

**DRAFT**

**BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022**, commencing at 8pm in The Hamilton Room, Betchworth

**Councillors (Cllrs) present:**

Cllr Julie Hardy (JH) Chairman  
Cllr Graham Randall (GR)  
Cllr Colin Rogers (CR)  
Cllr Robert Ashdown (RA)  
Cllr Martin Higgins (MH)  
Cllr Ian Wilson (IW)

**Attending:**

District Councillor Budd (SB)  
District Councillor Potter (PP)

**Apologies:**

**Apologies:**

Cllr Edward Winter (EW)

**In attendance:** Cheryl Sexton (CS), Clerk & RFO

<b>Minute #</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Who</b>
	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	
<b>223</b>	Apologies were received from Cllr Winter	
	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
<b>224</b>	No declarations were received.	
	<b>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	
<b>225</b>	The minutes of the meeting held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> October were approved and signed by Councillor Hardy.	
	<b>COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT</b>	
<b>226</b>	The police report with incidents for October 2022 was displayed, discussed, and acknowledged.	
	<b>OPEN FORUM</b>	
<b>227</b>	District Councillor Potter reported to the Council that he has a meeting with Clarion regarding the hedges and will escalate if required.	
	<b>TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS</b>	
<b>228</b>	Cllr Hardy updated the council that The Estate have notified us that they will be removing the Leylandii which currently form the border between the Church Farm/Grow Smiles nursery and the Burial Ground as the trees have grown too tall and are becoming a hazard. These will be removed between the 9-13 January. The Council acknowledged this and would like to thank The Estate for letting us know and completing the work.	CS

November 2022

229	An update was received from Franks and read out regarding the footpath between the Post Office and A25. Peter Crate kindly organised a team of workers to go and spread asphalt on the areas which were seen to be 'muddy' last year. It was also acknowledged that next summer the soils will be replaced and the ground will be seeded together with the removal of the topsoil bunds at the north of the footpath. The Parish Council would like to thank Franks for undertaking this work.	CS
230	Cllr Randall updated the council on speedwatch. All training videos have been sent to all of the volunteers; the current issue is now not having the correct locations. Following a walk around Cllrs Randall and Ashdown have identified 2 new locations, The Street and Old Reigate Road, these have now been proposed to the speedwatch coordinator.	
231	Cllr Randall updated the council that there is no update on the Gateways, we are still awaiting the revised estimate from Highways even though all work has been completed. It was noted that this has been escalated to County Cllr Clack and we are awaiting a response.	
232	It was reported by a resident that there may be possible subsidence on Old Reigate Road, this was reported to Highways who have deemed that there are no issues with the carriageway that meet any intervention levels set out in their Safety Matrix for remedial repairs at present. They have agreed to keep it under surveillance for any further deterioration.	
233	Cllr Randall displayed and presented a presentation on Suggested Road Safety Improvements on The Street that both Cllrs Randall and Ashdown had prepared. The presentation will be displayed under supporting files on the Website for information. The suggestions were discussed and agreed in principle for further debate, this will be taken to a 3B's Highways meeting to discuss and agree potential collaboration and will be shared with the school. Further updates will follow.	GR
234	Cllr Wilson brought up the ongoing issues with the lack of appropriate signage on Betchworth Bridge, Cllr Randall to investigate.	GR
235	Cllr Wilson updated the council that Sandy Lane has still not had the verge cut although all other neighbouring roads had. Clerk to raise with Highways.	CS
236	Cllr Hardy raised the issue of stagnant water which is not draining away and is now building up on the north side of the Betchworth Roundabout. It was discussed and agreed that the Clerk should report to the environmental agency.	CS
237	Cllr Wilson provided an update on Gatwick Route 4 ACP-2018-86. There is an ongoing challenge by PlaneWrong (PW) to prove that the Noise Preferential Routes (NPRs) are incorrectly positioned on the latest GAL Option Charts by almost 1000m north, making it closer to Betchworth. This is important as they cannot be easily changed. If current plans were to progress it could bring the aircraft even closer to	IW/EW

	<p>Betchworth. PW is in the process of commissioning To70 an aviation consultancy to verify PW's interpretation of these charts.</p> <p>There is a Parish Council Stakeholder meeting in December at which we will ensure that Betchworth Parish Council is represented. The latest GATCOM key messages are available which the Clerk will put on the 'supporting files' on the website for information.</p>	
	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p>	
238	<p><b>Ratification of Planning Observations made (1)</b>  <b>MO/2022/1682</b>  <b>11, Lazell Gardens, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7BF</b>  Erection of loft conversion with the installation of one dormer window and 5 No. rooflights.</p>	
	<b>No Comment ratified</b>	
239	<p><b>New Applications (1)</b>  <b>MO/2022/1828</b>  <b>Genista, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DE</b>  Variation of Condition 2 of approved application MO/2020/0964 for the erection of first floor extension to existing bungalow, single storey front infill extension and two storey rear extensions. Alteration and extension to existing garage to provide gym/home office above and veranda detail linking the garage to main dwelling to allow alterations to the approved drawings.  <b>This was discussed and concern was raised over this being a retrospective application as it is believed that the work has already been carried out. The original application was commented on by Betchworth Parish Council for the mass of the building being too big. Clerk to make comment.</b></p>	CS
	<p><b>Decisions (1)</b>  <b>MO/2022/1566</b>  <b>Wayside, Leigh Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AW</b>  Erection of single storey rear extension, modifications to front bay, addition of covered side porch and creation of rooms in the roof space.</p>	
	<b>APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS</b>	
	<p><b>AMENITIES</b></p>	
240	<p>It was acknowledged that the play equipment has been checked on 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> October.</p>	
241	<p>It was unanimously agreed to go ahead and purchase a Laxton Superb apple tree to replace the removed tree in The Orchard.</p>	CS
242	<p>The proposal for the purchase of a defibrillator to be placed outside The Post Office was presented and discussed. It was unanimously agreed to go ahead with the purchase through The British Heart Foundation.</p>	CS

	<b>COMMUNITY AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>	
243	The road closure on Middle Street on remembrance Sunday was acknowledged.	
244	The consultation paper on polling stations was acknowledged and discussed, it was agreed that no comment was required from Betchworth Parish Council.	CS
245	The offer of a grant for a 'warm hub initiative' from County Cllr Clack was discussed and considered. As there has been no demand from the villagers to create such a space we shall kindly decline but note that we are open to discussion if demand should change. On further discussion it was suggested that we should reach out to 'St Michael's afternoon drop-in tea party' group to see if there is a need to offer local support to allow this event to happen more often.	CS
	<b>SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT</b>	
246	There were no items to discuss under this agenda item.	
	<b>CLERKS UPDATE</b>	
247	Clerk displayed the revised Clerks Report which will be added to the website 'supporting files' with the minutes, highlighting areas in red since issuing of the agenda. These were acknowledged.	CS
248	There were no new planning applications to review.	
249	The dates for the 2023 meetings were approved as the following: 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 6 <sup>th</sup> March, 3 <sup>rd</sup> April, 15 <sup>th</sup> May (late due to elections), 5 <sup>th</sup> June, 3 <sup>rd</sup> July, 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct, 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec. It was noted that the August meeting will not take place due to holidays. Annual parish meeting date to be agreed. It was noted that these are currently booked for The Village Hall, this will be reviewed early in the new year.	CS
250	Cllrs Potter and Budd left the meeting at 9.19pm	
	<b>FINANCE</b>	
251	Council formally approved the spend of £1080 for the defibrillator and the Purchase Order was signed to allow purchase in November.	
252	Council formally approved the spend of up to £100 for the Laxton Superb tree and the Purchase Order was signed to allow purchase in November.	
253	Council formally approved the release of the approved grant to the total of £4500 to be paid to Re-Betchworth as the bank account has been set up.	
254	Council acknowledged receipt of £520 (Burial Ground).	

255	Council acknowledged receipt of £35 (refund for London Bridge training).																																					
256	Council acknowledged the transfer of £10,000 from current account to reserve account.																																					
257	Council approved the invitation to be sent to local groups to apply for a grant for the 2023/24 financial year.	CS																																				
258	The clerk displayed the monthly financial summary which was discussed and acknowledged.																																					
259	The following amounts were approved for payment in November 2022 by Cllrs Rogers and Wilson:																																					
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>IB00490</td> <td>HSBC Bank Charge</td> <td>£5.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00491</td> <td>Cheryl Sexton – Salary &amp; Expenses</td> <td>£1065.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00492</td> <td>HMRC – October Payment</td> <td>£45.12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00493</td> <td>WEL Medical (defib battery)</td> <td>£192.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00494</td> <td>Shires Accountants (mth 4,5,6 Payroll)</td> <td>£39.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00495</td> <td>Viking (Staionery)</td> <td>£169.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00496</td> <td>Cheryl Sexton – Annual Renewal hosting</td> <td>£92.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00497</td> <td>The Hamilton Room</td> <td>£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00498</td> <td>Josh Flynn Gardening</td> <td>£460.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PO00499</td> <td>Knights Garden Centre</td> <td>£50.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PO00500</td> <td>British Heart Foundation</td> <td>£1079.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PO00501</td> <td>Re-Betchworth Grant</td> <td>£4500.00</td> </tr> </table>	IB00490	HSBC Bank Charge	£5.00	IB00491	Cheryl Sexton – Salary & Expenses	£1065.07	IB00492	HMRC – October Payment	£45.12	IB00493	WEL Medical (defib battery)	£192.00	IB00494	Shires Accountants (mth 4,5,6 Payroll)	£39.60	IB00495	Viking (Staionery)	£169.07	IB00496	Cheryl Sexton – Annual Renewal hosting	£92.40	IB00497	The Hamilton Room	£20.00	IB00498	Josh Flynn Gardening	£460.00	PO00499	Knights Garden Centre	£50.96	PO00500	British Heart Foundation	£1079.16	PO00501	Re-Betchworth Grant	£4500.00	
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260	The debit of £18 for the quarterly UNITY bank charge was acknowledged and agreed that the bank charge would be re-distributed at the end of the year to realign.																																					
261	The increase in the Clerks salary of £1 p/hr (in line with the National Pay scale) was acknowledged and approved. Clerk to arrange back dated payments to 1/4/2022.	CS																																				
	<b>FUTURE MEETING DATES:</b>																																					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Next Parish Council Meetings –5<sup>th</sup> December, 9<sup>th</sup> January</li> <li>b. Finance Committee Meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm</li> <li>c. Retention Ponds Meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Cllr Wnter, SCC, Brockham and District Cllr Budd</li> <li>d. Surrey ALC Chairs Forum – 24<sup>th</sup> November – Cllr Hardy</li> <li>e. 3 B's Alignment Meeting – 29<sup>th</sup> November - Clerk</li> <li>f. MVDC Clerk Meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> November- Pippbrook – Clerk</li> <li>g. FASI Parish Council Stakeholder Briefing Sessions 5/9<sup>th</sup> December</li> </ul>																																					
	<b>PARISH MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Invitation for email address</b>																																					
262	<b>MEETING CLOSED AT 9.30pm</b>																																					
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