

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 2ND MARCH 2020**, at 8pm in the Hamilton Room.

Present: Cllrs Hardy (Chair), Edwards, Wilson, Rogers, Ferrett, Higgins and Clerk.
Footpaths Officer and District Councillors Simon Budd and Paul Potter attended part of the meeting, as well as one member of public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

(326) Apologies were received from Councillor Winter.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

(327) Declarations of interest were received from Councillor Hardy relating to Planning item MO/2020/0278 Bovey Cottage (neighbour)

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

(328) The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2020 were and signed by Councillor Hardy as a true and correct record.

4. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT.

(329) A Police report was received for the month and shared with those present.

5. OPEN FORUM.

(330) The member of public introduced himself. Following publication of the revised Draft Future Mole Valley Plan and Consultation of 7 weeks commencing 3rd February 2020, Councillors continued discussions relating to Sites SA07 (Bumblebee Cottage/The Firs) and SA08 (land at Evergreens) in order to agree a response to the Future Mole Valley Consultation from The Parish Council. Regarding SA07 Councillors discussed size and number of houses, agreeing that preference would be to see sustainable, smaller houses suitable for new families or down-sizers (x3 beds max), not large 4+bed executive homes on the land. Opinions differed regarding the amendment to the Parish Boundary, however it was recognised that this amendment is necessary to enable the land's development. Councillors agreed that the current proposal of access from The Street was unsuitable and that the possibility of access from Reigate Road should be explored as a safer option. Councillors expressed concern for the number of mature trees on the land and requested that these be preserved. Regarding Site SA08 Councillors unanimously expressed strong views that this plot is an unsuitable traveller/gypsy site and should not be considered further, due to the historical permission and conditions in place. The site is AGLV and in greenbelt land, and the current proposal indicates that its greenbelt status would be removed completely which Councillors object to. Councillors were reminded that the current permission is a personal one, and as such the land should be returned to greenbelt once the current occupier has no further use for it. The site has previously been refused planning as a traveller site and advised against development by Highways and MVDC due to its unsuitable location. Councillors discussed Site 18-BR-008 (SA14, The Bungalow at Kiln Lane, Brockham), as approval for this proposal would adversely impact Betchworth residents due to an increase in traffic volume and the raised topography promoting a prominently raised development visible for miles around. Clerk to draft the Parish Council response to the Consultation and circulate to Cllrs Higgins and Hardy for comments.

(331) 9.02pm: one member of public left.

6. TRANSPORT HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS.

(332) The Footpaths Officer provided a brief verbal report for activities carried out in February 2020. In summary: Litterpicks continue, FO will display laminated signs for village

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litterpick /village tidy on 21st March and will take possession of new equipment; gloves (new addition), hoops for sacks and childrens' pickers. Clerk to circulate flyer again. Playground equipment checked on 12th, 20th and 27th February and remains fit for use.

(333) In Councillor Winter's absence, Councillor Wilson gave a brief update on Gatwick Route 4 Airspace correspondence with DfT and all acknowledged the correspondence efforts of Councillor Winter with gratitude. It was also noted that the third runway at Heathrow Airport has been thrown into doubt following a court ruling, after the Court of Appeal said the expansion was unlawful because it did not take government climate commitments into account. The government said it would not appeal, however Heathrow said it would challenge the decision through the courts.

(334) Councillor Hardy stated GACC are proactively engaging with the community again.

(335) Councillor Hardy and District Councillor Budd commented on the excess water bubbling from a drain at the bottom of Station Road and that the pathway is currently impassable despite the road closure and works carried out further up Station Road in February. Clerk to notify SES Water of ongoing problem.

7. PLANNING.

New Applications & Appeals (6)

MO/2020/0120

13, Tranquil Dale, Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7EE

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension.

NO COMMENT

MO/2020/0203

Crossways Farm, Station Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DF

Erection of roof-lights, solar panels and changes to windows and doors.

NO COMMENT

MO/2020/0275

5 The Quarry, Betchworth, Surrey RH3 7BY

Erection of two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and conversion of existing roof space to habitable accommodation with rear facing dormer window.

COMMENT: NO OBJECTION BUT UNCLEAR OF TOP REAR DORMER ELEVATION

MO/2020/0278

Bovey Cottage, Station Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DF

Demolition of existing pool house and erection of single storey annexe to Bovey Cottage.

COMMENT: OBJECT; MISLEADING DESCRIPTION, LARGER FOOTPRINT

MO/2020/0312

Field adjacent to Great Brockhamhurst Farmhouse, Brockhamhurst Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AR

Erection of a tractor shed for maintenance of field following removal of existing shed and provision of occasional access.

NO COMMENT

MO/2020/0310

Great Brockhamhurst Farmhouse, Brockhamhurst Road, Betchworth, RH3 7AR

Erection of an orangery on the south east elevation of the existing house and internalisation of porch space on north-east elevation to create new boot room.

NO COMMENT

Appeals (1)

MO/2019/1361 - APP/C3620/W/19/3242588

Holly Cottage, Wellhouse Lane, Brockham, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7HH

Erection of detached double garage with workshop and equipment store.

COMMENT: AS PER PREVIOUS COMMENTS

Late Applications (0)

Results (7)

MO/2019/1527

Crossways Farm, Station Road, Betchworth, Surrey Rh3 7DF

Erection of an extension to existing outbuilding and conversion of the outbuilding from a store to an animal hydrotherapy facility, relocation of existing office building.

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

MO/2019/1915

Sycamore Cottage, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey Rh3 7DR

Erection of first floor rear extension with 3 No. roof lights and new porch.

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

MO/2019/2237

1, Oakley Gardens, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AZ

Conversion of loft space above garage to habitable accommodation to include 2 No. roof lights to front roof elevation and insertion of door and external staircase to side.

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

MO/2019/2250

Little Danes, The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DJ

Conversion of garage to habitable space.

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

MO/2019/2266

The Firs, The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DJ

Discharge of conditions 8, 10, 12, 14, 15 and 16 of approved planning permission MO/2019/0868/PLA for demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 3 No. detached dwellings with double garages, provision of associated landscaping and use of existing access.

CONDITIONS APPROVED

MO/2020/0318

The Firs, The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DJ

Discharge of condition 3 of approved planning permission MO/2019/0868 for the demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 3 No. detached dwellings with double garages, provision of associated landscaping and use of existing access.

CONDITIONS APPROVED

MO/2020/0126

The Firs, The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DJ

Discharge of conditions 9 and 11 of approved planning permission MO/2019/0868 for the demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 3 No. detached dwellings with double garages, provision of associated landscaping and use of existing access.

CONDITIONS APPROVED

Late Results (0)

Other Matters

(336) Councillors discussed the static homes which have appeared at Crossways Kennels without prior knowledge/application. Cllr Budd to speak with owners to ensure correct planning procedures are followed.

8. AMENITIES.

(337) Councillors approved the Luff memorial request.

9. COMMUNITY.

(338) Councillor Budd explained a proposal from BERT requiring Betchworth's support, to dig two water-retention ponds at the opposite corners of Wellhouse Lane to enable better drainage. Councillors agreed to support the request understanding that there is no practical requirement from Betchworth Parish Council.

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(339) Councillors discussed the potential impact of plans for expansion of Reigate platforms, additional parking and changes to road layouts. Councillors did not think Betchworth would be adversely impacted and agreed that any response to this open Consultation would be made on an individual basis (deadline 6 April 2020).

10. COMMUNICATIONS/IT.

11. CLERK'S REPORT.

(340) The Clerk informed Councillors of an extremely high water bill received in error, for £2971.75 for meter 13175679, stating the meter read 0002655. The actual reading for this was 0000189. Clerk to follow up with SES Water.

(341) Clerk confirmed she submitted her pension redeclaration form on 28 February 2020.

(342) Clerk requested approval for re-engagement of Shires to facilitate Payroll requirements on behalf of The Parish Council which was duly granted.

12. FINANCE.

(343) A Burialground receipt of £275 was Noted.

(344) The Financial Summary spreadsheet was presented, and acknowledged by Councillors, noting spending is likely to increase at year end due to the recommencement of grounds maintenance.

(345) The following amounts were approved for payment in March 2020 and signed & countersigned by Councillors Rogers and Wilson.

IB00237	M Hallett (Feb 2020) Salary, phone, expenses	£	828.94
IB00238	HMRC Cumbernauld (Feb 2020)	£	27.98
IB00239	Hamilton Room (Feb '2020)	£	20.00
IB00240	Surrey Archive Centre	£	90.00
IB00241	BV War Memorial Hall (APM)	£	29.00
IB00242	Dave Elliott General Gardening	£	225.00

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

(346) Clerk notified Councillors that interest had been expressed by other Parishes for a Joint Parishes Forum. No date has currently been set.

(347) Councillor Budd alerted Councillors to the deterioration of road surface and verges along Wellhouse Lane due to increased usage. Caution/skid signs have been put in place.

(348) 10.06pm Councillors Budd and Potter left.

(349) 10.07pm Footpaths Officer left.

14. FUTURE MEETING DATES.

(350) Next Parish Council Meetings –6th April 2020, 4th May 2020

6 th Mar	-	MVDC Chairman's Civic Dinner – Cllr Winter
10 th Mar	-	Councillors Briefing and Awareness – Cllr Ferrett
17 th Mar	-	NALC Spring Conference, London
18 th Mar	-	Stay Safe at Home – MV Community Safety Day, Dorking Halls
21 st Mar	-	Litterpick and Village Tidy
26 th Mar	-	Leigh APM – No attendees from BPC
26 th Mar	-	Farewell drinks for Debbie and Alan
31 st Mar	-	Betchworth Annual Parish Meeting
24 th Apr	-	Betchworth Charity Quiz Night

Parish Magazine Article for March 2020, deadline Monday 16th March 2020 : Link to Redhill Aerodrome Complaints, keep dogs under control.

(351) Councillor Hardy closed the meeting at 10.16pm

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