

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 12th May 2014**, at 8pm in the Hamilton Room

Present: Councillors Wilson, Hardy, Taylor, Higgins, Stow, Savill. PCSO Ivor Williams and PCSO Dave Sadler were present for part of the meeting as were three members of the public.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN

(1) Councillor Wilson proposed and Councillor Higgins seconded the election of Councillor Hardy as Chairman. This was agreed unanimously and she duly signed the Acceptance of Office form.

(2) Councillor Savill proposed and Councillor Hardy seconded the election of Councillor Wilson as Vice Chairman. This was also agreed unanimously and the Acceptance of Office form was signed.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(3) Apologies were received from John Foreman, the Footpath Officer; PC Dominic Loraine; District Councillor Potter and County Councillor Clack.

3. ELECTION OF GROUPS

(4) Membership of groups and other responsibilities for 2013/14 were agreed as follows:

- Finance Group - Councillors Wilson, Taylor, Savill and the Clerk (RFO)
- FABB/Children's Holiday Activities Group - Councillors Hardy and Higgins
- Betchworth and Buckland Society - Councillors Hardy and Stow would share the Parish Council's representation
- Betchworth United Charities – Jean Hurman would continue to represent the Parish Council.
- Village Memorial Hall Committee – Councillors Savill and Wilson would share the Council's representation
- John Foreman would continue as Footpath Officer

(5) It was agreed that Councillors would be invited to take on special responsibilities: highways; planning etc. It was agreed that this would be deferred until a new Councillor is on board.

4. MINUTES of PREVIOUS MEETING

(6) The minutes of the meeting held on April 7th, 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(7) None

6. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT

(8) PCSO Ivor Williams introduced PCSO Dave Sadler, a new member of their team.

(9) In the period April 14th to May 12th one crime was reported in Betchworth, the theft of a dog from the kennels. It is believed to have been a targeted theft and the crime is under investigation.

(10) PCSO Ivor Williams also reported that there had been a house burglary in Buckland, close to the Betchworth boundary, during this period.

7. OPEN FORUM

(11) A member of the public updated the council on the Barley Mow Storage Yard. He has been advised that Mole Valley District Council is to issue a formal breach of operating hours. He reported that the yard is often operating on Saturday afternoons and on Sundays, both of which are prohibited, and that there is a permanent lighting nuisance, exacerbated by the reflective weatherproof surround. It was agreed to write to the operating company requesting that they change the weatherproof surround to a dark, non-reflective material or remove it. **Action: Clerk**

8. TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

(12) No Footpath Officer's Report available. It was noted that the Footpath Officer has repaired the bus shelter opposite the post office. The Chairman suggested that a volunteer was needed to adopt the shelter.

(13) It was agreed that Councillor Wilson and the Footpath Officer would research a more sturdy sign for Parr's Corner.

Action: Councillor Wilson, Footpath Officer

(14) Bus Shelter by A25. The quote of £2350 for a complete new roof was felt to be too high. It was agreed to get other quotes, possibly considering alternative roofing – feather boarding. **Action: Councillor Wilson**

(15) School Parking. Councillor Stow to arrange a meeting with County Councillor Clack and Lady Hamilton to agree the best way forward. The outcome of this meeting is to be made known to the Walled Garden Residents prior to their meeting on June 16th. **Action: Councillor Stow**

(16) School Hedge. It was noted that the next cut will be after nesting and the contractors are to be given (by school administrator) instructions about the 'creep' across the path.

9. PLANNING

New Applications and Appeals (5)

(17) MO/2014/0336/PLAH

Waters Edge, The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DJ

Erection of two storey rear extension following demolition of existing rear extension and erection of single storey front extension. NO COMMENT

(18) MO/2014/0510/PLAH

1 Hurst Cottages, Roothill Lane, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AS

Conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation. It was agreed to request a planning condition be set withdrawing future rights for the erection of an additional garage. **Action: Clerk, letter**

(19) MO/2014/0491/LBC & MO/2014/0545/ADV

The Dolphin Inn (PH), The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DW

Erection of 1 No. externally illuminated fascia sign and 1 No. externally illuminated hanging sign and other non-illuminated signage. It was agreed that the new signage should not exceed the existing in terms of size and of number and that any additional lighting/light pollution is unacceptable.

Action: Clerk, letter

(20) MO/2014/0569/PLAH

Fraser Wood, Boxhill Road, Boxhill, Tadworth, Surrey, KT20 7PF

Erection of pool house over existing swimming pool and link building to main dwelling. Concerns were raised over additional light pollution.

Action: Clerk, letter

(21) MO/2014/0612/PLAH

Brettenham Barn, Gadbrook Road, Betchworth, Surrey

Erection of oak framed detached garage. It was felt that because the proposed garage is isolated from the main building on the boundary of the property this development would compromise the openness of the green belt and as such should be opposed.

Action: Clerk, letter

Results

(22) MO/2014/0067

74, Middle Street, Brockham, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7HW

Erection of two storey side and single storey rear extension

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

1. External materials to match existing. 2. Restriction on garages - parking provision 3. Obscure glazing/fixed shut

(23) MO/2014/0062

Broome Cottage, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DQ

Variation of Condition 3 of planning permission MO/2007/1208 to allow development in accordance with drawing number P250/PL/VS01 to vary visibility splay to site entrance

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

visibility zones in accordance with the approved plan, P250/PL/VS01, all to be permanently maintained and the visibility zones shall be kept permanently clear of any obstruction.

(24) MO/2012/0537

Willow Grange, The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DJ

Change of use of office space to ancillary residential accommodation for Willow Grange. Erection of 1 No. dwelling and integral garage with associated parking, access and landscaping

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

Sustainability; Landscaping; Ground Levels; Restrictions on extensions of dwellings; restrictions on garages

(25) MO/2013/0806

The Bungalow, Kiln Lane, Brockham, Surrey, RH3 7LZ

Outline application for the consideration of access and associated parking in respect of the erection of 34 dwellings (including 15 affordable dwellings).

APPEAL DISMISSED

(26) MO/2014/0343

Highridge, Brockhamhurst Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AP

Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for an Existing Use in respect of occupation of dwelling house without restriction to occupation of the property by a person engaged in Agriculture

APPROVED

Other Matters

(27) Fox Hollow (opposite post office). The legality of the newly constructed car port was questioned. It was agreed to check the MVDC planning database for a planning application. Should there be no appropriate application Planning Enforcement Officer to be contacted. **Action: Clerk**

(28) Gatwick Airport: Council voted to support the request from Capel Parish Council for a joint response. **Action: Clerk**

10. AMENITIES

(29) Allotment 'rubbish dump'. Matter in hand with Councillor Taylor.

Action: Councillor Taylor

(30) Burial Ground. The wall is being repaired and the 'dumped' ivy has mostly been removed. Councillor Stow to contact the Walled Garden Residents Group to check on progress.

Action: Councillor Stow

(31) Burial Ground fencing. It was agreed that hedging would prove too costly in terms of regular maintenance. Councillor Wilson to arrange a site visit with Ken Webb.

Action: Councillor Wilson

(32) Burial Ground. The missing Women's Institute plaque had been found. Councillor Wilson to replace the plaque stake with a more substantial post.

Action: Councillor Wilson

(33) Burial Ground Jubilee Pavilion. Councillor Wilson to contact John Chalker and John Foreman to agree a way forward for this project. It was agreed that the base (floor) of the pavilion should be a finished surface rather than poured concrete.

Action: Councillor Wilson

(34) Goulburn Green Flagpole. It was acknowledged that whilst there were more APM attendees in favour of a flagpole than those against one, there was a great demand for a children's play area. It was agreed that a play facility would define this area as a village green as effectively as a flagpole. Flagpole project put on hold.

(35) Goulburn Green Play Facility. Councillor Stow was tasked with the investigation of the feasibility of a play area on the Green. Clerk to provide Councillor Stow with an appropriate contact at MVDC.

Action: Clerk, Councillor Stow

(36) War Memorial. The Church maintains the area around the War Memorial, support from community service is not required.

(37) Burial Ground. An additional inscription 'Frederick John Woods 17.2.15 – 13.4.14' on the Betty Katherine Woods memorial was approved.

Action: Clerk, letter

11. LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

(38) Betchworth & Buckland Society meeting on Thursday 15th May.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

(39) Website. Councillor Wilson volunteered to manage the content of the website and to aggregate changes/additions into a monthly update pack for the clerk to process. Councillor Stow to continue to liaise with businesses.

Action: Councillor Wilson

13. FINANCE

(40) Annual audit. The clerk reported that the internal audit is complete. It was agreed the annual return and associated matters would be completed at the June meeting.

(41) The Monthly Financial Summary had been circulated prior to the meeting, no queries were raised.

(42) Clerk tabled the renewal papers for the Council's insurance. Came & Co had quoted an annual premium of £526.75, or £500.41 for this year if a three year commitment was entered into. Agreed to pay the premium of £526.75.

(43) The following accounts were approved for payment and cheques duly signed:

1.	Jacque Sims (Clerks salary & expenses)	£	394.40
2.	John Foreman – scalpings for BG kissing gate	£	12.00
3.	John Foreman – APM refreshments	£	25.60
4.	Hamilton Room – April & May meetings	£	35.00
5.	GACC subscription	£	10.00
6.	Surrey Estate Management – grounds maintenance	£	507.00
7.	The Broker Network – Insurance Premium	£	526.75

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(44) Dorking Rural Highways Forum – Thursday morning of 15th May. Councillor Wilson volunteered to organise refreshments.

15. FUTURE MEETING DATES

(45) Next Parish Council Meetings – **Mondays June 2nd and July 7th**

(46) The Chairman closed the meeting at 10:09pm