

DRAFT

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 5th December 2022**, commencing at 8pm in Betchworth Village Hall, Station Road, Betchworth

Councillors (Cllrs) present:

Cllr Julie Hardy (JH) Chairman
Cllr Edward Winter (EW)
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 Graham Randall (GR)

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

Minute #	Agenda item	Who
	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
263	Apologies were received from Cllr Randall.	
	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
264	No declarations were received.	
	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	
265	The minutes of the meeting held on 7 th November 2022 were approved and signed by Councillor Hardy.	
	COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT	
266	The police report with incidents for November 2022 was displayed, discussed, and acknowledged.	
	OPEN FORUM	
267	A member of the public raised the issue of lack of post being delivered and asked if the Parish Council could enquire about this. It was discussed and agreed that the Parish Council have no jurisdiction with The Post Office and would not be able to assist. Clerk to contact member of the public to explain and advise that they contact The Post Office directly.	CS
	TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS	
268	Cllr Winter updated that the footpaths are getting very muddy by the kissing gates and suggested that we contacted The Estate to see if anything can be put down to stop this from getting worse. The main	CS

December 2022

<p>269</p> <p>270</p> <p>271</p> <p>272</p> <p>273</p> <p>274</p>	<p>concern will be that walkers will widen the footpath to avoid the mud and potentially walk on crops. Clerk to raise with The Estate.</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllr Winter would check the grit bins to ensure that they were adequate for the upcoming cold weather.</p> <p>Cllr Ashhdown in Cllr Randall's absence updated the council on speedwatch. We are waiting to hear back on the proposed new monitoring locations for Old Reigate Road and The Street, it is believed that speeding is continuing to be a problem on these roads and there is a concern that speedwatch alone may not be adequate. Will look to investigate police speed monitoring.</p> <p>Cllr Ashdown updated the council following the presentation on speed/safety improvements on The Street that was delivered last month. The proposal has been sent to 3 B's and The School for information, helpful feedback has been received with thanks from Cllr Julian Steed from Buckland which is currently under consideration to make some amendments to the original proposal. County Cllr Helyn Clack has agreed to attend a site visit to walk through our proposals.</p> <p>A request has been issued to Highways to schedule the work to implement the 30mph speed restriction on Old Reigate Road following County Cllr Helyn Clacks agreement to contribute to this. Currently awaiting feedback.</p> <p>Cllr Ashdown updated the council that there is still no update on the Gateways, we are still awaiting the revised estimate from Highways even though all the design work has been completed. The continuing dilatory performance of the new contractor is a matter of concern & has been escalated to both Cllr Clack and MVDC.</p> <p>Cllr Winter provided an update on Gatwick Route 4 ACP-2018-86. There still continues to be the 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. Betchworth Parish Council will need to make representation in due course depending on the outcome of this.</p>	<p>EW</p>
<p>275</p> <p>276</p>	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Ratification of Planning Observations made (2) MO/2022/1085 South Lodge, Broome Park, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DR Erection of double garage and hard standing. Amended Site plan. No Comment ratified</p> <p>MO/2022/1875 Gospel Hall, Station Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DF Demolition of existing single storey timber building to allow for the construction of a new single storey three bedroom residential dwelling.</p>	

	No Comment ratified	
	AMENITIES	
277	It was acknowledged that the play equipment was checked on 18 th November and that the annual inspection has taken place, we are awaiting the report.	
278	Council acknowledged that the new defibrillator and cabinet has been received, this is now in the possession of The Betchworth Village Shop and Post Office awaiting installation.	
279	The revised Burial Ground rates for April 2023 were acknowledged and approved, these will be displayed on the website 1 month prior to taking effect.	CS
	COMMUNITY AND COMMUNICATIONS	
280	Council acknowledged and discussed the MVDC Draft Housing allocation scheme with the following comments: We do not support the removal of the existing rural policy, we believe that the clause giving local residents priority should stay to ensure that we continue to provide community cohesion. Clerk to respond to the consultation.	CS
281	Council acknowledged the consultation paper on The Future of Bus Services in Surrey. It was noted that the paper had been distributed on the village email inviting villagers to take part.	
282	Dates for the APM were discussed and agreed to provisionally book 27 th March. It was agreed to ask The Estate to be our main speaker.	CS
	SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT	
283	There were no items to discuss under this agenda item.	
	CLERKS UPDATE	
284	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 and noted that we have received confirmation that the external auditor PKF Littlejohn has been appointed as external auditor for the next 5 years.	CS
285	Cllr Winter also provided an update on the meeting regarding the proposed retention ponds. The original proposal is deemed to be too small to make any significant difference. Surrey County Council would like to make contact with The Estate regarding creating a larger pond. Clerk to mention in advance to The Estate.	CS
286	There were no new planning applications to review.	

FINANCE																	
287	Council acknowledged that the invoice IB00495 was not paid as this was cancelled due to returning items.																
288	Council acknowledged the transfer of £1174.99 from UNITY (CIL account) to pay for the defibrillator.																
289	Council acknowledged that the defibrillator had been added to the asset register.																
290	The revised budget for 2022/23 which was recommended by the Finance Group for approval at Council was presented and formally approved. This was signed and dated by Cllr Hardy and Cllr Rogers.																
291	The guiding principles for the 2023/24 budget were approved by the Finance Group and signed by Cllr Rogers at the meeting.																
292	The proposed budget for 2023/24 which was recommended by the Finance Group for approval at Council was presented and formally approved. Cllr Hardy and Cllr Rogers signed and dated this at the meeting.																
293	The precept was formally agreed at £15,152.40 this was an increase of 8% on last year but equates to a 10% increase (£2.68) on Band D. It was acknowledged that the increase to Band D was due to the decrease in Tax Base and the overall increase in Council running costs over the years. The precept form was completed and signed by Cllr Hardy and Cllr Rogers. To be sent to MVDC.	CS															
294	The financial regulations were acknowledged and approved to be still fit for purpose therefore readopted as of 5 December 2022.																
295	The clerk displayed the monthly financial summary which was discussed and acknowledged.																
296	Council acknowledged the Purchase Orders Paid in November are now recorded as invoices as shown below IB00499 Knights IB00500 British Heart Foundation IB00501 Re-Betchworth It was acknowledged the Purchase Order for British Heart Foundation was increased due to VAT (the additional £95.83 was approved by the Finance Committee) and paid in November.																
297	The following amounts were approved for payment in December 2022 by Cllrs Rogers and Winter:																
	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>IB00502</td> <td>Viking - Stationery</td> <td>£87.63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00503</td> <td>HSBC – Monthly Bank Charge</td> <td>£5.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00504</td> <td>Cheryl Sexton – Salary and Expenses</td> <td>£1516.51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00505</td> <td>HMRC – November Payment</td> <td>£295.54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00506</td> <td>Betchworth Village Hall Hire (Dec Mtg)</td> <td>£52.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	IB00502	Viking - Stationery	£87.63	IB00503	HSBC – Monthly Bank Charge	£5.00	IB00504	Cheryl Sexton – Salary and Expenses	£1516.51	IB00505	HMRC – November Payment	£295.54	IB00506	Betchworth Village Hall Hire (Dec Mtg)	£52.00	
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	IB00507	Shires Accountants (Mth 7-12 Payroll)	£109.20	
	IB00508	SLCC (Annual Renewal)	£177.00	
	IB00509	Josh Flynn Gardening Services	£816.00	
	It was acknowledged that payments to Josh Flynn Gardening Services now includes VAT (which will be reclaimed)			
298	<p>FUTURE MEETING DATES:</p> <p>a. Next Parish Council Meetings –9th January, 6th February b. FASI Parish Council Stakeholder Briefing Sessions 5/9th December c. 3 B's alignment meeting - Clerk d. MVDC Clerk Meeting – 1st February – Virtual – Clerk</p> <p>It was agreed to look to move our meetings back to The Hamilton Room, Clerk to make arrangements.</p> <p>PARISH MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Invitation for email address, defibrillator information, invitation for grants.</p>			CS
299	MEETING CLOSED AT 9.00pm			
	THIS IS A CONTROLLED DOCUMENT – Betchworth Parish Council will NOT be held responsible for content when downloaded from the website.			