



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.00 P.M.
ON THURSDAY 28 APRIL 2022
AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

Councillors

Cllr E Townsend*

Cllr N Sanctuary (Chairman of the Council)

Cllr R Burbridge*

Cllr P Chapman

Cllr R Denton*

Cllr C Gould*

Cllr S Jeacock*

Cllr D Nicholas

Cllr M Scully* (Vice Chairman of the Council and Chair of the Meeting)

Cllr R Tyler*

Cllr C Walker

Cllr G Worthington

PRESENT*

ALSO PRESENT: Parish Clerk B Bell FSLCC, Cllr N Sanctuary for Item 12 by zoom to provide information only brought forward to the start of the meeting, Cllr Richard Seabourne Chairman of Bramley Parish Council.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The apologies of Cllr P Chapman, D Nicholas, N Sanctuary, C Walker and G Worthington (all prior commitment) were AGREED.

2. GUEST SPEAKER: CLLR RICHARD SEABOURNE CHAIRMAN OF BRAMLEY PARISH COUNCIL, COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Cllr Seabourne said Bramley Parish Council had formed a Working Group to consider the Community Governance Review. He said Bramley is a very large geographical parish with proximity to other villages. The Working Group has considered access to schools, faith groups, shops, pubs, clubs and societies from the parish. They established three areas to review of which one is Smithbrook Kilns, a small thriving business community containing 31 properties and 60 electors. There have been no candidates from Smithbrook Kilns for Bramley Parish Council in the previous four elections. Bramley Parish Council has recommended the inclusion of Smithbrook Kilns in the parish of Cranleigh. A consultation with residents would be required. He said the owners of Smithbrook Kilns did promote the site for 20 houses in the Bramley Neighbourhood Plan, but it was not accepted by the Inspector.

Councillors could see the potential benefit of Smithbrook Kilns being added to the parish of Cranleigh, but were concerned about the impact on the borough and county ward boundaries, and specifically the impact on the Cranleigh Neighbourhood Plan.

The Council voted on the inclusion of Smithbrook Kilns in the Parish of Cranleigh: two in favour, five against– MOTION LOST.

3. PUBLIC SESSION

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Cllr E Townsend declared she is a Waverley Borough Councillor and Surrey County Councillor.
- Cllr R Denton declared he is a member of the Football and Cricket Club.
- Cllr R Burbridge declared she is a Trustee of Rowleys.
- Cllr S Jeacock declared that he is a grave owner.

5. PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

The draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24 March 2022 having previously been circulated, were AGREED and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Council NOTED the following report:

- The Vice Chairman reported that the Chairman had received a copy of the report into the request for a bridge over the A281 at the Downs Link. He said the report detailed two fatal accidents one in 2013 and the other in 2020. There are visibility concerns: sun, dips in the road and a staggered crossing. In 14 months, there are have been almost 100,000 crossings at this point, 234 per day. WSCC have considered a bridge at £1.4m, Pegasus crossing at £335k and junction layout with central island at £112k. WSCC are considering a Pegasus crossing approach.
- Cllr R Denton has made contact with Semur-en-Auxois to arrange a visit next month.

7. CLERK'S REPORT

The Council NOTED the following report:

- The Clerk has a zoom meeting booked with WBC for 27 June 2022 to discuss transfer of assets from WBC.
- The Clerk had reported the faded road markings on the junction of the High Street and Village Way to Surrey County Council and they have been re-painted this month.
- The Local Government Boundary Commission is proposing reducing the number of Waverley Borough Councillors from 57 to 50. Parliament now needs to agree the changes, which should be implemented for the May 2023 elections.
- The Council wrote to our MP Angela Richardson in support of hybrid Council meetings. She raised the matter with Kemi Badenoch MP Minister of State for Equalities and Levelling Up Communities who replied, '*As Ms Bell notes, in response to the pandemic, the Government introduced regulations under section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020 to allow local authority meetings to take place remotely. The regulations were time limited and only applied to meetings held between 4 April 2020 and 7 May 2021. A High Court judgement handed down on 28 April 2021 confirmed that local authority meetings must take place in person. Prior to the expiry of the remote meetings regulations, the Government recognised that councils were keen to retain the flexibility to choose to meet remotely or in hybrid form as and when circumstances dictate. A Call for Evidence on remote meetings was conducted from 25 March to 17 June 2021 to inform consideration of permanent provisions. Any permanent provision would require primary legislation and would depend upon available Parliamentary time. The department has considered responses to the Call for Evidence and Government will respond shortly.*'
- Cranleigh Heritage Trust has been awarded CIO status by the Charity Commission. This is a crucial step in their project to preserve Cranleigh Cottage Hospital (known by the working title of Napper Cottage). Their Object is: '*The conservation and preservation for the public benefit of the Grade II listed Heritage Cottage Hospital in Cranleigh Surrey and the education of the public in the heritage of Cranleigh, especially with respect to this first cottage hospital and its role in initiating the cottage hospital movement in England.*'

- The Chairman and Clerk are meeting with the Arts Centre next month to discuss collaborative working with the Village Hall.
- WBC advised as of 15 April 2022 that Waverley borough had 121 sponsor properties matched with 346 Ukrainian guests. 7 Ukrainian guests had arrived. They expect these figures to increase quickly. Part of the process that WBC run is the DBS checks on sponsors and any adults in their property. DBS checks usually take 4 to 6 weeks. WBC have been pleased that checks under this scheme are currently taking about 2 to 3 working days. A process of administering the £200 subsistence payments per guest has been established using payment cards through the Surrey Crisis Fund. The Parish Council has been supporting a Ukrainian visitor and her child and is very grateful to Cranleigh Lions who stepped in very quickly to provide financial and practical help.
- Further to concern raised by the Grounds Manager, the Clerk has ordered an enhanced inspection of a tree at the Bruce McKenzie Field.
- The final claim for the European Regional Development Fund Welcome Back funding for Cranleigh High Street has been submitted through WBC for the bollard painting project and Artisan markets.
- The Clerk has applied for a COVID recovery grant through Surrey Community Action for Cranleigh Village Hall for £2,000 towards the replacement boilers, the outcome will be known in September.
- WBC have invited the Chairman and Clerk to join their members on training for the new LGA model code of conduct in May.
- The Council has been awarded a grant of £836 for a noticeboard outside One Stop in Elmbridge Road by One Stop with grateful thanks to Cllr C Gould.

8. REPORT FROM SURREY AND WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

The Council NOTED the report of Cllr E Townsend from WBC and SCC:

- Cranleigh Parish Council agreed to support a 20mph speed limit in the High Street at their meeting on 18 March 2021. Cllr E Townsend progressed this request with the Waverley Local Committee on 12 November 2021. She said that the SCC criteria for a 20mph speed limit is for signage only where the mean speed limit is 24mph or below as it is in Cranleigh High Street. Higher mean speed limits require structures and more investment. The Parish Council's Planning Committee had responded to the recent consultation on the proposed 20mph speed limit and raised concern about air quality. Cllr E Townsend said the general consensus is that air quality is not affected by a 20 or 30mph speed limit, but air quality is monitored in the High Street and on Ewhurst Road. She said the most impact to people's wellbeing is the benefit in casualty reduction from 8% at 30mph to 1.5% at 20mph. The Council will consider the 20mph speed limit proposals at their next meeting.
- WBC are running 'No Mow May' again. It is not a cost cutting exercise as the grass cutting contracts specifies the number of cuts and more work is done to cut pathways and make the edges accessible, hand weeding and litter picking.
- WBC passed a motion requiring quieter fireworks, no live animals as prizes and no sky lanterns on their land.
- A joint agreement has been reached with Guildford and Waverley Borough Councils to share a Chief Executive and senior management team.
- Cllr E Townsend met Thames Water in a private meeting with Angela Richardson MP, although Cllr E Townsend had asked for the meeting to be open to the public. Thames Water continue to replace asbestos pipes in Cranleigh. Thames Water are getting a new computer system as their current system is not updating faults on the mapping system. Thames Water have agreed to have regular meetings with Cllr E Townsend.
- The technical team at SCC are drawing up plans for improvements to the Alfold Road junction which might impact on the red telephone box.
- Run Common Road is open again.

- There is £7,500 funding to cut back vegetation and make repairs to bollards, but suggestions are needed by Monday.
- There is funding for pavement improvements and the following have been suggested: Bookhurst Road, Mead Road, Bedlow Lane, Summerlands through Kiln Copse and Ewhurst.

9. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

The minutes of the Finance Committee on 03 February 2022 were RECEIVED.

The minutes of the Personnel Committee on 18 October 2021 were RECEIVED.

The minutes of the Planning Committee on 14 March 2022 and 04 April 2022 were RECEIVED.

The minutes of the Property & Asset Committee on 03 February 2022 were RECEIVED.

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. The expenditure list for April 2022 was circulated earlier and AGREED by the Council. Cllrs M Scully and E Townsend signed the cheques.
2. The bank reconciliation to 31 March 2022 was AGREED and signed by Cllr S Jeacock.
3. The cashbook reconciliation to 31 March was AGREED.
4. A grant of £300 was AGREED for the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Trust.
5. The Council AGREED to adopt the General Reserves Policy.

11. SOLAR STREETS SUPPORT REQUEST

The Council AGREED the following statement of support:

'Cranleigh Parish Council is pleased to support the 'Solar Streets' initiative as its aims fully fit with our Environmental Action Plan. We hope that many householders and businesses will take the opportunity to join the scheme, reducing the carbon footprint of our community, by generating our own renewable energy. This will not only benefit individuals but it will help to reduce Cranleigh's impact on the planet. Other initiatives are also available if you wish to consider them.'

12. JUBILEE

- Cllr N Sanctuary reported that only one of the four catering companies is now available to cater for the Jubilee Dinner Dance. Advertisements come out in early May to sell tickets. The Council AGREED to request an extension of the catering booking deadline to 09 May 2022 and to proceed with the Dinner Dance if 86 tickets have been sold by the deadline, otherwise the Dinner Dance will be cancelled.
- The Clerk advised that the Working Party is meeting again on Wednesday 04 May 2022. St Johns Ambulance have been confirmed for the Beacon Lighting and Picnic in the Park and advertising banners have been ordered.

13. WBC LICENSING APPLICATION

The Council SUPPORTS the application.

14. WBC FLEXIBLE TENANCY CONSULTATION

The Council SUPPORTS the consultation.

15. UK GIGABIT PROGRAMME: SURREY PUBLIC REVIEW

Cllr M Scully gave a brief overview and the Council AGREED not to submit a response to the review.

16. PROPERTY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council AGREED to consider the following items in private and confidential session: reason – commercial in confidence.

- The Council AGREED to update the Cemetery Rules and Regulations to no longer permit the interment of ashes in the Garden of Remembrance.

- The Council AGREED to continue to refuse the scattering of ashes anywhere in the cemetery.
- The Council AGREED to appoint Haven Memorials to lay flat 90 memorials that have failed the Memorial Safety Inspection to be funded from the General Reserve. The Council will give at least 28 days' notice of the work with explanation.
- The Council AGREED to appoint WBC to carry out the basic tree survey to be funded from the tree management revenue budget, Cllrs S Jeacock and E Townsend abstained from the vote.
- The Council AGREED to appoint Sport and Play to repair, sand and seal the Sports Hall floor to be funded from the General Reserve.
- The Council AGREED to appoint Goodwins to replace the gas boilers at the Village Hall to be funded from the Village Hall Boilers and General Reserve, Cllr E Townsend voted against this motion.

17. COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

This item was considered in private and confidential session: reason – commercial in confidence.

- The Council NOTED the update from the Clerk and AGREED for Cllrs P Chapman and N Sanctuary to hold a further meeting with the hirer.

18. STAFF MATTERS

This item was considered in private and confidential session: reason – staff in confidence.

The Council AGREED to accept the recommendation of the Grounds Maintenance Association of a 3% salary increase for grounds staff from 01 April 2022.

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 26 May 2022 at 7.00pm. The meeting closed at 8.46pm

Signature.....

Date.....