



WEST CLANDON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Terence Patrick, Stoney Royd, Woodstock, West Clandon Surrey GU4 7UJ
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Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 9th March 2022 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors: Terence Patrick ("Chairman"/ "TP"), Jonathan Murphy ("JM"), Chris Dean ("CD"), and Jenny Wicks ("JW").
Parish Clerk: Paul Edwards ("Clerk"/"PE").

4 residents were also in attendance.

22/035 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Eric Palmer ("EP"), Steve Meredith ("SM") and Ann Dickinson ("AD"), SCC Councillor Bob Hughes ("BH").and GBC Councillors Tim Anderson ("TA"), Catherine Young ("CY") and Chris Barrass ("CB").

In view of the record of absences over the past 12 months, the Clerk asked whether the current date/time of the meeting remained appropriate. It was acknowledged that there was an issue, particularly with diary clashes for the GBC Councillors, but a more preferable day was not identified.

22/036 Declarations of interest

The Chairman declared that he was an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Guildford and member of the Village Hall Management Committee. CD is a member of the Village Hall Management Committee. EP is the Chairman of the East and West Clandon Residents Association (EWCRA). JW is an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Guildford.

22/037 Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on February 9th 2022

The minutes were approved without any amendments.

22/038 Matters arising from the meeting on February 9th 2022

CD advised that he had drafted a Risk Management Policy and will circulate to the councillors for review shortly. He added that, once agreed, the annual Risk Assessment that is now due needs to be brought in line with the policy.

22/039 Council Correspondence Sent and Received

The Clerk raised some items of correspondence received for council consideration:

- GBC requirement for submission of any grant extension requests – the meeting confirmed that there were no outstanding grants.
- Request to renew our annual affiliation to the Surrey Playing Fields Association. JW acknowledged it was only a small amount but queried whether there were actually any benefits for us. The Clerk agreed to circulate some information on this.
- Surrey Hills AONB Boundary Review are holding webinars to share details on how they are using the evidence submitted so far and what the next steps are – the Clerk agreed to share the webinar dates with JW and CD.

No other comments were made by the meeting.

22/040 Policies and Procedures

The meeting discussed the draft Standing Orders that the Clerk has circulated. The Chairman noted that he had asked JM to take the lead on its review. JM reported that he had already briefly examined the document. As some of the NALC best-practice clauses are not relevant to our council and as we are generally comfortable with how we operate today, he suggested three approaches could be taken:

- Remove all clauses except the statutory requirements
- Leave all clauses in but add a clause allowing the Chairman to override the non-statutory requirements
- Remove superfluous clauses and refine the remainder if/as required

22/041 Neighbourhood Plan Referendum on March 17th

The Chairman provided a progress update on the referendum communications activities and requested that the Clerk send out a reminder email to the village googlegroups network on 16th.

The Clerk advised that GBC had confirmed that our communications were not deemed 'campaigning' and we thus did not need to complete an expense form. He added that we have been offered 2 seats at the vote count on 17th.

22/042 Planning Matters

JM provided the meeting with his comments on the latest planning applications and rulings. The meeting agreed with JM's view that none needed action from the Council at this point in time apart from application 22/P/00128 (for which the Council has already issued an objection).

22/043 Financial Matters and Approvals

The Clerk noted that, due to the handover lead-times of Unity Bank payment authorities, no payments have been able to be made this month.

22/044 Use of Horticultural Funds

The Clerk reported that he had now met with a group of parish residents with horticultural expertise and from that session has produced a summary of the design suggestions and next steps. There are a number of prerequisites for any work, most notably that we need to understand what underground services there are in the grass banks on either side of the car park

entrance (particularly as an electrical cable has been uncovered following the recent removal of two of the concreted-in posts from the south bank). The meeting was concerned that a utility survey may consume most of the funds available for horticultural improvement but agreed that the Clerk could seek out quotes.

Another pre-requisite is the repairs to the rotting wood on the village hall frontage and painting of the front doors. The Clerk has written to the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) requesting that some work be done. He added that the shabby state of the frontage has also been commented on by numerous residents over the last couple of years. CD stated that he and the VHMC Chairman were drawing up a list of village hall improvements required and would add this to the list. The meeting suggested that any requests for grants would be seriously considered.

The Clerk added that work was underway to identify the plants in the shrubbery and, once known, he can start some renovative pruning.

22/045 Garlick's Arch and other Local Plan updates

No updates to report.

22/046 Recreation Ground, Playground and Car Park

The Chairman provided an update on behalf of EP:

- The 'No Parking' sign was blown down in the storms but will be restored very soon
- The necessary repairs to the playground zipline platform have been carried out
- Pursuance of the white lining is outstanding

The meeting discussed the other effects of the storms on the recreation ground site. The roadside bank is now a mess with a number of gaps in the trees and unsightly stumps and brambles and needs some thought on how we improve it. Also, the street lamp-post has been destroyed and needs to be reported (if not already done).

On the subject of the storms, the Clerk also noted that the bus shelter near Glebe Cottages has been blown over and will need replacing. The ownership of it is unclear and the Clerk will investigate this.

22/047 Footpaths

The Clerk reported that he had checked most of the rights of way following the storms and that most were in satisfactory condition. The exception was FP 568, but remedial actions have now been taken by local property owners abutting the path and the Clerk.

Re. the FP568 (field side) Right of Way application, the Clerk noted that only 3 User Evidence Forms had so far been received.

22/048 A247 Matters

The meeting discussed 3 items of correspondence received relating to the A247:

- A request for speed bumps on the narrowest sections of the A247 – the meeting noted that this had been explored with SCC previously and rejected due to costs of associated

infrastructure such as lighting and signage; it also has unintended consequences relating to light and noise pollution and traffic congestion.

- An enquiry as to whether HGV training vehicles can be stopped from using this route
- Another concern raised on the safety issues caused by the missing bollard at the A247/A3 slip road junction. The meeting reiterated its irritation with the delay by Surrey Highways in replacing the bollard and not pursuing improvement infrastructure at this junction. The Chairman advised that BH has had a number of discussions with Surrey Highways on this and will continue to pursue the matter with them.

The Clerk noted that progress on widening the pavement in The Street continues with the new owner of the land south of Tawny Cottage having now cut back the outgrowing laurel bushes.

JW questioned whether there was any progress on the speed table at the station approach and the Clerk agreed to follow up with BH.

22/049 Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2-5 June 2022

The Chairman noted that he and the Clerk had met the Rector and are proposing a Beating the Bounds event on Saturday 7th May. Lord Onslow has agreed that we can walk across his land and we are waiting to hear from one other landowner on obtaining permission.

Re the RBL village lunch event on 5th June, a resident at the meeting asked whether parking facilities had been considered; the Clerk agreed to raise this with RBL.

22/050 AOB

The Clerk reminded the councillors that it is the Annual Parish Meeting ahead of the next Parish Council meeting.

22/051 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, April 13th 2022 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

CLOSING

There being no other business to discuss, the Chairman closed the Parish Council Meeting at 21.37.