



Ripley Parish Council

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MINUTES OF RIPLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17th OCTOBER 2013 AT 7.30PM AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RIPLEY PARISH CHURCH.

Present: Cllr Jennie Cliff (Chairman)
Cllr Suzie Powell-Cullingford
Cllr Colin Cross
Cllr Caspar Hancock
Cllr Vernon Wood
Cllr Richard Ayears

Alison Jones Clerk of the Council

Also present: Katie Brennan (Surrey Superfast Broadband) PC Karen Page and PCSO Lisa Clarke
5 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr Lianne Mealing and Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker

102/13 SUPERFAST BROADBAND PRESENTATION

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, Katie Brennan from the Surrey Superfast Broadband team gave a presentation on the Surrey County Council project to provide the fibre based infrastructure for Superfast Broadband to rural parts of Surrey. New green boxes are being put in the vicinity of the old green boxes to house the fibre optic cables. The boxes are larger as they require power to provide cooling to the new cables. Ripley will be able to access the fibre network by the end of 2013. It will be necessary to contact an internet service provider in order to receive the faster service. It is neither free nor automatic.

The Chairman thanked Katie Brennan for her time.

103/13 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, members of the public were invited to speak.

a) Peter Wadham, Commodore at Papercourt Sailing Club, thanked the parish council for their recent success in obtaining a grant from Sport England. Ripley Bowling Club had also been successful. He asked for a further letter of support to assist their grant application to SCC Community Improvement Fund to finish off the project to improve the launch area of the lake. Further grant applications were being made to enable various trees to be attended to.

RESPONSE: The Chairman thanked Mr Wadham for this information regarding the works at Papercourt Sailing Club.

b) PCSO Clarke gave the crime figures for the last month. There had been 1 distraction burglary and 1 attempted burglary. It was noted that White Hart Court car park is frequently full because of the workmen's vehicles. The Police will contact the Borough Council planners.
Cllr Ayears asked why Lovelace Ward has high crime statistics. The numbers were augmented by the number of crimes occurring at the A3 service stations. PC Page will try to find a breakdown of the figures.
A new officer PC Ed Lines will be helping the Neighbourhood Team.

REPNSE: THE Chairman thanked PC Page and PCSO Clarke for their report.

104/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies from Councillor Mealing were received and accepted.

105/13 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillor Colin Cross declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 16 The Green: Cllr Cross owns a property adjacent to the Green.

Councillor Hancock declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 22 Allotments: Cllr Hancock is an allotment holder.

Councillor Jennie Cliff declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 22 Allotments: Cllr Cliff's husband is an allotment holder.

106/13 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2013

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on Thursday 12th September 2013 were received, confirmed and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairman, Councillor Jennie Cliff.

107/13 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Cliff reported that she had attended the Surrey ALC AGM and conference with Cllr Mealing on Tuesday 15th October. There was little of good cheer to report because of the financial pressures on the delivering services at every level. The closing message was that parish councils should show themselves to be active and successful in order to attract new people to stand in the 2015 elections.

108/13 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

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

- Surrey Cycling Strategy Consultation. Closes 1st November 2013
- Borough Liaison meeting held on 20th September at Millmead including salt supply
- Wisley Environmental Audit meeting held on 25th September at Wisley Pavilion
- Rural Exception site
- Councillor Training Sat 23rd November at Chichester 9.30-16.00hrs
- Enquiry regarding availability of grants for local athletes
- New Traffic Management Permit scheme to control road works
- New local community website for Surrey called streetlife.com
- Maintenance of raised beds at junction of the High Street
- Wedding marquee on the Green

It was **RESOLVED: That the report by the parish clerk be noted.**

109/13 CORRESPONDENCE

a) a letter dated 5th September from Victim Support requesting monetary support. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That a donation of £50 be made to Victim Support.**

b) a letter dated 10th September from Sir Paul Beresford MP responding to our letter concerning the unsavoury activities occurring on Wisley Common. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the response from Sir Paul Beresford concerning the unsavoury activities on Wisley Common be noted.**

c) an e-mail dated 7th October from SCC councillor Helyn Clack responding to the parish council feedback regarding the Ride London Cycle Race held on 4th August 2013. (Copy attached to record minutes)

It was **RESOLVED: That the acknowledgement of the problems experienced in Ripley during the Ride London cycle race be noted.**

110/13 BUDGET REPORT

Members received and considered a report from the parish clerk on the current budget for the 6 months to September 2013 (copy attached to record minutes). 88.5% of budgeted income has been received but only 40% of budgeted expenditure has been spent to date.

111/13 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Members received and noted the schedule of accounts received and paid for the period from 1st September to 30th September 2013 and the total receipts and payments to date. Both were circulated with the agenda. (Copies attached to the record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the schedule of accounts received and paid for the period from 1st September to 30th September 2013 and the total receipts and payments to date be noted.**

112/13 SCHEDULE OF CHEQUES FOR APPROVAL

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

Cheque number	Payee details	Gross £	VAT
101089	A. Jones September salary		
101090	HMRC Tax and NI July to September	700.51	
101091	Rapid Print Raffle tickets x 60000	122.00	20.33
101092	Christmas Fair Temporary Event Notice	21.00	
101093	Andy Skilton Engineers – diesel drum	194.25	9.25
101094	SurreyALC Clerks Networking Day	60.00	10.00
101095	Shaw and Sons Ltd – burial receipt book	23.82	3.97
101096	PC Specialist – External hard drive	67.00	
101097	Countryside Contracts Ltd	192.00	32.00
101098	Rialtos Business Solutions – accounts maintenance	128.40	21.40
101099	Fast hosts – website hosting renewal	32.87	5.48
101100	Surrey County Playing fields Association	10.00	
101101	September/ October maintenance	618.90	

Accordingly the above cheques for payment were approved and signed.

113/13 WHITE HART COURT CAR PARK LEASE

Members considered the final draft of the lease for the car park at White Hart Court but were concerned that it should not be signed until various details such as the height of the height barrier and provision of a disabled bay had been dealt with.

Members noted that the Borough Council had arranged for the trees along the boundary with Rose Lane to be trimmed back and that the large oak tree was not considered to pose a risk.

Members noted that the access road to the car park will be closed on 31st October and 1st November to allow work to be carried out on the water main.

It was **RESOLVED: That**

- a) the car park at White Hart Court be inspected by Cllr Ayears and Cllr Hancock and the Borough Council be informed of any issues;**
- b) the final draft of the lease be approved for signature by 2 councillors in the presence of the Clerk once all issues identified by Cllrs Ayears and Hancock have been dealt with;**
- c) the work to the trees on the boundary with Rose Lane be noted.**

114/13 REMEMBRANCE DAY WREATH

Members considered the provision of a wreath to be laid at the war memorial as an act of remembrance. The Royal British Legion can provide a wreath in return for a donation. The Chairman Lianne Mealing is available to lay the wreath at the war memorial at 11.00am on 11th November during the short service organised by Ripley Primary School.

It was **RESOLVED: That a donation of £30 be made to the British Legion for the supply of a poppy wreath.**

115/13 JOINT COMMUNITIES – LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

Members considered the advantages and disadvantages of the joint bid for funds to carry out minor works on the along the Highways which Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker is making on behalf of the 6 parishes in Lovelace. The scheme enables the parish council to arrange for small tasks to be carried out quickly but there is uncertainty as to who would be responsible for these tasks in future years. The council did not agree whether to take part in the scheme or not.

The following suggestions were made for work which could be funded by the scheme:

- Cutting back of epicormic growth at the base of lime trees in the High Street
- Clearance of the footpath on Portsmouth Road by Hurst Farm
- Clearance of the footpath along Newark Lane from Homewood Farm to the car park
- Clearance of the ditch running behind West End Cottages

It was **RESOLVED: That**

a) the above projects be discussed by Cllr Powell-Cullingford with Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker to determine whether they would be considered suitable for the scheme;

b) the decision whether to take part in the scheme be deferred to another meeting.

116/13 VILLAGE HALL DEVELOPMENT

The report by Cllr Mealing on the plans for the redevelopment of the village hall was not available but as a member of the Village Hall Development Committee was present a discussion ensued regarding the future plans for the Hall. The Development Committee was considering 3 options including selling part of the land for housing. It was aware of the concerns of the parish council that the project had completely changed and hoped to hold a meeting with the parish council in the near future. Councillors urged that there be fresh consultation with the parish about the plans.

It was **RESOLVED: That**

a) the documentation regarding the parish council decision in 2009 to take out a loan of £250,000 from the Public Works Loan Board to support the village hall redevelopment project be circulated to members;

b) details of possible dates for a meeting with the Village Hall Development Committee be circulated by the parish clerk.

117/13 PLANNING GROUP AND LOCAL PLAN

Members received and considered the minutes from the planning meeting held on Monday 16th September and Monday 7th October 2013. (Copies attached to record minutes).

Cllr Cliff thanked Cllr Ayears and the clerk for the first draft of a response to the Local Plan questionnaire.

Members considered how to raise awareness of the Local Plan in the parish. A leaflet with tick box answers is available from the Borough Council and could be delivered with the newsletter to every home.

Ockham Parish Council had invited neighbouring parish councils to join with them in providing a joint response to the Local Plan in particular with relation to the former Wisley Airfield.

It was **RESOLVED: That**

- a) the minutes of the planning committee held on Monday 16th September and Monday 7th October 2013 be noted;
- b) a newsletter together with a leaflet from the Borough Council be delivered to every home in the parish by the end of October;
- c) the invitation to join with Ockham Parish Council to produce a joint response to the Local Plan be accepted.

118/13 ENVIRONMENT GROUP – THE GREEN

Members received and considered a report from the parish clerk (copy attached to record minutes) on various on-going matters.

There has been some attempt to take down the dens which were put up in the summer under the trees on the right at the end of the Milk Road. Cllr Hancock agreed to monitor the site.

The dog fouling survey had not been received but the situation on the Green seems to have improved. The parish clerk had found a supplier of a dog bag dispenser with cheaper replacement bags at £22.90 per 800. The dispenser would be placed opposite the playground car park at the corner of the football pitch

There was nothing in the bye-laws of the Green to prevent a fish and chip van from trading on the Green provided it had permission from the council.

The planned tree work on the Avenue and near Bridgend will take place from 25th to 28th November once conservation area approval has been obtained.

The Ripley Bonfire Committee has offered to make a donation towards the cost of the mowing of the Dunsborough boundary.

Members received and considered an oral report by Cllr Hancock on the proposed work party on 10th November to plant the hedge whips obtained free of charge from the Woodland Trust. The hedge whips are Blackthorn, Dog Rose, Elder, Hazel and Crab Apple and will be placed for 80 to 100m along the boundary at the edge of the mown area. The parish council gave a vote of thanks to Yvonne Spencer for organising the hedging whips.

Cllr Wood explained that if 2 or 3 people with rakes could clear dead material from the existing Dunsborough hedge on Sunday 3rd November, it could be taken to the bonfire site and burnt as part of the clear up after the bonfire celebrations.

It was **RESOLVED: That**

- a) the builders of the dens be encouraged to dismantle them for the winter and remove all litter;
- b) the purchase of a dispenser of bags to clear up dog mess from JRB Enterprises at £79 plus VAT for the dispenser and £22.90 for 800 bags be approved;
- c) the possibility of allowing a fish and chip van to trade on the Green be noted;
- d) the dates for the planned tree work on the Green be noted;
- e) the report on the work to the Dunsborough boundary be noted.

119/13 PLAYGROUND

Members received a quote for various for the repair or removal of the 4 way ramp and bridge on the cycle track. The laminate ramps are in need of repair on these elements.

It was **RESOLVED: That the quotes be carefully considered at the next parish council meeting.**

120/13 SKATE PARK

Members noted that contact had been made with Lightmain Company Ltd which installed the facility at Puttenham with a view to arranging a site meeting to discuss the feasibility of a skate boarding facility on the Green. No meeting had yet been set up.

It was **RESOLVED: That the attempt to arrange a site meeting to discuss the feasibility of a skate boarding facility be noted.**

121/13 CHRISTMAS FAIR AND CHRISTMAS CARDS

Members received and considered the minutes of the Christmas Fair meeting held on Tuesday 15th September at 6.00pm at MDM House. (Copy attached to record minutes).

Members noted that 2000 of the Christmas Cards printed last year were available to sell if members agreed to the costs of envelopes and wrapping into bundles of 10.

It was **RESOLVED: That**

- a) the minutes of the Christmas Fair meeting held on Monday 9th September 2013 be noted**
- b) arrangements be made for the remaining Christmas Cards to be made ready for sale.**

122/13 BURIAL GROUND EXTENSION

Members received and considered a report from the parish clerk on the informal site meeting held on Monday 14th October to assess the best way to progress the project now that the Environment Agency has declared that full burials are not possible. The following work was identified as needing to be done in order to create an area which can be open to the public:

Phase1: Clear the land removing tree stumps, eradicate ground elder and roughly level

Phase 2: Sow with grass seed and plant hedge whips to the west and south boundaries of the burial ground extension

The drainage of the area together with the rest of the West End land will be assessed at a meeting with a contractor on 28th October.

It was **RESOLVED: That 3 quotes be obtained for the clearing and planting of the land once the drainage expert has given his opinion.**

123/13 WEST END DRAINAGE

The parish clerk had not yet been able to find a company to work on the ditch behind West End Cottages to date but this will form part of the discussion with the drainage contractor at the site meeting on 28th October.

It was **RESOLVED: That the site meeting with a contractor on 28th October to discuss drainage issues be noted.**

124/13 ALLOTMENTS

Members received an oral report from the parish clerk. 16 pallets had been taken to the allotment site for the construction of compost bins by members of the Bonfire Committee.

The clerk reported that there had been a request for nettles on the boundaries to be cut back.

It was **RESOLVED: That**

- a) the donation of the pallets to make compost bins be noted;**
- b) the request to cut back nettles be reconsidered in the spring.**

125/13 ITEMS TO NOTE FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

None

126/13 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 25 of the agenda Access track at West End Cottages and 26 Employment Policies and Contract. See confidential minute CO05/13**

There was no progress to report on the proposed transfer of the access track to the newly purchased parish council land to WEC Access Ltd.

Cllr Mealing was not present to give a presentation on the proposed changes to the Clerk's contract.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm.

Date:

Chairman