



# 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 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

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### Present:

Parish Councillors: Terence Patrick ("Chairman"/ "TP"), Eric Palmer ("EP"), Neil Higgins ("NH"), Sam Wreford ("SW") and Chris Dean ("CD")  
Parish Clerk: Paul Edwards ("Clerk"/"PE")  
GBC Councillor: Dawn Bennett ("DB")

There were 2 members of the public in attendance.

### 24/001 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Jonathan Murphy ("JM"), Jenny Wicks ("JW") and Ann Dickinson ("AD"), GBC Councillors Catherine Young ("CY") and Ruth Brothwell ("RB"), and SCC Councillor Bob Hughes ("BH").

### 24/002 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.

### 24/003 Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on December 13<sup>th</sup> 2023

The meeting approved the minutes of the meeting without amendment.

### 24/004 Matters arising from the meeting on December 13th 2023

The Chairman provided an update on the following items from the December meeting:

- 23/140 – the Clerk reported that the Contract of Employment for the Clerk had been updated and circulated to the Councillors on 5<sup>th</sup> January. **Resolved:** The Contract of Employment for the Clerk was ratified.
- 23/143 – with regards to Section 137 requests, the Clerk noted that the Friends of West Clandon Church had requested support for a couple of projects; the meeting agreed to

provide a grant of £1,000 towards the electrical safety and upgrading work that is needed. The Chairman added that we should start to consider the separate request for community financing and grants required to build the new church annex which is intended to be used as a community asset. The Clerk advised that we would first need to ensure that any support from the Council was lawful re. grants direct to religious bodies. On the general subject of Section 137, CD also informed the meeting that he is pursuing information/advice on the Village Hall energy survey and improvements.

- 23/147 – on A247 matters from the last meeting, as BH was not in attendance, the Clerk agreed to obtain an update from BH on next steps from the PCC's site visit, the Tithebarns Lane bridge signage and the overhanging dead oak tree on Clandon Road.

## **24/005 Council Correspondence Sent and Received**

The following topics relating to items of correspondence were discussed:

- Another email of concern about the noisy and aggressive dogs at the stables on footpath 69A has been received. The Clerk noted that he had asked for an update on the issue from the GBC Environment team.
- The Crowdfund Guildford grant scheme is a potential source of funding for parish councils (particularly 'to help improve community spaces, organise local events, or fix things that matter'). The meeting agreed to bear this in mind for future projects.

## **24/006 Planning Matters**

JM was absent from the meeting but had already provided comments via email 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.

Concerns about the incongruous nature of the bright blue gates and tall pillars at Bruce Cottage were discussed and whether they are compliant with our Neighbourhood Plan. The meeting requested that JM draft a note to the owners akin to the one sent to Ashley Park last year.

## **24/007 Financial Matters and Approvals**

The Chairman referred to Annex C in the meeting papers relating to the payments made since the last meeting totaling £2,286.92 and the meeting approved these.

The Clerk advised that the Internal audit for this financial year is set for 1<sup>st</sup> February.

## **24/008 Gosden Hill, Garlick's Arch, Wisley Airfield and other Local Plan updates**

On Gosden Hill, DB's understanding is that a sliproad directly onto the A3 is unlikely and that consultations between GBC Councillors and GBC Planning department/Gosden Hill developers is imminent and should hopefully provide some clarification. A potential road infrastructure option of an access road onto the A247 was considered a major concern by the meeting and should be seriously discouraged due to its impact on traffic within the parish. CD agreed to draft a pre-emptive note to be sent to GBC Planning.

CD reported that Garlicks Arch development seems to be proceeding slowly at present though that could be due to the Christmas period and the inclement weather. On Wisley, the appeal enquiry has completed apart from a site visit which is due for 16<sup>th</sup> January.

## **24/009 Recreation Ground, Playground and Car Park**

EP provided the following updates:

- The work on tree stump removals and briar/sapling clearance is scheduled for the last week of January
- It is encouraging to see that the goalmouths remain well used even in the current weather, though the ground around them are becoming very boggy. Various solutions are possible though are likely to involve significant cost
- The Recreation Ground rules are currently being updated and will be presented for approval at the February meeting.

## **24/010 Footpaths**

The Clerk reported that there were no new issues and that the footpaths appeared to be in a reasonable state of dryness considering the large amount of rain over the past few weeks.

## **24/011 A247 Matters**

NH noted that the Council had agreed to review the state of the new A247/A3 sliproads junction after 6 months. His view was that there were clearly fewer accidents but there remained a safety issue (risky driving is evident at the junction) and that traffic build-up is significant during rushhour. It was suggested that we continue to monitor the junction and review if/once the Garlicks Arch roundabout is implemented.

## **24/012 Installing Public Electric Vehicle Charging Points**

SW requested the Council consider investigation of the installation of EV charging points in the Village Hall car park. He noted that, from looking at an EV site map, there remained a big gap in the West Clandon area and that there would be demand locally as electric vehicles are becoming more ubiquitous and many local houses only have on-street parking (also it was acknowledged that many houses also have driveways). He added that there were a plethora of EV schemes and funding options, all fairly complicated, that would need some detailed investigation. CD noted that one of our requests to GBC for the Garlicks Arch Section 106 monies included for 2 EV stations at the Village Hall, albeit that this was unlikely to be forthcoming in the short-term. The meeting noted a concern about being operationally involved in any facility but provided support for an investigation into the options available led by SW and with support from the Clerk.

## **24/013 AOB**

EP advised that he had been contacted by a resident about re-use of the phone box. The Clerk agreed to write to BT again to query any progress on repairing or re-purposing it.

NH noted that the SANG car park now appeared to be open and agreed to monitor its overnight closures.

NH also raised a concern about intermittent postal deliveries. The Clerk advised that he was experiencing this too and the meeting felt that this could be a general problem at the north end of the parish and that this was another issue for monitoring.

Jean Fawley (on behalf of the Royal British Legion) noted that the West Clandon RBL intended to put on another Village Fête (on 1<sup>st</sup> June) and requested financial support for it. **Resolved:** The meeting approved a £500 grant toward this event.

**24/014 Date of next meeting**

Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

**CLOSING**

There being no other business to discuss, the Chairman closed the Parish Council meeting at 21.14.