

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 5th March 2018**, at 8pm in the Hamilton Room.

Present: Cllrs Hardy (Chair) Wilson (Vice Chairman), Winter, Rogers, Savill, and Clerk (Marion Hallett). John Foreman, Footpaths Officer also attended for part of the meeting along with District Councillor Paul Potter and three members of public (also for part of the meeting).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

(401) Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Higgins, and County Councillor Helyn Clack. Burial Groundkeeper Bernard Hawkins also sent his apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

(402) One declaration of interest was received from Councillor Wilson regarding planning application MO/2018/0268 as the applicant's plot adjoins Councillor Wilson's land.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

(403) The minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2018 were approved and signed by Councillor Wilson as a true and correct record.

4. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT.

(404) A police report was received and noted by Councillors, noting low levels of recorded crime, thought to be as a result of bad weather.

5. OPEN FORUM.

(405) Two members of public who live in Barleymow Court brought a letter to the attention of Councillors from Moore's Yard, outlining request of an amendment to Condition 13 of existing planning approval and also requesting height of lights and number of lights be amended, as well as an amendment to opening hours. Clerk highlighted that objections had previously been made referencing similar application by Moores and offered to seek clarification from MVDC as to what Condition 13 is for. Councillors confirmed to members of public that Moores is located in Brockham, and that the entrance to the yard is accessed across Betchworth's boundary.

6. TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS.

(406) Footpath's Officer (FO) delivered a verbal report. In summary he confirmed clearance of some signage from A25 roundabout and undertook a localised litterpick of the roundabout area; reported a leak on Sandy Lane and upon inspection suspects that the source of the leak is the Lodge at Hartsfield Manor which has been repaired twice over recent years. Scalpings have been laid around the kissing gate area of the Burial Ground, as well as the bottom of the steps in the village car park. FO also reported a fallen tree on footpath 460 which had caused damage to a style. Councillors asked John to provide exact location so that this can be repaired. Play equipment was checked on the 10th and 23rd February and 2nd March and remains in good working order.

(407) Clerk awaiting response from MVDC regarding the undertaking of official annual inspection of play equipment.

(408) Councillors commented on vehicular damage to Betchworth Bridge which was repaired swiftly by SCC.

(409) The Estate farmer confirmed he will cut back shrubbery on the car park bank (between the Churchyard and car park).

(410) Councillor Hardy raised a query she had received from a member of public regarding a footpath thought to exist between Gadbrook Road and Strood Green. Following discussion and map analysis it was noted that despite a 'Public Footpath' sign on display, the footpath is a permissive route only, and likely not a public right of way. Councillor Hardy asked FO to investigate further, with the assistance of the Surrey Interactive Map.

(411) Councillor Wilson provided an update and a reminder of the background on the present situation with regards the departure Route 4 from Gatwick Airport, in summary as follows: Before 2014 aircraft from Gatwick on Route 4 flew close to the centre line of the NPR and well within its swath, although some drift north had been noted. The implementation of Performance Navigation in 2014 had a significant impact on Betchworth Parishioners living under, or close to, the redesigned departure Routes 3 and 4 from Gatwick which resulted in route 4 aircraft flying outside the NPR. This move north of the flightpaths caused a huge public outcry and two summers of significantly increased noise for many communities. The CAA conducted a Post Implementation Review (PIR). The result of this was that in 2016 the Route 4 flight paths moved back within the NPR and close to its centreline resulting in less flight traffic over Betchworth once again.

However, a relatively new action group "Plane Justice", challenged the 2016 CAA decision making process through a successful judicial review. The CAA 2016 decision was quashed. It is not known what Gatwick airport and the CAA will do next however the action group Plane Wrong set up by residents in September 2014 are monitoring in order to avoid reverting to the 2014/15 situation.

7. PLANNING.

New Applications & Appeals (1)

MO/2018/0237/PLAH

The Walnut, Leigh Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AW

Erection of single storey rear extension, enlarged front porch and alterations to fenestration.

NO COMMENT

Late Applications (2)

MO/2018/0268/PLA (Metropolitan Green Belt)

The Hay Barn - Former Stables, Wonham Lane, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AD

Erection of 1 No. dwelling following removal of existing outbuildings.

NO COMMENT

MO/2018/0317 (Metropolitan Green Belt)

Snower Hill House, Snowerhill Road, Betchworth RH3 7AG Erection of 8 No. dwellings and 1 No. barn following demolition of existing house and outbuildings.

NO COMMENT

Appeals (0)

Results (2)

MO/2016/1479

Unit B, Buffer Depot, Station Road, Betchworth RH3 7BZ

Retrospective application for change of use of outside area to storage (B8) for recycling materials awaiting collection; wood pallets awaiting collection or in process of being shredded. Install 4 No. storage containers in yard to store inbound goods at peak times.

REFUSED – REQUEST ALL STORAGE AND RACKING IS REMOVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MVDC DECISION

MO/2017/2254

Laurel Bank, Gadbrook Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AN
Erection of ground floor side extension.

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

Appeal Decisions (0)

Other Matters

(412) Evergreens, Reigate Road – Councillors requested a letter be sent to MVDC to ensure that current conditions relating to the number of static homes at this plot are observed and adhered to.

8. AMENITIES.

(413) Clerk reported that Dave Elliott had agreed to remove the fallen tree in the far left corner of the Burial Ground.

(414) Following notice of a rate increase by BIFFA, it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would terminate its scheduled collection contract for the Burial Ground bin. Clerk to notify BIFFA and cancel Bank DD. Councillors agreed that a polite notice requesting to 'take rubbish home' would be an appropriate in place of the bin, and suggested that a sentence is included in correspondence associated with grave spaces to notify visitors to the Burial Ground to do the same.

9. COMMUNITY.

(415) Cllr Hardy volunteered to attend a meeting regarding extra funds available hosted by County Councillor Helyn Clack, currently scheduled for 16th/23rd March.

(416) Councillor Hardy volunteered to attend the Buckland Parish Council meeting.

(417) one member of public arrived.

(418) No representatives available to attend Leigh Parish Council meeting

(419) Following reported sightings of rats near the Walled Garden end of the School Path, it was agreed that Clerk would write to the School and Nursery to request that no food is consumed around the wooded area at the beginning of the path. Estate farmer (member of public) who attended the meeting was in agreement that poison should not be used.

(420) Following reports of antisocial behaviour near the Goulburn Green sheds it was acknowledged that PC Dave Sadler would monitor the area more closely. It was also suggested to display 'Private Property' notices.

(421) Presentation slot at forthcoming Annual Parish Meeting was discussed with Martin Clipperton, Estate Farmer (in attendance). Footpaths Officer John Foreman agreed to provide refreshments.

(422) A current 'Local Council Advisory Service' Consultation was noted and Councillors were invited to respond.

10. COMMUNICATIONS, IT.

(423) Councillor Winter provided a brief verbal report on progress and invited Councillors to declare any data currently held or stored privately. It was unanimously agreed that the engagement of an external Data Protection Officer for approx. £150 per annum is most viable option for Betchworth Parish Council. Clerk to circulate checklist document for Councillors.

(424) Councillor Edwards confirmed progress meeting with Web developers is currently scheduled for the 17th March (Clerk and Cllr Edwards to attend).

11. CLERK'S REPORT.

(425) Clerk confirmed The Action List was up to date.

(426) District Councillor Paul Potter and two members of public left the meeting.

12. FINANCE.

- (427) Receipts acknowledged for £375 (ERB – Ewbank) and £250, ERB – Wickens
(428) Noted Clerk to submit VAT return in preparation for year-end accounts.
(429) Two Councillors signed Clerk’s remuneration increase by 3% from 1 April 2018
(430) Internal audit currently scheduled for 16th March 2018 with new auditor Mark Mulberry
(431) To note invoices for ongoing Judicial Review (£720.00 + £334.00) approved for payment by MVDC
(432) Installation of Concrete spurs acknowledged at Village Shop notice board and subsequent invoice received.
(433) The financial summary for February 2018 was noted.
(434) Councillors approved the following accounts for Payment:

IB00083	Hamilton Room	£	20.00
IB00084	Marion Hallett phone + stationery	£	54.90
IB00085	SES Water	£	13.71
DD00086	BIFFA	£	41.22
IB00087	John Foreman	£	26.88
IB00088*	Court Clerk Services	£	334.00
IB00089	Marion Hallett	£	861.66
IB00090	Shires Pay Services Ltd	£	24.00
IB00091	HMRC Cumbernauld	£	53.26
IB00092	Bernard Hawkins	£	85.00
IB00093	Ken Webb	£	186.00

**to be reimbursed by MVDC*

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- (435) District Councillor Paul Potter confirmed that he will not stand for re-election as District Councillor in May 2018.
(436) Councillor Hardy attended the Dementia Awareness Evening (26th Feb) and reported that it was a well structured evening and well attended.

14. FUTURE MEETING DATES.

- (437) Next Parish Council Meetings – and 3rd April 2018 and 8th May 2018
(438) 26th February – Dementia Awareness Evening – Reading Rm
(439) 28th February – SCC footpaths/countryside training – (postponed)
(440) 1st March – SALC Annual Spring Conference – Haslemere – RS (postponed)
(441) 16th March – Internal Audit (tbc)
(442) 19th March – Buckland Annual Parish Meeting
(443) 22nd March – Leigh Annual Parish Meeting
(444) 28th March – Clerk/MVDC bi-monthly meeting
(445) 6th April – BERT Social evening
(446) 23rd April – Betchworth Annual Parish Meeting
(447) 3rd June – WI Teas on Goulburn Green

Parish Magazine Article for April, deadline Monday 12th March 2018

- (448) Councillor Hardy closed the meeting at 9.52pm.

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