

## WEST CLANDON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Terence Patrick, Stoney Royd, Woodstock, West Clandon Surrey GU4 7UJ

Tel. 01483 222 534

Clerk: Paul Edwards, Amberleaf, Clandon Road, West Clandon. GU4 7TL

clerk@westclandon.org.uk Tel: 07597 156153

# Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

#### Present:

Parish Councillors: Terence Patrick ("Chairman"/ "TP"), Chris Dean ("CD"), Eric Palmer ("EP"), Jenny Wicks ("JW"), Steve Meredith ("SM"), Jonathan Murphy ("JM"), Paul Edwards ("Clerk"/"PE").

Surrey County Councillor: Bob Hughes ("BH")
Guildford Borough Councillors: None in attendance.
Drew Craig (West Clandon Speed Watch) was also in attendance.

#### 21/111 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Ann Dickinson, Chris Barrass and Catherine Ann Young. Tim Anderson was also not in attendance.

#### 21/112 Declarations of interest

Terence Patrick declared that he was an Honorary Alderman in the Borough of Guildford and member of the Village Hall Management Committee. Chris Dean is a member of the Village Hall Management Committee. Eric Palmer is the Chairman of the East and West Clandon Residents Association (EWCRA).

## 21/113 Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on July 21st 2021

The minutes were approved without any amendments.

#### 21/114 Matters arising from the meeting on July 21st 2021

The Chairman noted that two potential candidates for our co-opted Councillor vacancy had been approached but had declined due to workloads. JW suggested that each Councillor ask one other parish resident before the next meeting and notify the Clerk who that person is and what the response was. **Resolved**: All to action.

On planning matters, the questionably large sign outside Elm Cottage was discussed. **Resolved**: JM to email Seymours to request a reduction in the size of the sign.

21/108 relating to the village telephone box – no further contact from BT or residents, so no further action currently being taken by the Council.

#### 21/115 A247 Matters

Drew Craig presented an update on the community speed watch initiative. The kit has been received, training is underway and 2 initial sites along the A247 identified. The new scheme is much more automated with seamless linkage of the kit to the police and any online system. He stressed that the scheme acts much more as a deterrent rather than leading to convictions.

Drew requested support from the Council on the purchase of Community Speed Watch signage to act as a further deterrent. **Resolved:** Expenditure (estimated at £81.60) on the purchase of 8 signs to be put up alongside the A247 was approved by the Council.

The Chairman thanked Drew for all his hard work on mobilizing and leading the Speed Watch group.

## 21/116 Finance Responsibilities Handover

SM noted that the handover of the various finance responsibilities from himself to the new Clerk was delayed until completion of the internal audit process, which is expected shortly.

## 21/117 Council Correspondence Sent and Received

PE referred to the meeting papers and went through the correspondence sent and received. There was discussion on the following items:

- Two urgent letters relating to the Neighbourhood Plan were received after the meeting papers were sent out; these are discussed under 21/122 below
- A email from a resident querying the provision of allotments
- A GBC press release on transport priorities is discussed under 21/121 below
- PE agreed to forward the GBC request on Remembrance Sunday events to Jean Fawley and the Rector

## 21/118 Planning Matters

JM talked through the latest planning applications and rulings. The meeting agreed that none needed action from the Council at this point.

## 21/119 Financial Matters and Approvals

The latest monthly list of payments were presented by SM and approved by the Council. These included the regular recreation ground maintenance charges, the SALC subscription and the Website redesign costs.

SM noted that, although the AGAR (annual accounting return) had been completed, the full submission to the external auditors is delayed due to the delay in completion of the internal audit report, which should be finished this month.

## 21/120 S106 Payments

JW noted that she has again been in touch with GBC Planning officers and that there does appear to be an opportunity for spend on certain types of village hall extensions/improvements. She suggested that it would be useful to see the Ripley village hall business case, as this had been successful in securing significant funding; PE agreed to ask for this.

This led on to a discussion about the nature of the relationship between the Parish Council and the Village Hall Management Committee and also the current functioning of that Committee, since it has not had scheduled meetings since prior to COVID. **Resolved**: TP to request a face-to-face meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee to discuss (i) its future functioning and its meetings schedule, (ii) clarification of its relationship to the Parish Council and (iii) to prepare a report on the state of the facilities and produce a list of required improvements that can be sent to JW for her to feed into discussions with GBC on S106 funding.

JW also suggested we have a regular agenda item for such improvements.

The Chairman also noted that the Village Hall boiler is requiring replacement and that he is separately discussing with GBC the feasibility of using the Urgent Schemes grant process.

Re EV charging points at the Village Hall, JW advised that GBC were obtaining a quote.

## 21/121 Garlick's Arch and other Local Plan updates

CD updated on the Wisley development and that a planning application was expected in Q4 this year.

On the recent press release by GBC that the A3/A247 sliproads were a 'GBC transport priority', CD was concerned that it should be Wisley development to fund, not GBC. **Resolved**: CD to draft a query on the sliproads responsibilities to GBC.

#### 21/122 Neighborhood Plan update

PE noted that a letter had been received from Barton Willmore (acting on behalf of Martin Grant Homes) who have requested that the independent Examiner convene a hearing on our Green Gap policy, presumably as they are concerned about our desire for a strategic green gap being retained between Guildford and West Clandon. JW was particularly concerned about the phrase 'significant' in the wording proposed by Martin Grant Homes.

A letter from the Independent Examiner has also been received by the Clerk requesting us to answer questions from him by 20<sup>th</sup> September.

**Resolved**: JM to liaise with JW and John Stone on preparing a response to the Examiner's questions.

### 21/123 Recreation Ground, Playground and Car Park

EP stated that regular monthly grass cutting is now occurring on the recreation ground and that all looks in generally good order. He is awaiting the annual playground inspection also a quote for self-closing devices on gates.

Looking forward, EP reflected on the needs of for other adult activities (e.g. exercise equipment) and suggested that a dedicated area should be considered for this.

PE raised a concern (on behalf of Councillor Dickinson) over a pothole at the entrance to the Recreation Ground.

EP further noted that the Clandon Dragon Committee has mobilized a working party which has greatly improved the appearance around the dragon. The Committee now requires new chalk to refresh it and the sowing of grass seed around it. **Resolved:** The Council agreed to prove a budget of £150 towards the cost of the chalk and grass seed.

## 21/124 Footpaths

PE noted that SCC were 4 weeks late on the second cut of the 'priority 1' footpaths due to a broken mower owned by SCC's contractor.

The two footpaths (82 and 83) surrounding the Natural Burial Ground require another cut and PE has requested a quote.

2 residents have requested clarification on the ownership of part of FP69 and this has now been clarified.

## 21/125 Progress on the new Parish Council website

The Chairman noted that the website was fully live now and that new news items were regularly appearing. He thanked Councillor Dickinson and the Clerk for their work on redeveloping and maintaining the site.

#### 21/126 AOB

There was no further business.

#### 21/127 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

#### **CLOSING**

There being no other business to discuss, the Chairman closed the Parish Council Meeting at 21.52 pm.