

**BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **7 JUNE 2021**,  
Commencing at 8.00pm int Betchworth Village Hall, Station Road, Betchworth.

Present: Cllrs Hardy (Chair), Rogers, Higgins, Edwards, Randall and Clerk (Marion Hallett),  
Councillor Wilson, County Councillor Helyn Clack, and District Councillor Budd attended part of  
the meeting, as well as three members of public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

(42) Councillor Hardy welcomed all attendees to the first 'in person' meeting since COVID lockdown restrictions.

(43) Apologies were received from District Councillor Potter and Cllr Winter.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

(44) No declarations were received.

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

(45) The minutes of the meeting held on 4th May 2021 were approved and signed by Councillor Hardy as a true and correct record.

**4. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT**

(46) The police report with incidents for May 2021 was displayed; Councillors acknowledged improved detail on the report including locations of incidents.

**5. OPEN FORUM.**

(47) Councillor Hardy welcomed a representative from 'Re-Betchworth', who addressed the Council regarding climate change issues and how the Parish Council could provide assistance and support initiatives at its local community level to mitigate the effect of Climate Change. Councillors acknowledged a request by the member of public for the Parish Council to follow the District and County Council initiatives to officially 'Declare a Climate Emergency'. Clerk offered to work with representative in order to discuss suitable areas to assist and raise community awareness which are compatible with the remit of the Parish Council (possible areas including changing travel behaviour; cycle, public transport and avoid air travel, EV charge points, 'Greenjump' survey/how our community powers it homes). Councillors to discuss at next meeting.

(48) Councillor Higgins suggested BPC could offer funding for an energy efficiency survey for the Village Hall. Cllr Wilson confirmed the committee are currently exploring alternative energy options and plan to review energy efficiency at the hall in the near future. Cllr Clack confirmed Local and Government grants are also available for projects of this nature. Cllr Wilson to discuss with Village Hall Committee.

**6. TRANSPORT HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS.**

(49) No report received from Footpaths Officer Cllr Winter however Councillor Hardy reported a complaint received from a Brockham resident regarding the footpath from Wheeler's Lane to Chimney pots walk which has become overgrown. Cllr Hardy offered to investigate with a pair of clippers.

(50) Following reports of large tyres dumped near the footpath between Barleymow and A25 Clerk to request that the Joint Enforcement Team investigates potential contaminated waste.

(51) Cllr Randall provided a written and verbal update on progress with Highways updating on speed monitoring on A25, Old Reigate Road and Snowerhill, and new/improved road control and roundels at entry to 30mph zone ('SLOW'

ACTION

ALL

Cllr Wilson

Cllr Hardy

Clerk

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markings and improved signage), and informed Councillors that a meeting will take place towards the end of the month to allocate suitable village gateway locations. Cllr Wilson commented that Pebble Hill should not be overlooked as a gateway site (suggesting area near Dawcombe Wood) however Clerk reminded those present that due to its difficult layout (fast moving traffic along treelined banks and no verge), positioning a gateway sign which could be maintained without incurring traffic management costs would be difficult and priority should be given to gateways on the A25 and Snowerhill. Cllr Randall also confirmed go-ahead from SCC for speed surveys along Old Reigate Road (to be deferred until road fully open), Snower Hill and Wellhouse Lane and clarified this exercise is necessary in order to collect up to date data of traffic flow in the area. Councillors unanimously approved expenditure to facilitate this; the amount being approx. £1,080 total.

Cllr Randall/  
Clerk

(52) Councillors discussed the dangerous wall at The Street following an unofficial pavement closure in May which has since been re-opened. Building contractor has acknowledged the wall is in need of demolition and to be rebuilt (see planning new application MO/2021/0089/1).

Clerk

(53) Cllr Clack informed those present of an upcoming consultation from National Highways which would see M25 Jct 8-9 night-time closure diversion routes re-directed through Reigate & Dorking along the A25, instead of the current diversion through Epsom and Ewell. It was acknowledged this would have an adverse impact on current poor infrastructure; Cllr Clack to circulate consultation when it arrives.

Cllr Clack

(54) Cllr Hardy requested The Street be reduced to a 20mph speed limit. Clerk to follow up with Highways.

Clerk

(55) It was acknowledged the gateway sign on Station Road is in need of maintenance and uplift (wash and paint). Councillors agreed a sum of up to £150 be allocated to facilitate this.

(56) Cllr Hardy confirmed Clarion retaining board replacement has progressed and are waiting a date from Highways for traffic management/road closure to be put in place.

(57) Cllr Wilson informed attendees of an upcoming consultation from CAGNE (Communities Against Gatwick Noise Emissions) addressing expansion by changing the Gatwick emergency runway into a full time 2<sup>nd</sup> runway. Cllrs Winter and Wilson to draft appropriate response on behalf of the Council, acknowledging importance for the airport to recover but not in favour of expansion. Cllr Clack added that walking, cycling and public transport are the focus of infrastructure projects at this current time.

Cllrs Winter/  
Wilson

## 7. PLANNING.

### New Applications & Appeals (13)

#### MO/2021/0574

Parrs Corner, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DE

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a two storey rear extension  
NO COMMENT

#### MO/2021/0582

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

Conversion of roof space into habitable accommodation.

NO COMMENT

#### MO/2021/0584

The Evergreens, Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DB

Change of use of land to gypsy caravan site.

(58) Cllr Hardy welcomed the current owner/occupier of Evergreens to the meeting who confirmed he is the individual to whom the current Conditions apply.

Councillor Hardy confirmed that due to the deadline for comments to the application having already passed, the Parish Council had already submitted an Objection to this application to MVDC reiterating the existing conditions and permissions and reminded him that the site is on Greenbelt land with a condition in place for the land to be returned to such. The occupant acknowledged that he had recently placed an additional dwelling unit at the site despite being fully aware that he does not have permission for this unit.

**MO/2021/0520**

Tranquil House, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DR  
Construction of new garage following demolition of existing garage and part demolition of outbuildings.

NO COMMENT

**MO/2021/0538**

Summerhayes, Station Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DF  
Erection of rear single storey extension following demolition of existing and replacement garage.

NO COMMENT

**MO/2021/0547**

Land to the South of Betchworth Village Hall, Station Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DF  
Erection of 1 No. dwelling with associated landscaping, parking and access following demolition of existing barn.

- (59) Councillor Hardy welcomed a member of public who provided an update on the revised application and clarified that the previous application was withdrawn due to the wrong time of year for a bat & wildlife survey. Discrepancy still remains whether the unit for demolition is an 'established agricultural unit'; to date MVDC have declined to provide a written response to their reasoning despite numerous requests, and the Parish Council is still waiting for this. Councillors agreed to submit a further objection to this application, in which the curtilage of the proposed dwelling is also significantly larger than the existing site.

**MO/2021/0655**

Holly Cottage, Wellhouse Lane, Brockham, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7HH  
Removal of window in east elevation, retention of 'lucarne' doors on south elevation and doors on west elevation.

NO COMMENT

**MO/2021/0739**

1, Lazell Gardens, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7BF  
Erection of rear conservatory.

NO COMMENT

**MO/2021/0781/PCL**

The Old Vicarage, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DE  
Certificate of lawfulness for a proposed development in respect of a new window on the ground floor east elevation.

NO COMMENT

**MO/2021/0782/PCL**

Wellwood, Wellhouse Lane, Brockham, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7HH  
Certificate of lawfulness for a proposed development in respect of the erection of a two storey rear extension.

NO COMMENT

**MO/2021/0762**

Meadows Lodge, The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DJ  
Erection of single storey rear extension.

NO COMMENT

**MO/2021/0832**

Highworth, The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DJ  
Construction of new Vehicle Cross Over (VCO) to provide a dedicated access off of  
The Street to Highworth.

NO COMMENT

**MO/2021/0862**

Springfield Cottage, Roothill Lane, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AS  
Erection of single storey side extension.

NO COMMENT

**MO/2021/0089/1**

Minor Non Material Changes

Non-material amendment to allow the construction of a new boundary wall

(60) RESPOND: inadequate application – no provision for wall detail.

**Appeals (0)**

**Late Applications (0)**

**Results (1)**

**MO/2020/2256/CC**

Snower Hill House, Snowerhill Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AG

Variation of condition 2 of approved planning permission MO/2019/1336 for the  
erection of 7 No. dwellings, area of hardstanding, vehicle access, parking and  
landscaping, following removal of existing house, garages, outbuildings and  
hardstanding, to allow Block D, Units 1 and 2 moved eastwards 0.8m and  
southwards 2.3m Block B, Units 5 & 6 Moved eastwards 1.8m and southwards  
0.8m

Block A Unit 7 Moved southwards 1.9m Hammerhead on east boundary  
removed and courtyard squared off. Spacing between units and alterations to  
porches.

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

**Appeal Decisions (0)**

**Late Results (0)**

**Other Matters**

Road Name Discussion: SNN Case 8235 Snower Hill Development

(61) Councillors discussed a suggestion made by Betchworth Estate to name the  
Snowerhill development new road as Goulburn Gardens. Councillors shared the  
opinion that 'Gardens' is often associated with a suburban development and  
would therefore not be appropriate in this rural setting. Clerk to respond to  
MVDC.

(62) 9.34pm Two members of public left

Clerk

**8. AMENITIES.**

(63) Cllr Edwards confirmed she had checked the play equipment regularly  
throughout the month and had sent dates to Clerk (4<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May).

(64) Councillor Wilson to provide samples of recycled eco friendly materials for  
replacement Parish Council noticeboards, as well as exploring options for an  
additional burialground noticeboard to accommodate the Burialground Rules on  
site.

Cllr Wilson/  
Clerk

**9. COMMUNITY AND COMMUNICATIONS**

(65) Councillor Hardy provide a brief update following a meeting earlier in the  
month with Betchworth Estate, who had confirmed they are happy to explore the

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possibility of a footpath from Snowerhill to Betchworth Bridge. BPC/Estate to arrange a time to walk the route and invite Cllr Clack. Councillors were also informed that The Estate are in the process of erecting small boards to educate walkers to remain on footpaths and not spoil the natural edge of fields and open land. Cllr Clack informed those present that the Government has recently re-written the Countryside Code. Clerk to circulate.

Cllrs Hardy/  
Randall/  
Clack/ Clerk

## 9. SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT

(66) Clerk displayed a summary submitted by Cllr Edwards from the May 21 Re-Betchworth meeting which summarising ongoing plans and initiatives in progress. Cllr Edwards outlined plans for Re-Betchworth to have an active presence at the village bbq on 17 July. Cllr Edwards reported a successful cycle ride which was organised to coincide with National Cycle Week.

(67) Councillors approved a request for a grant to cover costs of printing promotional materials for Re-Betchworth.

(68) Councillors once again discussed Village Hall energy survey; the Parish Council agreed to support the Hall should the need arise.

(69) Cllr Clack reminded those present of Your Fund Surrey, which is now live and running for 5 years.

(70) 10.08pm Cllrs Clack Budd and a member of public left the meeting.

## 10. CLERK'S REPORT.

### 11. FINANCE.

(71) Councillors approved renewal of CPRE membership.

(72) Councillors briefly discussed CIL expenditure; Clerk confirmed money could be used for Churches as long as expenditure benefitted the community (e.g. washroom facilities or disabled access). Councillors agreed a footpath to connect Snowerhill with the village would be an appropriate use of funds. Clerk and Cllr Randall to progress with Highways.

(73) The amount of £190 was approved for grant expenditure for Re-Betchworth materials. Payment to cover costs to be made on receipt of invoice.

(74) Clerk reported a clean audit from Mulberry and Co.

(75) Councillor Rogers agreed to assist Clerk with reviewing the Risk Register and assessment which the Clerk had drafted.

(76) Councillors considered and formally adopted the internally audited accounts for y.e. 31 March 2021.

(77) Councillors resolved to approve Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 which was completed and signed by Cllr Hardy (Chair) in the presence of Councillors.

(78) Councillors resolved to approve Section 2 of the Annual Return with associated notes which was duly signed by Councillor Hardy (Chair) in the presence of councillors.

(79) Councillors acknowledged dates or the Exercise of Public Rights commencing on Monday 14 June until Friday 23 July 2021.

(80) Clerk displayed a Finance Summary for consideration by Councillors, acknowledging the burialground income is already higher than expected for the time of year.

(81) The following amounts were approved for payment in June 2021:

IB00336	Marion Hallett – Salary Phone expenses	£	962.64
IB00337	HMRC – NI	£	54.20
IB00338	Josh Flynn Gardening Services	£	560.00
IB00339	Josh Flynn Gardening Services – BG Levelling	£	466.00
IB00340	Ian Wilson	£	11.25

Clerk

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IB00341	CPRE – membership subscription renewal	£	36.00
IB00342	Claire Benn	£	190.45
IB00343	Marion Hallett – Fasthosts Ignite Boost Web Hosting	£	92.40
IB00344	Shires Pay Services	£	39.60
IB00345	Mulberry & Co	£	180.00
IB00346	Betchworth Village Hall Room Hire June 2021	£	53.00

**12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

**13. FUTURE MEETING DATES.**

(81) Councillors agreed not to hold an August meeting but that the Planning Group should convene either in person or via Zoom for any urgent matters requiring attention prior to the meeting scheduled for Sept 6<sup>th</sup> 2021.

(82) Next Parish Council Meetings – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July, Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

a. Clerks Forum: Wednesday 9th June 2021 @ 10.30am

b. Chairman's Forum: Tuesday 29th June 2021 @ 10.30am

**Parish Magazine Article: deadline for May mag: 14th June; house frontage appearance.2021.**

(83) Councillor Hardy closed the meeting at 10.32pm

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