



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 14th December 2022 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors: Terence Patrick ("Chairman"/ "TP"), Chris Dean ("CD"), Eric Palmer ("EP"), Steve Meredith ("SM"), and Jenny Wicks ("JW").

Parish Clerk: Paul Edwards ("Clerk"/"PE").

GBC Councillor: Tim Anderson ("TA").

There were 2 residents in attendance.

22/157 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Jonathan Murphy ("JM") and Ann Dickinson ("AD"), SCC Councillor Bob Hughes ("BH") and GBC Councillors Catherine Young ("CY") and Chris Barrass ("CB").

22/158 Co-option of vacant councillor position

The meeting discussed the candidature for the vacant councillor position. CD proposed the co-option of Sam Wreford and this was seconded by the chairman. **Resolved:** The meeting unanimously approved the appointment of Sam Wreford as a councillor.

22/159 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.

22/160 Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on Nov 9th 2022

The meeting approved the minutes without amendment.

22/161 Matters arising from the meeting on Nov 9th 2022

None discussed.

22/162 Council Correspondence Sent and Received

The following topic relating to items of correspondence was discussed:

- Grass area at Meadowlands entrance – the Clerk has received an email from Surrey Highways indicating their GBC's responsibilities and GBC's ownership over the site; EP advised that he has asked for a quote from our contractors to supplement SCC's current grass maintenance arrangement.

22/163 Planning Matters

JM was unable to attend the meeting but had previously emailed his comments on the recent planning applications. The meeting agreed with JM's view that none needed action from the Council at this point in time.

22/164 Financial Matters and Approvals

The Chairman referred to Annex C in the meeting papers relating to the payments made since the last meeting totaling £1,006.52 and the meeting approved these.

With regards to the payment for the email support work, JW noted that she could still not operate her council email from her ipad. SM suggested she check whether she could access it from the internet and the Clerk agreed to check this out with JW in the new year. CD reiterated his concern over our risks from not having a formal contract for support & maintenance of our email system. SM cautioned that this could be expensive, depending on the service levels required. EP queried whether it was feasible to share an email system with a large council with more robust infrastructure and support and the Clerk agreed to investigate this.

The Clerk presented a draft 2023/24 budget for discussion and finalisation. The meeting agreed that 5% is an appropriate level of increase for the precept and most expenditure items when balancing both inflationary pressures and the current financial challenges faced by our local community.

Some specific items of expenditure were debated, notably our capital projects and expected offsetting grants for which it was acknowledged that there was considerable uncertainty around the numbers.

It was agreed to retain the budget for grants to the Village Hall at the same level. JW noted that East Clandon have recently conducted an energy audit on their village hall and suggested that West Clandon did the same to help inform where funds could best be spent. CD agreed to talk to John Vickers on this point.

The Clerk noted that a 5% increase in the precept would translate into an increase in the annual charge for a typical Band D property increasing by 4.9% from £34.71 (2022/23) to £36.39 (2023/24). **Resolved:** The meeting agreed to a 5% increase in the precept and the Clerk will submit the request to GBC.

The budget was agreed with an overall deficit of approximately £1,500 projected. However, the Clerk noted that we currently have strong reserves and that we are also projecting a surplus of £3,000 for 2022/23.

With regard to S137 payments, the Clerk notified the meeting of requests from the village school and the Friends of the Church. **Resolved:** The meeting agreed to provide a grant to the school

for £1000 for a new group learning space project but requested more information on the Church request.

22/165 Garlick's Arch, Wisley Airfield and other Local Plan updates

TA noted that the main planning application for Wisley is expected to be submitted in March and that Gosden Hill pre-application activity is now underway.

122/166 Recreation Ground, Playground and Car Park

EP provided an update on a variety of items:

- The grass on the recreation ground remains quite long and requires one final cut once the frost goes.
- The hedging around the tennis court needs pruning and bramble removal and quotes are being sought.
- Goalmouths – Astro-turf appears to be too expensive, but turfing may be an adequate alternative and a quote is being sought.
- An enquiry has been made for use of the football pitch by a local junior team for training.
- On the playground, the Springy zingo has now been installed. The results of the annual Playground inspection have also been (belatedly) received; the results are good, with no red or amber risk items and so maintenance expenditure for next year is expected to be minor.
- The beechwood bus shelter has now been removed
- The notice board at the end of Bennett Way had now been repaired

22/167 Footpaths

No new items to report.

22/168 A247 Matters

The Chairman noted that a few manholes have sunk and should be monitored.

There was uncertainty as to whether the planned safety works at the A247/A3 sliproad junction would now go ahead in December and the Clerk agreed to contact Surrey Highways to find out.

JW ask whether BH had found out what was planned for safety improvements at the station approach and the Clerk agreed to follow up with him.

22/169 AOB

No comments.

22/170 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, January 11th 2022 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

CLOSING

There being no other business to discuss, the Chairman closed the Parish Council meeting at 21.47.