



MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 6.00 P.M.
ON THURSDAY 11 MAY 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)
Cllr R Tyler*
Cllr C Walker*
Cllr G Worthington*

PRESENT*

ALSO PRESENT: Parish Clerk B Bell FSLCC, Admin Clerk L. Glazier, one member of public in person and one member of public via zoom.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The prior commitment apology of Cllr D Nicholas was AGREED.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Cllr N Sanctuary declared he is the Chairman of the Glebelands School Governors.
- Cllr E Townsend declared she is a Waverley Borough Councillor and Surrey County Councillor. She said she would abstain from a vote on footpath 70 as she had already discussed and voted on this item at Surrey County Council.
- Cllr R Burbridge declared she is a Trustee of Rowleys.
- Cllr P Chapman declared he is a member of the Cricket Club.

The Chairman asked the Council if they were happy to bring forward item 6 as there was a member of the public present for this agenda item. The Council AGREED.

6. SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO. 70 (EWHURST)
DIVERSION ORDER 2022

The Chairman advised the Council that it is being asked to review a decision it has made within the last six months and the Council has adopted Standing Orders for these circumstances. He said it was for the Council to decide if they wished to review their decision, which was AGREED by the Council. Cllrs P Chapman and E Townsend abstained from the vote. Cllr R Denton arrived.

The Clerk gave a powerpoint presentation of the history of the footpath diversion order. In summary, the Council originally objected to the diversion order in September 2021 and maintained their objection following a letter from the applicant that month. The Waverley Local Committee granted the diversion order in March 2022 and the Council wrote a letter of objection to the Secretary of State. The landowner wrote to the Chairman of the Council asking the Council to review their decision.

The Chairman brought forward the public session to enable the landowner to address the Council before the debate.

The landowner said there has always been vehicular access over public footpath 70, but the diversion route public footpath 71 is in much better condition as it is a tarmac path. She explained that her request to divert the path is a result of a break in at their property and theft, numerous incursions by members of the public into their private garden and in two instances people in their private residence.

Councillors asked the landowner many questions about the building work, how much of the hedge had been removed, future vehicular access, future plans for the front of the property and current security measures.

The Chairman asked the Council if they felt there was sufficient new information from the landowner for the Council to consider a new resolution. A vote was taken: 5 in favour, 4 against, 2 abstentions – AGREED.

The Chairman asked the Council if they would like to withdraw their letter to the Secretary of State in objection to the diversion order. A vote was taken: 5 in favour, 4 against, 2 abstentions – AGREED.

4. SEMUR-EN-AUXOIS

The Clerk advised that the Council has the power to fund travelling and subsistence allowance for a trip to our twinned town under the Local Government Act 1972 s176.

The Chairman explained that Semur-en-Auxois had invited a representative of the Parish Council to their tri-centenary this month and the Council had agreed for Cllr R Denton to represent the Council. He said the trip would promote Cranleigh and tourism in both directions and could provide valuable support to our businesses, schools, sports and other community groups. He said Cllr R Denton should be provided with a brief for the trip and the Council should create a budget as advised by the Surrey Association of Local Councils.

The Chairman asked the Council if they would like to assign a budget of £1,200 for travelling and subsistence for the trip. Cllr S Jeacock requested a recorded vote:

In Favour: Cllrs R Burbridge, P Chapman, N Sanctuary, M Scully, R Tyler, C Walker, G Worthington

Against: Cllrs C Gould, S Jeacock, E Townsend

Abstention: R Denton

The Council AGREED a budget of £1,200 for travelling and subsistence for the trip.

5. SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Various Roads in Cranleigh (20 Mph Speed Limit Zone) Order 2022

The Chairman said the Council's Planning Committee had submitted a response to the consultation as it was time limited. Cllr E Townsend said the Council's response may not have any weight as she had spoken with the SCC Officer today and the scheme is going ahead.

The Council debated whether they had been given sufficient information to consider the consultation, impact of speed reduction on casualties, impact of speed reduction on emissions and other forms of speed control. Cllr R Burbridge left the meeting. The Chairman said the Council cannot make a resolution today about the scheme as the scheme has already been permitted. The Council discussed a letter from the Chamber of Commerce in support of the 20mph speed limit in the High Street. The Chairman asked the Council if they would like to write to the Chamber of Commerce to support the 20 mph speed limit. A vote was taken: 8 in favour, 2 abstentions – AGREED.

The Chairman said a Committee of the Council had responded to this consultation due to consultation deadline time limits, but new information was being tabled to bring the item back to full Council to re-consider the original response. He said Standing Orders requires this should only be done in exceptional circumstances, and every time members do not agree with a decision, they are finding new information to bring a decision back to Council. Some members were unhappy that this decision had gone before a Committee and there should have been an extraordinary meeting of Council. The Clerk advised that this would impact on Council costs and Councillors as volunteers attending more meetings. Other Councillors felt Committee meetings are open to all Councillors to attend and speak and this would cut down the workload of the very long Council meetings. The Council AGREED that urgent matters cannot be taken to Committee meetings, instead extraordinary meetings of the Council should be called to consider urgent items.

7. PLATINUM JUBILEE EVENTS

The Chairman said the Council AGREED to underwrite any shortfall in the Jubilee Dinner Dance at the March Council meeting, but rescinded this decision at the April Council meeting due to concerns about ticket sales. The Chairman referred to Standing Orders, Knowles on Local Authority Meetings and NALC Local Councils Explained to advise that the Council is not permitted to change its decision again, so the Dinner Dance event is cancelled due to lack of ticket sales as of 09 May 2022, Council resolution of 28 April 2022.

The Chairman said Jubilee events and procurement process was discussed at monthly Council meetings. The Council had considered four quotations for catering, of which three companies had dropped out of the procurement process. Three Councillors had attended a tasting session prior to selection of a caterer, but it had been made clear to the caterer that the Council was not in a position to place an order at that time. The caterer has subsequently invoiced the Council for a 25% deposit, but has secured other business on that date.

The Chairman proposed that the Council makes an ex-gratia payment of £300 for the tasting session. A vote was taken: 9 in favour, 1 abstention – AGREED.

Cllr G Worthington asked for thanks to Cllr N Sanctuary to be recorded for his time and efforts to provide a Jubilee Dinner Dance for our community. Cllr N Sanctuary thanked him and said he supported the Council’s decision to cancel the event.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 26 May 2022 at 7.00pm. The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signature.....

Date.....