



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 12th June 2024 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors: Terence Patrick ("Chairman"/"TP"), Neil Higgins ("NH"), Eric Palmer ("EP"), Jonathan Murphy ("JM"), Jenny Wicks ("JW") and Sam Wreford ("SW").
Parish Clerk: Paul Edwards ("Clerk"/"PE")
SCC Councillor: Bob Hughes ("BH")

There was 1 member of the public in attendance.

24/073 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Ann Dickinson ("AD") and GBC Councillors Catherine Young ("CY"), Dawn Bennett ("DB") and Ruth Brothwell ("RB").

24/074 Declarations of interest

TP is an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Guildford and 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.

24/075 Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on May 8th 2024

The meeting approved the minutes of the May meeting without amendment.

24/076 Matters arising from the meeting on May 8th 2024

The following items from the May meeting were discussed:

- 24/059 – The Chairman discussed the outstanding Councillor roles and requested volunteers. EP proposed SW as Vice-Chair and JM seconded and this was agreed by the meeting. NH agreed to take over the submission of the monthly update to the parish magazine. With regards to the vacant Councillor position, the Chairman advised that we are now free to co-opt someone. JW suggested a resident and the Chairman agreed to follow up with the individual. Failing that, it was proposed to dust off our previous Councillor advert and publish that in the parish magazine in September.

- The meeting discussed the start time for our Council meetings and there was general support for an earlier start (which is also in line with other local parishes). It was agreed to move to 7.30pm for future meetings.

24/077 Council Correspondence Sent and Received

The following topics relating to items of correspondence were discussed:

- On the request by Clandon Park NT to have a liaison point on the Council for further updates to their development plans, Jonathan Murphy agreed to be that point person.
- BH provided an update on the dead oak tree overhanging Clandon Road noting that SCC have now agreed to cut it down and charge the Maymond property owners. JW mentioned that the roadside hedge at that property was now making the pavement too narrow and the Clerk agreed to write to the owners to request that they trim it back.
- The Clerk explained the situation relating to the child from Meadowlands that was not being offered free school bus travel to George Abbot school and that this issue was likely to be extended to other local school children. The meeting agreed that the suggestion by the SCC School Travel team that the 11 year old child could walk nearly 3 miles to school along footpath 74 (that has very boggy sections, dark woods and can get blocked by vegetation) is not practical. BH agreed to escalate this within SCC.

24/078 Planning Matters

JM talked through the latest planning applications and rulings. The meeting determined that the following application requires the submission of comments:

- 24/P/00856 – albeit sympathetic to the property owner for wanting to screen traffic noise, the meeting concluded that the application to retain a high fence near to the roadside and without suitable vegetation screening in front of it is not in line with our Neighbourhood plan and should be objected to.

24/P/00715 (application for a new 3 bed dwelling in Oak Grange Road) was also discussed at some length. It was decided not to comment on it, though there was some concern that it could set a precedent for more plot divisions in the road.

24/079 Financial Matters and Approvals

The Chairman referred to Annex C in the meeting papers relating to the payments made since the last meeting totaling £5,237.44. The meeting approved these though asked the Clerk to reissue the document as there were a couple of errors in it.

The Clerk advised the meeting that another internal audit had occurred on 28th May and had completed successfully with no issues raised. The internal audit is now back on its correct pre-COVID annual schedule. He added that our year-end accounts have now been submitted to our external auditors and that our public notice of the accounts had started on 10th June.

24/080 Email and Website Security, Stability and Support

The Clerk referred to his email of 23rd May containing a summary of quotes received from service providers for improving the resilience, security, functionality and support for our email system, website and the Clerk PC. He noted that the ongoing financial impact of such improvements would be approximately an extra £1000 per annum (based on the recommended quote). In addition, there would be some one-off costs associated with migrating to a new system, which is

expected to take up to 3 months to complete. **Resolved:** The meeting approved the Clerk's recommendation to move to a gov.uk domain and go with the Netcom IT Solutions quote and asked him to initiate the migration project straight away.

24/081 Gosden Hill, Garlick's Arch, Wisley Airfield and other Local Plan updates

JW updated the meeting on the strategic sites:

- Regarding the decision by the Inspector to approve the Wisley Airfield development, there was a meeting on 10th June hosted by Villages Against Wisley New Town (VAWNT) to discuss whether to challenge it by a Judicial Review. Barrister advice will be sought first.
- There is no requirement from the Inspector for sliproads at Burnt Common as part of Wisley development.
- Garlicks Arch – large blocks of housing are now visible; it was commented on that these are currently very unattractive, but hopefully the final product will look better.
- Gosden Hill – still no evidence of any progress. Our last meeting with the developer was on 12th July last year and the Clerk agreed to contact the developer to ask for another meeting.

24/082 Recreation Ground, Playground and Car Park

EP provided a report:

- The Fox Run held on the morning of 25th May at the recreation ground and carpark were left in good order and adequately tidied up.
- The village school will be holding their Sports Day on the recreation ground on 12th July and the grass will be cut short in time for the event.
- The slide in the playground has now been repaired and painted.
- The metal gate into the playground is mysteriously missing its padlock; investigation is underway.
- The gate to the Village Pound is now back in situ and it is suggested that we leave as is for the time being.

The Chairman agreed to speak to the volunteer lead for the Clandon Dragon on what the plans are for future renovation.

24/083 Footpaths

The Clerk reported that SCC contractors have now done their first cuts of all the 'priority 1' footpaths.

NH raised the issue of the poor state of the SANG, with overgrown paths and excessive perennial weeds. The land was handed over by the developer to The Land Trust and is managed by Surrey Wildlife Trust. Following a request from NH, some of the paths have now been cut but not all. He has a meeting arranged with The Land Trust on 18th June and asked if any Councillors would like to join. SW and the Clerk will attend if available.

24/084 A247 Matters

SW reported issues with traffic build up from Summers up to Clandon Crossroads. BH suggested that the Trodds Lane closure could be a reason. SW agreed to monitor.

BH noted that Surrey Highways are now working on a design for traffic safety improvements at the Station Approach.

The Chairman noted a couple of BT manhole cover issues that CW and the Clerk agreed to investigate.

24/085 AOB

NH queried the progress on the Tithebarns Lane signage and BH agreed to investigate with Surrey Highways.

24/086 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, July 10th 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

CLOSING

There being no other business to discuss, the Chairman closed the Parish Council meeting at 21.54.