

**BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the MEETING of the BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL held on MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022, commencing at 8.00pm in the Betchworth Village Hall, Station Road, Betchworth.

Present: Cllrs Hardy (Chair), Winter, Rogers, Higgins, Wilson, Randall and Clerk (Cheryl Sexton), District Councillors Budd and Potter.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

(371) Apologies were received from County Councillor Clack.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

(372) Declaration of interest was received from Councillor Wilson, relating to Agenda Item 12 : A Grant Request from Betchworth Village Archives (married to requestor). The book was signed.

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

(373) The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 were approved and signed by Cllr Hardy.

**4. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT**

(374) The police report with incidents for February 2022 were displayed, discussed and acknowledged, with no significant items raised.

**5. OPEN FORUM**

(375) Cllr Hardy welcomed a member of the public representing Re-Betchworth Group. It was agreed to bring Agenda Item 10 forward to allow representation.

(376) Re-Betchworth provided an update on the success of the Hedgehog Feeding Station workshops and would like to thank Betchworth Parish Council for the timber they provided to allow this to take place.

(377) With reference to previous minute 312, Cllr Wilson has agreed the positioning of the donated trees (5 trees in total, 3 oak and 2 beech) in the Goulburn Green Hedgerow. Betchworth Parish Council would like to thank MOP for volunteering to plant these and will complete a risk assessment with The Clerk.

(378) Clerk to notify Josh Flynn Gardening Services when they are in place to ensure that they are not damaged when the hedge and grass is cut.

(379) Re-Betchworth provided an update on their grant application which will be ready for next meeting to review. In the meantime, it was requested to obtain funding for a survey to ensure that the proposed wood would be suitable for a Forest School initiative. It was agreed as there was no idea on cost, further work should be done and it was suggested to ensure that this is included in overall grant request. District Councillor Budd suggested a contact to provide a quotation for the required survey.

(380) District Councillor Potter enquired if any complaints had been received regarding sewage on corner of Evergreens – it was acknowledged that no such complaints had been received.

(381) MOP left the meeting at 8.20pm

**6. TRANSPORT HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

(382) Cllr Winter provided an update on Footpaths. A productive site meeting was held with the volunteer group to agree how to install the 12 kissing gates. It was discussed that if we just use the volunteer group, this would be a timely exercise as each gate will take appx 3 hours to install so Cllr Winter will be

ACTION

Clerk

Clerk

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looking to call upon volunteers from the village to help reduce the timescales for completion.

(383) A meeting is to be organised with The Betchworth Estate to discuss the timeline and installation plan, it is hoped that this meeting will have taken place by the end of March.

(384) It was unanimously agreed that each kissing gate will have a plaque on with reference made to Betchworth Parish Council.

(385) Council again discussed the maintenance of footpaths and what stones we should purchase to make good. It was agreed that this will be discussed with The Betchworth Estate in a meeting and will allow their expertise and experience to dictate what we need.

(386) The proposed Snowerhill permissive footpath was discussed and agreed that we would like to see a full map of the route which is proposed, this will be added to the agenda with The Betchworth Estate.

(387) Cllr Randall provided an update on Highways. A location drawing for the proposed A25 gateways was received but unfortunately it is not yet in a position to share. SCC are currently revising based on feedback. As agreed when final confirmation is received this will be shared with Buckland following interest and final orders will be made.

(388) It was again noted that there will be a delay in ordering the gateways due to a change in Contractors at Surrey County Council. These will now be ordered at the earliest opportunity in April 2022.

(389) Cllr Randall is still awaiting a quotation from Highways for the speed reduction on Old Reigate Road before recommending way forward.

(390) Cllr Randall updated the council on 20 mph village zones, a committee meeting is due to take place 8 March, District Councillor Paul Potter will make contact to ensure that our views are included. Council would like to thank District Councillor Potter for passing the council's views on and we look forward to hearing an update.

(391) Cllr Randall updated the council following a site visit to Betchworth Bridge with Cllr Hardy. It was discussed that the signage is inadequate and needs updating specifically to indicate single road width and pedestrians. The vegetation also needs to be trimmed on Snowerhill side. It was also noted that the low brick wall has still not been repaired. UPDATE: A notice has been received from SCC notifying us of a 2 week repair programme at The Bridge – it is stated that the following work will be undertaken 'Cleaning, silt and vegetation clearance, making brickwork repairs, renewal of white lining, making improvements to signage and missing marker post replacement on Snowerhill Road, Betchworth.' Clerk to clarify exactly what is being done with the signage and will it be including our recommendations, what vegetation is being cleared and also to gain confirmation that they will be clearing the vegetation to reveal the clappers bridge.

(392) Council discussed the footpath from The Coombe to the station to see what can be done to brighten up this route, this is owned by Highways therefore we are unable to add in any lighting, however it was agreed to pursue with Highways to look at cutting back the trees and potentially painting the path with reflectors. Clerk to speak to Highways.

(393) The broken drain on Station Road by Chalklands was raised as there is concern about the water pools that are being created. This has been previously escalated to SCC and is regularly cleaned by them but this is just a short term solution, Clerk to contact Highways and request a copy of their action plan and timescales.

Cllr Winter

Cllr Winter

Cllr Winter

District  
Councillor  
Paul Potter

Clerk

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(394) Council formally acknowledged and supported response from Cllr Winter on the latest Gatwick consultation (Option 7) and would like to thank him for responding.

(395) Cllr Winter provided an update with regards Gatwick and the latest FASI airspace change proposal. This is part of the comprehensive review of UK airspace which could have wide ranging implications for aircraft noise in our area. It was agreed that Cllr Winter and Cllr Wilson will put together a response for distribution and agreement of council.

Cllr  
Winter/Cllr  
Wilson

## 7. PLANNING

### Ratify comments made outside of meeting (2)

#### MO/2022/0152

2 Burlands Cottages, Roothill Lane, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AS  
Certificate of Lawfulness for the proposed development in respect of the erection of an outbuilding for the incidental enjoyment of the main Dwellinghouse.

**No comment ratified**

#### MO/2022/0154

17, Poland Meadow, Middle Street, Brockham, Betchworth, Surrey RH3 7FG  
Conversion of loft space into habitable accommodation and insertion of 2 No. rooflights in the eastern roof slope.

**No comment ratified**

### New Applications (1)

#### OK2022476 – Goods Vehicle Operators Licence Variation Application

UNIT 20, Moores Open Storage, Reigate Road, Betchworth, RH3 7HB  
New authorisation at this operating centre for 2 vehicles.

**Comment: Express concern re increasing numbers of vehicles entering the highway**

Clerk

### Appeals (1)

#### MO/2021/0094

Land South of Betchworth Village Hall, Station Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DF  
Temporary stationing of 2 No. mobile homes with associated storage containers and temporary fencing.

**No further comment**

### Late Applications (0)

### Decisions (4)

#### MO/2021/2267

Holly Cottage, Wellhouse Lane, Brockham, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7HH  
Variation of conditions 1 and 3 of approved planning permission MO/2020/1764 for the erection of detached double garage with workshop and equipment store, to allow retention of the lucarne doors on the south elevation.

**APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS**

#### MO/2021/2350

Land at the junction of Middle Street and Wellhouse Lane, Brockham  
Variation of condition 2 of approved planning permission MO/2019/1060 for the construction of 17 affordable dwellings (comprising of 12 social rent homes and 5 discount market sales homes) with associated access, parking and landscaping, to allow changes to Plot 9 - addition of front porch and cat slide roof taken back to fascia's, raising of roof on the single storey - North elevation, external cladding to be changed to Cedral White, windows to be changed to white residence, guttering to be changed to Antique White, front window on West Elevation to be increased in depth, removal of side lights

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from all 3 sets of french doors on the East Elevation with the addition of metal Juliet railing painted in white, and removal of double doors and utility door on the North elevation and replaced with 2 windows.

**APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS**

**OK2038753 – Goods Vehicle Operators Licence**

Unit 18, Moores Open Storage, Reigate Road, Betchworth, RH3 7HB

New Authorisation at this operating centre will be : 1 Vehicle

**VARIATION APPLICATION APPROVED**

**OK2022476 – Goods Vehicle Operators Licence**

The Evergreens, Reigate Road, Betchworth, RH3 7DB

Application withdrawn and has made a fresh variation application for the operating centre to be established at Unit 20, Moores Open Storage, Reigate Road, Betchworth

**APPLICATION WITHDRAWN**

**Appeal Decisions (0)**

**Late Results (0)**

**Other Matters**

**8. AMENITIES**

(396) Confirmation received that the play equipment has been checked- dates submitted to Clerk as 9/2, 18/2 and 28/2.

(397) Councillors approved the memorial inscription for Battley – Clerk to respond to Sherlocks.

(398) Council agreed to maintain the allotment charges as £35 for full allotment and £17.50 for half. Clerk to issue the invoices.

(399) Allotment rules were reviewed and based on Cllr Wilson amendments and agreed comments re point 12 to remove dates and to add in additional comment that items were not to be brought onto site to be added to bonfires – these were approved. Clerk to update, reissue to allotment holders and update website.

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**9. COMMUNITY AND COMMUNICATIONS**

(400) Cllr Hardy provided an update on the Councillor Vacancy, there have been no applicants to date, this is ongoing.

(401) It was agreed to purchase an amelanchier tree which will be planted on Goulburn Green, Cllr Wilson and Cllr Hardy to meet and agree the position of tree.

(402) It was unanimously agreed that we should ask 2 local school children to plant the jubilee tree.

(403) District Councillor Budd updated council on the Jubilee plans, it is hoped that the decision for their grant application will be made by 1 April 2022. To update at next Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Wilson/  
Cllr Hardy

District  
Councillor  
Budd

**10. SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT**

(404) These agenda items were discussed under Open Forum

**11. CLERK'S REPORT**

(405) Council discussed the Glover Landscapes Review and agreed that we should lend our support to this consultation. Cllr Randall will take the lead on this and respond accordingly.

Cllr Randall

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(406) Council acknowledged the response from Thames Water but expressed their disappointment that a clear action plan was not provided.

(407) Council agreed the motion to support remote / hybrid meetings but agreed to continue with face-to-face meetings while able. We will not be investing in the technology required unless it is deemed necessary.

(408) Action log was acknowledged.

(409) It was acknowledged that MO/2020/2096 (as a late entry) The Dolphin Inn, The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DW was approved with conditions. This will appear on next months agenda.

(410) District Councillors Budd and Potter left the meeting at 9.20pm

## 12. FINANCE .

(411) Clerk displayed an up-to-date Finance Summary.

(412) CIL spend list priorities were agreed for further investigation, the focus for 2022 will be :

- Footpath improvements – There are many improvements to be made in Betchworth a priority plan will be produced, communicated and implemented over the period 2022 in association with Betchworth Estate.
- Production of a village map to incorporate points of interest, walks etc. This will be investigated and communicated in 2022.
- Litter Initiatives – A project to look at other initiatives to reduce litter in Betchworth will be initiated and communicated in 2022.
- Traffic Calming – will continue to be investigated in line with Surrey County Council at what improvements with benefits can be made.
- Bridge Upgrade – will investigate recommendations to be made with Highways in 2022.
- Industrial Heritage Walk – To look at the feasibility of creating a restoration programme
- Pavement on The Street – To look at what improvements can be made to potentially build up The Street and widen it, to be produced in 2022.

(413) Council discussed and formally approved the grant request from FABB for £200. This will be paid in April.

(414) Council discussed and formally approved the grant request from Betchworth Village Archives for £620. This will be paid in April.

(415) Council formally agreed to extend the grant application window by 1 month, all applications must be received by 28 March for inclusion in April agenda. Clerk to issue reminder.

(416) Council approved the renewal of CPRE membership due 16<sup>th</sup> April.

(417) Council approved the renewal of Surrey Hills membership due 1<sup>st</sup> February.

(418) Council approved the revised asset register. Clerk to update website.

(419) The following amounts were approved for payment in March 2022 by Cllrs Rogers and Winter:

IB00408	Cheryl Sexton – Salary, Phone, expenses	£	1013.73
IB00409	HMRC – NI (February)	£	69.19
IB00410	Cheryl Sexton – Property Labels	£	27.54
IB00411	SLCC – GDPR Training for Clerk	£	36.00

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IB00412	Hamilton Room – Pruning Workshop	£	20.00
IB00413	Betchworth Hall Hire x 2 incl APM	£	94.00
IB00414	AW Champion – Hedgehog Feeding House	£	268.99
IB00415	Surrey Hills Society Annual Membership	£	25.00
IB00416	HSBC Monthly Charge	£	5.00
IB00417	Mattree – Removal of 2 dead trees and debris	£	480.00
IB00418	Shires Q4 Payroll Services	£	39.60
IB00419	SES Water – 21/7/21-21/1/22	£	8.14

(420) It was acknowledged following a review by NALC of the pay scales for clerks, that the current Clerks salary was to be increased by 26p an hour in line with the existing pay model.

Clerk

**13. URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND FOR INCLUSION ON A FURTHER AGENDA**

**14. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS (Closed to Public and Press)**

**15. FUTURE MEETING DATES.**

- a. Next Parish Council Meetings - 4 April 2022, 3 May 2022
- b. Surrey ALC Chairmans Meeting – 8 March – Cllr Hardy
- c. Planning Training Session – 9 March – Clerk
- d. 3 B's Alignment Meeting – 10 March - Clerk
- e. Surrey ALC Clerk Meeting – 14 March – Clerk
- f. End of Year Audit Course – 17 March - Clerk
- g. Annual Parish Meeting – 28<sup>th</sup> March – Betchworth Village Hall
- h. Internal Audit – 25 April - Clerk
- i. 3-5 June 2022 – Platinum Jubilee and Queen's Grand Parade – Community

**Parish Magazine Article: deadline for April Mag: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2022  
(Invitation for email address)**

Clerk

(421) Councillor Hardy closed the meeting at 9.43pm

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