

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2021**, Commencing at 8.00pm int Betchworth Village Hall, Station Road, Betchworth.

Present: Cllrs Hardy (Chair), Winter, Rogers, Edwards, Higgins, Wilson, Randall and Clerks (Marion Hallett, Cheryl Sexton), District Councillors Budd and Potter and two members of public attended part of the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(198) Apologies were received from County Councillor Clack.

(199) With the ability to conduct the meeting with adequate spacing and ventilation, attendees agreed to remove face coverings.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(200) No declarations were received.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(201) The minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2021 were approved and signed by Cllr Hardy. Cllr Winter signed the minutes from the meeting held on 6th September.

4. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT

(202) The police report with incidents for October 2021 was displayed and acknowledged, with no significant items raised.

5. OPEN FORUM

(203) Cllr Hardy welcomed two members of public representing residents from a number of houses along Pebble Hill Road who had experienced severe flooding due to heavy downpours in the weeks prior to the meeting and historically. The representatives described the severity of damage to their properties from the direction of flow and pooling water. They expressed their disappointment from the lack of support from SCC Highways and the need for the drains to be unblocked to cope with any future downpours. They also seek to engage with the local landowner whose fields back on to the gardens where run-off is causing additional flooding and drainage issues. Cllr Wilson advised of a government grant to assist funding for flood prevention and will send details for Clerk to circulate. Clerk to write to SCC Highways to request drain clearance from loose stones and road dressing. The member of public agreed to forward correspondence to Clerk so that the PC can assist in the future.

(204) 8.20pm: two members of public left the meeting

6. TRANSPORT HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

(205) Clerk displayed a picture illustrating the route of a proposed permissive footpath linking the new Snower Hill development to Betchworth village. To enable a better network, the possibility of a connecting footpath from Sunny Cottage and neighbours connecting to existing footpaths & Wellhouse lane was also discussed. Having viewed the map of the suggested route, Clerk to arrange site meeting/walk with Estate and Councillors to discuss options & routes further. It was highlighted that a Public Footpath status rather than Permissive would be preferable to better justify Parish Council expenditure.

(206) Cllr Randall requested an additional speed survey on Old Reigate Road on the approach to the shop. Councillors to re-visit in spring.

ACTION

Cllr Wilson

Clerk

Clerk

DRAFT

(207) Cllr Randall requested a meeting with the Highways police representative. Clerk to facilitate.

(208) Cllr Randall would like to reinstate speedwatch and connect with speedwatch volunteer(s). Clerk to send contact details.

(209) Clerk communicated a request from neighbouring parishes asking if Betchworth could share speed survey results. Councillors agreed Clerk could facilitate this.

(210) Cllr Randall confirmed purchase of gateways for the A25 and Pebble Hill Road are underway.

(211) Cllr Winter confirmed the closing date for the current Gatwick Expansion consultation is 1st December. Cllr Winter to submit a response on behalf of the Parish Council within the next week. Cllr Wilson encouraged each individual councillor to respond, as well as a response to be submitted on behalf of the PC. Clerk to circulate link to Councillors/wider audience.

(212) Cllr Wilson requested Clerk ask Highways for verge cutting schedule noting lack of cutting activity this year.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

Cllr Winter / All

Clerk

7. PLANNING

New Applications & Appeals (1)

MO/2021/1941

The Old Nurseries, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DR
Enlargement and reconstruction of the existing garage.

NO COMMENT

Appeals (0)

Late Applications (0)

Results (2)

MO/2021/1223/PLAH

8, Tranquil Dale, Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7EE
Erection of a single storey rear/front extension, side roof dormer extension following demolition of conservatory and partial demolition of garden store.

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

MO/2021/1614

Coombe Hayes, Pebble Hill Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7BP
Erection of ground, first and second floor extensions.

REFUSED

Appeal Decisions (0)

Late Results (0)

Other Matters

8. AMENITIES

(213) Cllr Edwards confirmed she had checked the play equipment - dates submitted to Clerk.

(214) Councillors approved the Waters additional inscription – Clerk to respond to Sherlocks.

(215) Councillors approved the fee for the Crouch burial (local rate). Cllr Wilson to respond on behalf of Parish Council.

(216) The Clerk displayed images of the burialground Pavilion which is in need of low level maintenance to woodwork. Councillors approved quote provided by a member of the community. Clerk to instruct.

Clerk

Cllr Wilson

Clerk

(217) Councillors were requested to submit ideas for Capital Projects for 2022/23 in preparation for the Budget Group meeting in November. Ideas submitted: Platinum Jubilee Community event, tree planting, replacing top-surface of Goulburn Green footpath. Clerk(s) to include in budget preparation.

Clerk

9. COMMUNITY AND COMMUNICATIONS

(218) Councillors discussed the Ward Consultation response following a briefing meeting attended by Cllrs Winter and Randall earlier in October. Clerk to draft response indicating a preference to remain aligned with Buckland and Brockham, but if the Ward were to be amended, to join with Parishes to the South of the District (Leigh, Newdigate, Capel, for example). Clerk advised Councillors of advantages of alliances to the North of Betchworth, however Councillors considered that there were more areas of shared interest to the South. Deadline 6 December 2021.

Clerk

(219) In an effort to encourage a wider community input from residents, Cllr Hardy suggested the Betchworth Booklet be updated and reintroduced. (also to be added to Capital Projects). Clerk to also circulate the Cllr Hardy's magazine submission for November via email.

Clerk

10. SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT

(220) Cllrs Edwards and Higgins provided a brief update on re-Betchworth activities in the pipeline, including hedgehog feeding stations, a quiz-night and tree-swapping ideas.

(221) Councillors discussed tree planting further with an idea for a 'Jubilee Wood', or a community project for residents to acquire trees purchased by the PC.

(222) 9.35pm two members of public left the meeting.

11. CLERK'S REPORT

(223) Cllr Hardy formally welcomed and introduced Cheryl Sexton as the new Betchworth Clerk and employment contracts (2 copies) were signed.

12. FINANCE

(224) Councillors acknowledged receipts of £180 (Burialground).

(225) Clerk displayed a up to date Finance Summary noting burialground income is low. Clerk/Finance Group to compare burialground budget and forecast with projection as agreed in 2020.

(226) Clerk circulated an additional signature sheet to enable opening of Unity Trust bank account for CIL money safekeeping.

Clerk

(227) The following amounts were approved for payment in November 2021 by Cllrs Winter and Edwards:

IB00379	Marion Hallett – Salary Phone expenses	£	962.64
IB00380	HMRC – NI (Oct)	£	54.20
IB00381	Josh Flynn	£	1283.00
IB00382	Betchworth Village WM Hall	£	53.00
IB00383	Centrewire Ltd	£	5385.60
IB00384	DefibWarehouse	£	250.80

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

14. FUTURE MEETING DATES.

- a. Next Parish Council Meetings - 1st Nov, 6 Dec 2021
- b. The dates for 2022/23 meetings were set as: Jan 10th, Feb 7th, Mar 7th, Apr 4th, May 3rd (Tuesday), June 6th, July 4th, Aug 1st, Sep 5th, Oct 3rd, Nov 7th, Dec 5th . Meetings to continue to be held in the Village Hall unless otherwise agreed.
- c. 14th November – Remembrance Sunday – wreath to be laid by Cllr Rogers
- d. 23rd November – Finance Group Meeting
- e. 25th November – SALC Clerks Forum – Cheryl to attend
- f. 2nd December – Future Communities Conference/NALC – attendees?
- g. 4th June 2022 – Platinum Jubilee and Queen’s Grand Parade - Community

All

Parish Magazine Article: deadline for November mag: 15 November 2021 (MH Farewell – introducing Cheryl Sexton)

Clerk

(228) Councillor Hardy closed the meeting at 9.52pm

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