealing
Cllr Caspar Hancock
Cllr Suzie Powell-Cullingford
Cllr Colin Cross

Alison Jones Clerk of the Council

Also present: 9 members of the public Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker PC Karen Page and PS Barwood and 1 member of the press

Apologies: Cllr Richard Ayears Cllr Vernon Wood

55/12 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, members of the public were invited to speak. The following comments were received:

a) a local resident expressed his disappointment at the work carried out in Newark Lane to prepare for the Olympic cycle road races. The resurfacing was done piecemeal and not on the days scheduled so there was no warning of closures.

RESPONSE: The Chairman and members agreed that a letter should be sent to SCC Highways expressing disappointment at the way the work to Newark Lane was carried out.

b) a local resident expressed concern that the pinch point in Newark Lane may not be re-instated. Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker explained that the re-instatement had been assured previously and he had no reason to suppose that this was not still the case.

RESPONSE: The Chairman confirmed that this matter would be raised in the letter to SCC Highways addressing the above complaint.

c) PC Page supplied leaflets regarding the Olympic cycle races and Neighbourhood Watch and gave the crime statistics for the last month. There had been 10 crimes in total: 6 thefts, 3 burglaries and one dog out of control. The Road Enforcement day held on 27th June had been successful and would be repeated. The painting of yellow lines in the village was scheduled to be carried out by Guildford Borough Council in the next 18 months.

RESPONSE: The Chairman asked how the crime figures compared to last year but this information was not available.

d) a resident explained that he was stepping down from organizing Speed Watch after 7 years. The number of volunteers had dwindled so unless someone was prepared to take on the job Speed Watch will cease.

RESPONSE: The Chairman thanked the resident for his hard work over the years in organizing Speed Watch which had been effective in slowing traffic.

e) the Shed Youth Club leader gave the members copies of a petition carried out by the Youth Club through Ripley Grapevine asking whether the installation of a skate park on Ripley Green would be supported. 68 supported the petition, 1 was against.

RESPONSE: The Chairman thanked the Shed Youth Club for organizing the petition.

f) 3 residents enquired about the Olympic Torch Relay coming to Shere and Guildford on 20th July. PC Page and PS Barwood were able to advise as to how best to view the torch relay.

56/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from Councillor Vernon Wood and Councillor Richard Ayears were received and accepted.

57/12 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillor Jennie Cliff declared a personal interest in the Allotments (Clerks report): Cllr Cliff's husband is an allotment holder.

Councillor Caspar Hancock declared a personal interest in the Allotments (Clerks report): Cllr Hancock is an allotment holder.

Councillor Colin Cross declared a personal interest in Item 13 The Green and Item 14 Parking on the Green: Cllr Cross lives in a house on the Green.

58/12 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21st JUNE 2012

The minutes of the annual parish council meeting held on Thursday 21st June were received, confirmed and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairman, Councillor Jennie Cliff.

59/12 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

The meeting received an oral report from the Clerk, (copy attached to record minutes), which included:

- Allotments – now all taken
- Access for residents only signs – to be installed shortly
- Ragwort and Nesting birds signs - put up on the Green
- Grant Aid Application for the burial ground extension submitted
- Horse riders on the Green – no progress
- Localisation of Council Tax support – may affect the precept calculation
- Joint communities meeting 9th July
- Newsletter
- Replacement cradle swing installed

It was **RESOLVED: That the report by the Parish Clerk be noted.**

60/12 CORRESPONDENCE

a) a letter dated 2nd July 2012 from Surrey County Council Traffic Management and Parking Team regarding the proposed imposition of a 30 mile per hour speed limit on the entire length of Papercourt Lane and an extension of the existing 30 mile limit on Tannery Lane. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was RESOLVED: That a letter of support for the proposed speed limit be sent to SCC Traffic Management and Parking Team together with suggestions for a 30 mile per hour limit on Polesden Lane and a review of traffic speed in Ripley village centre.

b) a letter dated 11th July from a resident reporting problems with the footway alongside the first house in Newark Lane about 100 yards south east of Dunsborough Lodge (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was RESOLVED: That Surrey County Council be informed of the problems on the footway along Newark Lane.

61/12 NEW ETHICAL STANDARDS REGIME

Members received and considered a new code of conduct and register of interests as recommended by Guildford Borough Council in accordance with the Localism Act 2011. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was RESOLVED: That the new code of conduct and register of interest as drafted by Guildford Borough Council be adopted by Ripley Parish Council.

62/12 CHARITY ACCOUNTS

The accounts for Smith's Charity were not available to the parish council.

It was RESOLVED: That the accounts from Smiths Charity be requested by Cllr Cross for the September meeting

63/12 PLANNING GROUP

Members received and considered the minutes from the planning meeting held 9th July 2012. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was RESOLVED: That the minutes of the planning group held on 9th July 2012 be noted;

64/12 JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Members received a report from the parish clerk on the distribution of souvenir mugs to children aged 11 and under in the parish. Approximately 235 mugs had been distributed free. 76 mugs had been sold raising £394 towards the cost of the mugs (£616 plus VAT).

It was RESOLVED: That the report on the distribution of the Jubilee mugs be noted.

65/12 OLYMPIC CYCLE ROAD RACES

The parish clerk showed a sample permit to be given to those applying to park on the Green during the weekend of the Olympic road races. Permit holder only signs will be placed on the posts where the barrier is to be opened to allow parking on the Green behind the houses on Newark Lane.

The Farmers Market signs will be used to direct visitors to the overflow car park by Dunsborough. Signs will be displayed to show that this car park will be closed overnight.

Cllr Wood will mount the Olympic plaque on the Millennium Sign at a convenient time before the race weekend.

It was RESOLVED: That

a) the permits to allow parking on the Green behind the house on Newark Lane over the weekend of the Olympic Cycle road races be noted;

b) the arrangements for the fixing of the Olympic plaque to the Millennium Sign be noted.

66/12 STREET LIGHT CHANGES

Cllr Cross shared a recent communication from Skanska regarding the proposed changes to street lights in the village. It is unclear as to whether the 6 special lampposts in the centre of the village will be completely replaced or refurbished as it is dependent on their age. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was RESOLVED: That a letter be written to Skanska asking for clarification as to whether the 6 special lamps in the High Street will be replaced or refurbished and for information regarding the light in Rose Lane which was replaced previously with the wrong type of streetlamp for the Conservation Area.

67/12 PLAYGROUND

Members received and considered a report from the parish clerk on the annual playground inspection report from Rospa. The overall risk rating for the playground, ball court and cycle track is MEDIUM. The medium risk item is the wear to the laminate at the base of several ramps on the cycle track. This should be attended to as resources allow. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was RESOLVED: That the annual report on the playground be noted.

68/12 ENVIRONMENT GROUP – THE GREEN

The parish clerk reported that a couple of complaints had been received regarding the grass cutting on the Green. This was due to the excessive rain which caused the grass to keep growing and also reduced the time available to cut it.

It was RESOLVED: That the complaints regarding the grass cutting be noted.

69/12 PARKING ON THE GREEN

Members discussed the effect of the current parking restrictions on the pattern of parking on the Green. The parking area on the left as you enter the Green from Ellwood Gallery now has up to 8 vehicles parking opposite the residents cars. In previous discussions with Surrey County Council several areas each with a small number of cars parking had been suggested. No further input from Surrey County Council had taken place recently.

It was RESOLVED: That

- a) details of the previous discussions with Surrey County Council be circulated to all members;**
- b) a blank map of the Green be provided to all members in order to assist them in considering possible parking areas for a long term solution to parking on the Green.**

70/12 LAND ADJOINING THE BURIAL GROUND

Members considered a report on the informal meeting to discuss the project to extend the parish council burial ground and provide a nature reserve following the postponement of the meeting on 11th June. Guildford Borough Council had advised that pre-application advice was obtained at a cost of £82.50 regarding the change of use and conservation area approval. The new burial area could be accessed from one of the existing paths in the closed churchyard. The condition of the land does not affect the timing of any consecration by the Bishop. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was RESOLVED: That

- a) the project to extend the burial ground be carried out before any landscaping of the remainder of the land, due to the urgent need;**
- b) pre-application advice be sought for the planning application and conservation consent for the change of use to a burial ground;**
- c) the submission of a grant aid application for the cost of clearing the site (£12,000) be noted.**

71/12 BURIAL GROUND

Members discussed the shortage of burial spaces remaining in the parish council burial ground and the concession made to the relatives of the Crane family to allow the purchase of 2 deeds of grant for the exclusive right of burial at a 50% discount on the out of parish rate in recognition of the service given to Ripley. This discount does not extend to any further purchases of burial rights by the Crane family.

It was RESOLVED: That

- a) the concession to the Crane family regarding the purchase of 2 deeds of grant for the exclusive right of burial at a 50% discount on the out of parish rate be approved;**
- b) no more pre-purchase of the exclusive right of burial be accepted until the new extension is open;**
- c) no purchase of a deed of grant for the exclusive right of burial to persons living outside the parish be granted without the approval of 4 parish Councillors.**

72/12 SURVEY OF HOUSING NEEDS

Members received and considered a report by the Parish Clerk on a meeting held on Wednesday 11th July with Surrey Community Action to discuss how to organise a survey of housing need in the parish. This information will provide evidence for the development of a Neighbourhood Plan. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the parish council proceeds with a survey of housing need in the parish with the support of Surrey Community Action at a cost of £450.50 approximately. The questionnaires would be distributed in March with the Spring newsletter.**

73/12 QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT

Members received and considered a report from the parish clerk comparing income and expenditure for the first quarter of the financial year to 30th June 2012 with the budget allocations. (Copy attached to record minutes). 50% of budgeted income had been received and 33% of the expenditure budget had been spent.

It was **RESOLVED: That the quarterly budget report be noted.**

74/12 SECTION 137 EXPENDITURE

Members considered a request from Victim Support for a donation towards their work in Surrey supporting victims of crime in either the community or at court. Under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 the donation must be of benefit to the parish and in proportion to that benefit. The maximum allowed is £6.80 per elector for the year to 31/03/13.

It was **RESOLVED: That a donation of £50 be sent to Victim support.**

75/12 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Members received and noted a summary of receipts and payments circulated with the agenda for the period from 1st June to 30th June 2012. (Copy attached to the record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the summary of receipts and payments tabled at the meeting for the period from 1st June to 30th June 2012 be received and noted.**

76/12 SCHEDULE OF CHEQUES FOR APPROVAL

The following cheques were presented by the Parish Clerk for authorisation and signing:

Cheque number	Payee details	Gross £	VAT
100924	A. Jones June salary		
100925	Fred Cutler Ltd – printer ink	159.60	26.60
100926	Ripley Village Hall June & July rent	535.50	
100927	Pollarding of limes and dead wood from Acers	800.00	
100928	Playsafe Playgrounds Ltd – replacement swing	211.20	35.20
100929	Playsafety Ltd	93.60	15.60
100930	Guildford Signs – signs for the Green	100.80	16.80
100931	June- July maintenance	559.49	

Accordingly the above cheques for payment were approved and signed.

77/12 ITEMS TO NOTE FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Parking on the Green – discuss possible parking areas. Offer of new allotment land. Bowling Club

76/12 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was **RESOLVED: That members of the public and press be excluded from the meeting at Part 2, Item 24 of the agenda Transfer of access track at West End Cottages and Item 25 Staff Appraisal. See confidential minutes C03/12 and C04/12**

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Date:

Chairman