



Ripley Parish Council

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MINUTES of RIPLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on THURSDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2015 at 1930HRS at THE CHURCH ROOM, RIPLEY PARISH CHURCH.

Present: Cllr Caspar Hancock (Chairperson)
Cllr Colin Cross
Cllr Suzie Powell-Cullingford
Cllr Vernon Wood
Jim Morris, Clerk of the Council

Apologies: Cllr Richard Ayears
Cllr Jennie Cliff
Cllr Lisanne Mealing

Also present: 10 members of the public

152/14 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

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

a) The Vice-Commodore of the Sailing Club thanked the Parish Council for its letter supporting their recent funding application, which had been unsuccessful. Works had been carried out to areas around the club and were still ongoing. A Surrey Schools Regatta was planned for 14th March.

RESPONSE: The Chairperson thanked the Vice-Commodore for the information.

b) A local resident entered the meeting to provide an update on Cllr Cliff's progress on her return from a day-trip to France. Heavy traffic on the M25 had been experienced.

RESPONSE: The Chairperson thanked the local resident for the progress report.

c) A local resident raised concerns over the ownership and cost of land now earmarked for Burial Ground extension and Nature Reserve. There were further concerns over groundwater in the area.

RESPONSE: Councillors noted recent works carried out to clear undergrowth in the area and allayed concerns over the cost of the land.

d) Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker queried having been apparently left off Parish Council agenda email distribution. Cllr Barker also congratulated Lovelace Ward Borough Councillor Cross on his recent performance at the Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Planning Committee Meeting.

RESPONSE: The Clerk expressed surprise and concern that Cllr Barker had not received Parish Council agendas by email and asked for confirmation of a correct email address. Cllr Cross thanked Cllr Barker for his support.

e) In the absence of Police representation, the Chairperson delivered a report from the PCSO on local crime.

RESPONSE: The crime report, delivered by the Chairperson, was noted. The Clerk had contacted the PCSO following the previous meeting to enquire why there had not been representation from the Police at recent Parish Council meetings. The reason for this absence was due to changing shift patterns.

153/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from Cllrs Ayears and Mealing were received and accepted. Cllr Cliff intended to join the meeting as soon as possible on her return from a day-trip to France.

154/14 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cllr Cross declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 14 'The Green': Cllr Cross has a dwelling on the Green.

Cllr Hancock declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 15 'Village Hall': Cllr Hancock represents the Parish Council on the Village Hall Development Committee and represents the Shed Youth Club on the Village Hall board of Trustees.

Cllr Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 15 'Village Hall': Cllr Wood represents the Bonfire Committee on the Village Hall board of Trustees.

155/14 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15th JANUARY 2014

The minutes were received, confirmed and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairperson, Councillor Caspar Hancock.

156/14 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The meeting received a report from the Parish Council Chairperson, including the recent Rotarian's dinner at The Talbot PH. Cllrs Cliff and Hancock had attended to give a short presentation to the Rotary Club on behalf of the Parish Council. The Rotarians meet weekly on Tuesdays at 8pm and are always seeking new members.

157/14 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

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

- 21st January
- Bus shelter
- SLCC Regional Conference
- Hungry Hill Explorers

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

158/14 CORRESPONDENCE

i) An email dated 15th January 2015 from a local resident concerning over-width traffic on Newark Lane. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email correspondence from a local resident be noted.**

ii) An email dated 23rd January 2015 from Guildford Borough Council (GBC) detailing their consultation on Community Infrastructure levy. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That Parish Council response to GBC's consultation be considered.**

iii) An email dated 30th January 2015 from GBC detailing the Government's Local Growth Fund. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email from GBC be noted.**

iv) An email dated 4th February 2015 from GBC regarding the Mayor's Award for Service to the Community. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the Parish Council nominates three local residents for the award.**

v) An email dated 7th February 2015 from GBC regarding Parish Council representation at the Parish Council Reception on 18th March. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the Parish Council is unable to send representation on this occasion**

vi) An email dated 9th February 2015 from GBC regarding their governance review consultation (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email detailing GBC's Governance Review be noted.**

vii) Email correspondence dated 9th February 2015 between a local resident and Surrey County Council's Rights of Way Department. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email correspondence be noted. 'The Horsleys' Councillor Bill Barker was asked about progress with the storm-damaged bridge, which had been unusable for over a year. It was a low priority for Surrey County Council.**

viii) An email dated 9th February 2015 from an allotment holder requesting to erect a polytunnel on their plot (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the request for a polytunnel be approved in this instance. The allotment plot holder will be asked to keep the polytunnel in good condition. A further request from an allotment holder, which arrived after the publication of the agenda, but before the Parish Council meeting, requesting approval for erecting an over-size shed, was refused.**

ix) An email dated 12th February 2015 from a local resident detailing a recent accident on Newark Lane. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email from a local resident be noted.**

159/14 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS and CHEQUES FOR APPROVAL

Members received and noted the schedule of accounts received and paid for the period from 1st to 31st January 2015, totaling £47,736.08, and the total receipts and payments to date. Both were circulated with the agenda (Copies attached to the record minutes). Cheques were presented by the Parish Clerk for authorisation and signing.

It was **RESOLVED: That the schedule of accounts received and paid for the period from 1st to 31st January 2015, totaling £47,736.08, and the total receipts and payments to date be noted. Cheques presented by the Parish Clerk were authorised and signed.**

Cllr Cliff joined the meeting at 2015hrs.

160/14 SPEED LIMIT

Members received and considered a request from a local resident regarding Parish Council support for lowering the speed limit on Newark Lane to 30mph.

It was **RESOLVED: That the Parish Council understood the need for traffic calming in the area around Newark Close. It was suggested that the local resident seek signatures for a petition on the matter, to present to Surrey County Council (SCC).**

161/14 NATURE RESERVE

Members considered appointing a Parish Council Working Group to focus on development of the Parish Council Nature Reserve, made up of Parish Councillors and members of the public or stakeholders with special expertise or interest.

Members considered appointing a Project Manager for the Nature Reserve site (preliminary sketch attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

a) A Nature Reserve Working Group be appointed, made up of Cllrs Cliff, Hancock, Powell-Cullingford, and Wood, and members of the public.

b) A Nature Reserve Project Manager be appointed, subject to s.106 funding.

162/14 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Members considered a report from Cllrs Cross and Hancock on Ripley Neighbourhood Plan and Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan and the recent meetings associated with both. It had been agreed that three people from each Parish of Ripley, Ockham, and Wisley would form the Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan Committee. The Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan had received a vote of confidence from GBC. Wisley were due to have a Parish Meeting on March 1st and were expected to begin formulating their Neighbourhood Plan. Ockham were being given time to respond to planning application 15/P/00012 before catching up with their Neighbourhood Plan. Ripley Neighbourhood Plan Group were to commence work on the Ripley Neighbourhood Plan while the other Parishes caught up. The Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan was expected to take a year or more to complete.

Members considered the role of the Parish Clerk in the Ripley Neighbourhood Plan Group.

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

a) The report from Cllrs Cross and Hancock be noted.

b) The Parish Clerk meets with the Ripley Neighbourhood Plan Group to discuss any role may involve, and report back to full Council.

163/14 WHITE HART COURT

Members received and considered the redrafted lease for White Hart Court Car Park. Two copies of the amended lease had been provided by GBC to be executed and returned. It was found that GBC had not carried out sufficient remedial work to ensure over height vehicles were not able to enter the car park by driving over the verges.

It was **RESOLVED: That the signing of the lease be deferred until remedial work had been carried out to the car park boundaries.**

164/14 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members received and considered the minutes of the Planning Group held on Mondays 5th and 26th January 2015 (copies attached to record minutes). The recent Parish Council response to GBC's proposed changes to the way in which Parish Councils were to receive planning applications was discussed.

It was **RESOLVED: That**

- a) The minutes of the Planning Group held on 5th and 26th January 2015 be noted.
- b) The Parish Council's response to GBC's proposed changes to the way in which Parish Councils received planning applications was noted.

165/14 SKATERAMPS

Members considered a report from the Parish Clerk on recent findings regarding the provision of skateramps. Information regarding skateramps had come to light at the recent SLCC Regional Conference. Cllrs Hancock and Powell-Cullingford had visited Puttenham skatepark and had found it to be tucked away and very well used. It was **RESOLVED: That the Clerk arranges a meeting with a skateramp provider to receive a free estimate, with Cllrs Cliff, Hancock, and Powell-Cullingford to attend if possible.**

166/14 ENVIRONMENT – THE GREEN

Members received and considered a report from the Parish Clerk on various on-going matters including:

- Ryde Cottage and refurbishment of the general area
- Posts / posts & rails

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

- a) The on-going refurbishment of the area in front of Ryde Cottage be progressed.
- b) A report from Cllr Cross regarding the recent damage to posts & rails near his dwelling be noted. A neighbour of Cllr Cross had damaged the posts & rails when an accident involving new shoes and a slippery clutch pedal occurred. The resident had offered to replace the damaged posts and rails at their own cost.

Cllr Wood noted the requirement for new padlocks to be purchased for the two new gates on The Green and a further padlock to replace a broken one. The purchase of three new padlocks was approved.

Cllr Cliff noted a recent informal conversation with a building contractor regarding the development of properties on The Green. The contractor had been told to contact the Clerk with any queries.

Cllr Hancock noted a recent encounter with people removing wood from The Fuzzies. The requirement for adequate insurance when using power tools on The Green was noted.

167/14 VILLAGE HALL

Members considered a report from Cllr Hancock on various matters to do with the Village Hall and its redevelopment. Quotes around £1.3m had been received from contractors, and it was estimated that sale of the land adjacent to the Village Hall would raise £900,000. Other quotes were in the pipeline. Members considered the quantitative evidence resulting from the recent survey of Cllrs' views on Village Hall redevelopment (copy attached to record minutes). Cllrs raised issues concerning various aspects of the Village Hall, including: potential problems with development of the land due to existing dwellings at Lovelace Court, a previous village referendum only attracted a 16% turnout, and that the Village Hall makes enough profit to just pay for itself and any repairs.

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

- a) Advice from SSALC be sought as to procedures involved in borrowing from the Public Works Loans Board.
- b) £600,000 would be offered to Village Hall redevelopment, funded by the Public Works Loans Board, in turn funded by Parish Precept. Any significant rise in Precept would have to be approved by electors.
- c) Options on any consultation with the Parish would be carefully worded.
- d) The Parish Council would not pursue the use of the land as a potential Rural Exception site at this time.
- e) Negotiations would be sought as to whether any profit from a redeveloped Village Hall could be used to keep the Parish Precept down.
- f) The Parish Council would appreciate being kept abreast of Village Hall design decisions.

168/14 FLOOD FORUM

Members received a report from the Parish Clerk on developments with the proposed Flood Forum, in conjunction with Send Parish Council. The Clerk reported that a meeting with Ms. Fowler of SCC was scheduled for the following week at Send Parish Office. It was asked that the issue of the storm-damaged footbridge be raised at the meeting.

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

169/14 ITEMS TO NOTE FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The storm-damaged footbridge and Nature Reserve were suggested.

170/14 DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

An Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council was scheduled to take place on Tuesday 17th March, at the Church Room.

The meeting closed at 2200hrs.

Date:

Chairperson