



# ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Serving Farley Green, Brook, Little London & Newlands Corner

## **PARISH OF ALBURY** **NOTICE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Local Government Act 1972**

The minutes of a meeting of Albury Parish Council which will be held on

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 at 19:30 in the village hall**  
for the transaction of the under-mentioned business.

### **Open Forum:**

**Present:** Cllrs A. McCann, G. Robinson, J. Brockwell, P. Gellatly, and P. Yeoman.  
County Cllr Hughes, Borough Cllr Jones, and Borough Cllr Morris

**In attendance:** The Clerk, Ms C. Bishop-Wright

001/23 **Election of Chairman:** Cllr McCann took over as Chair, and will stand as Chair until May.

002/23 **Apologies for absence:**  
Cllrs S. Bevan and S. Dennis

003/23 **Declaration of interest:**  
None received.

004/23 **Minutes of the meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> December; Annex 1**  
A number of amendments were proposed by Cllr Brockwell. The Clerk will amend and recirculate. To be reviewed ahead of and then approved at February meeting. **JB**  
**CJ**

### 005/23 **Actions Update**

- a) *New councillor recruitment* – Cllr McCann has collated a list of potential new councillors that have been suggested by current councillors. Cllr McCann asked all councillors if they were looking to re-stand after the elections in May. Cllr Brockwell and Cllr Yeoman will not be seeking re-election in May, and Cllr Gellatly is unsure. All other councillors are currently looking to stay. The Parish Council can have a maximum of 9 councillors and a minimum of 5 councillors. If the Parish Council has less than 5 councillors, GBC have the right to send other councillors to meetings to vote on decisions. Cllr Brockwell to discuss some other potential recruits with Cllr McCann. **AM**  
**JB**
- b) *Wisley application update* – Cllr Gellatly advised that Cllr Dennis requested this item on the agenda to discuss supporting other parishes that have recently objected to the application. Cllr Gellatly advised that the other parishes that have objected are closer to the project, and therefore are more affected. Albury would only be affected by more traffic. Cllr Gellatly advised that the project does not concern Albury and therefore we have no grounds for objection.
- c) *Community communications and database update* – The Clerk will discuss with the previous Clerk about the database of residents and see if she can provide details. Deferred until next meeting when Cllr Dennis is present. **CJ**
- d) *Remarking of allotments* – No progress. Deferred to February meeting.
- e) *Jubilee photo framing* – No update. Cllr Brockwell is waiting to hear back from the resident organizing this and will chase. **JB**

### 006/23 **Brief Report from Borough Councillors:**

- a) *Local Plan* – Borough Cllr Jones advised that the draft local plan has been submitted to the **DJ**

- Secretary of State. An independent planning inspector was appointed to check if this meets the legal and national policy requirements, and has made suggestions for modifications which are now being consulted on. Borough Cllr Jones will update at the next meeting.
- b) *GBC priorities* – Cllr McCann advised that APC would like to know what GBC’s priorities are, and what the main job roles at GBC are after lots of changes over the past year. Borough Cllr Jones has this information and will circulate, and bring more information regarding the whole picture at GBC for the next meeting. Borough Cllr Jones will provide more specific information regarding finance after 08/02/2023. Borough Cllr Morris provided an update on the GBC planning department. He advised that there are difficulties with staffing, which is causing long delays. Cllr Gellatly advised that the PC have not received any enforcement updates since the beginning of October. Borough Cllr Morris is going to look into this. Cllr Gellatly also mentioned that in the past the PC would hear of the decision of a planning application 7 days before it is signed off, so that if the PC do not agree with a decision, they have a chance to query this before it’s published. Cllr Gellatly also advised that Guildford are one of the slowest planning departments in the country. Cllr Brockwell also raised that the lack of local knowledge means that planning application decisions are not reflecting the views of the residents. Borough Cllr Morris to consider how best to improve interactions and discuss at next meeting.
- c) *Climate change board* – GBC are planning to be carbon neutral in all council business by 2030, and for the whole borough to be carbon neutral by 2050. Cllr McCann requested further details of how GBC plan to deliver their targets.
- d) *Holmbury First Responders* – Borough Cllr Jones has requested evidence of the police supporting the Holmbury First Responders from the Chief Constable, Gavin Stevens. She also advised that the Police and Crime Commissioner has chosen a preferred candidate to be the new Chief Constable, Tim DeMeyer.

**DJ  
RM**

007/23 **Brief Report from County Councillors:**

- a) *Woodhill Sandpit/Sawmills* – The nature of the works at the Sandpit is not clear. There has been a buildup of traffic around Farley Green recently. This is not related to the works of the planning application at the Albury Sandpit. Cllr Brockwell advised that the entrance to this site is being changed to allow a HGV through for a new building that’s being built at the property, which has been approved. Cllr Brockwell will provide any more information with County Cllr Hughes.
- b) *Brook Hill road closure* – County Cllr Hughes advised that whilst the situation is frustrating, utility providers are authorised to undertake such work. Cllr McCann suggested that the issue is the lack of communication and the lack of resident impact assessment and that works should be managed to be completed more expeditiously. Whilst there is very little we can do about this, Cllr Brockwell is going to look into whether other organisation such as B4SH have to apply for a s50 application and road closures in a similar manner to B4SH.
- c) *Westonfields flooding update* – County Cllr Hughes is escalating the issue of flooding to SCC this week. County Cllr Hughes is also seeing Michael Baxter to ensure that any estate and SCC activity is co-ordinated. He is also going to discuss with him the issue of the depreciating Yew Trees at Newlands Corner. County Cllr Hughes is also going to arrange to see Michael Baxter to see what he is doing in regards to flooding on his land so that the country council does not interfere with any of his plans.
- d) *Farley Green flooding update – approach to resolve and funding* – County Cllr Hughes is continuing to agree an approach to resolve and funding of long standing flooding issues in FG which rest with SCC. Cllr Brockwell asked if Cllr Hughes will be discussing the Ride Lane issue as well. Cllr Brockwell has had the ditches opposite Farley Hall cleared and the PC owned ditch on the west side of Farley Green cleared also. The ditches were blocked with silt coming down from Ride Lane. Cllr Brockwell advised that the PC will be request for the costs associated with this to be reimbursed by SCC.
- e) *Disabled parking at Newlands’ Corner* – County Cllr Hughes previously contacted SCC Countryside in regards to changes at Newlands Corner to inform that the changes that they’ve made are not suitable for people who need additional accessibility, and for them to contact Surrey Coalition of Disabled People for assistance with this. The changes made are wholly unsatisfactory.

**JB  
BH**

**JB  
BH**

**BH**

**BH**

**BH**

- 008/23 **Matters Arising:**
- a) *Draft letter to be approved regarding Holmbury First Responders* – Deferred to February meeting. Clerk to copy County Cllr Hughes into this letter when drafted with Cllr Dennis. **CJ**  
**SD**
  - b) *Grant to Broadband 4 Surrey Hills* – Cllr Brockwell proposed the advance of the next £5,000 of the total £10,000 grant offered to B4SH. This part of the grant is for the rest of Shophouse Lane and from the back of Edgeley Park to the bottom of Brook Hill. Cllr Robinson seconded. Cllrs Gellatly, Yeoman, and McCann voted in favour of.
- 009/23 **Clerk's Matters Arising:**
- a) *Footpath between Water Lane and Albury Estate offices* – The Clerk read an email from a resident explaining that the footpath between Mill Lane and Surrey Hills is impassible when it rains due to flooding. The build-up of leaves and the erosion at the footpath between Water Lane and Albury Estate offices is affecting walking here also. Borough Cllr Jones to look into this as GBC land. Borough Cllr Jones to resolve with GBC support. **DJ**
- 010/23 **Police Matters:**
- a) *Link to crime statistics* – <https://www.police.uk/your-area/surrey-police/albury-shalford-compton-holy-trinity-shere-gomshall-peaslake-and-farley-green/>
  - b) *Community impact statements* – Cllr Robinson advised that the PCSOs have started doing the community impact statements in regards to anti-social behaviour.
  - c) *Police involvement in Parish activities* – Cllr Brockwell advised that the PC do not get enough information about any police matters in the area. The above link provides very limited details. The PC have previously asked the PCSOs for more information regarding this. The Clerk will look into this again. Borough Cllr Morris suggested to contact the Borough Inspector to outline the communication issue between the PC and the police. Borough Cllr Morris is also going to look into getting additional patrols in the parish. Borough Cllr Morris also asked if there has been any car keying in the parish as Shere parish have had a spout recently. The PC advised that no reports of this in Albury. **CJ**  
**RM**
- Committee Reports:**
- 011/23 **Highways, Byways, and Traffic: Cllr Brockwell**
- a) *VAS update* – Cllrs Brockwell and Gellatly have changed the battery for the VAS. The data has not yet been downloaded, and will be done with Cllr Bevan as soon as possible. **JB**  
**SB**
  - b) *Approach to new SCC road closures* – Cllr Brockwell advised that there is more information regarding road closures, and he is signed up to a newsletter regarding this, and he will circulate this information that can be found at one.network/uk. **JB**
  - c) *How do we ensure visibility of priority transport changes* – With improved input from GBC and SCC, APC can be better informed.
  - d) *20s Plenty – update on inviting to future meeting* – Cllr Brockwell asked County Cllr Hughes to see if the recent Surrey speed reduction scheme in Mole Valley, which was funded by Smart Surrey, will be introduced to Albury, and if so, when. Further co-ordination with Duncan Knox is expected to lead to a deliverable outcome supported by relevant bodies. Cllr Dennis has previously requested a presentation from 20s Plenty to the PC/parishioners. Deferred until next meeting. **SD**
- 012/23 **Outdoor Maintenance and Open Spaces: Cllr Yeoman**
- a) *Dog Fouling* – Cllr Brockwell still looking into an appropriate place for the camera to go. Cllr Yeoman suggested to ask Mr Eshelby to see if we can put a camera behind Albury House. Cllr Brockwell to look into this. Clerk to check with PCSOs for any further advice. The PC's view is to put the camera on PC land, and not attached to any neighbours properties to ensure they don't put anyone at risk. **JB**  
**CJ**
  - b) *Farley Green tree planting ceremony and resident communications* – Postponed discussion until end of meeting.
- 013/23 **Planning and Environment: Cllr Gellatly**
- a) *New Guildford town centre proposal* – Cllr McCann advised that there are planning applications happening in Guildford town centre that APC are not consulted on. Even

though we are not directly affected due to proximity, the PC would like to be consulted. Borough Cllr Morris is going to look into improving this. Cllr Gellatly also advised there is a consultations and developments section on the GBC website which outlines all applications.

- b) *How do we ensure visibility of priority planning changes* – With improved support from GBC and SCC, APC can be better informed.

014/23 **Village Hall: Cllr Brockwell**

- a) *Outstanding debts* – As discussed at the village hall and finance meeting on 19/12/2022, Cllr Brockwell suggested to write off all debts between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019, other than invoice 18/152, 18/157, and 19/131. The total write off amount is £832. (*Annexe 1* – analysis of village hall debts). Cllr Robinson seconded. Cllrs Yeoman, Gellatly, and McCann voted in favour of.
- b) *Appoint a councillor to take over responsibility for village hall from Cllr Brockwell* – Cllr Bevan has previously said that he will take over responsibility of the village hall from Cllr Brockwell. As Cllr Bevan absent at this meeting Cllr Brockwell has agreed to continue with village hall until the next meeting, or until someone else takes over in May. Management of the Village Hall requires local physical input in Albury for such things as heating checks. To discuss at next meeting.

CJ

015/23 **Allotments: Cllr Robinson**

- a) Cllr Robinson looking into getting a meeting together for all allotments tenants to discuss their projects, and if they're looking to continue with their allotment tenancies next year. Cllr Brockwell and Robinson to discuss allotment remarking, strimming, and current tenancies.

GR  
JB

016/23 **Communications: Cllr Dennis**

No update.

017/23 **Environmental Projects: Cllr McCann**

- a) Details of tillingbourne.earth activity previously circulated. Ongoing updates available via this source and associated social media platforms.

018/23 **Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Dennis**

- a) *Update* – Cllr Brockwell advised that we're still waiting consultancy visit from AECOM, and still waiting on the draft NP from John Dowty.

019/23 **Finance**

- a) *Bank reconciliation* – £65,304.07 approved as of 31/12/2022.
- b) *Payments and receipts* – Total receipts of £45,843 and payments of £35,126 approved as of 31/12/2022.
- c) *Management reports* – This report is redundant. Reissue this report in April.
- d) *Precept* – As discussed at the finance and village hall meeting on 19/12/2022, Cllr Brockwell proposed a 0% increase in the Council tax, which is £73.34 for Band D equivalent. Due to the decrease of Band D equivalent properties from 621.03 to 619.95, the PC will receive £1,944 less precept from GBC. The Clerk to complete the relevant forms and send before the deadline on 13/01/2023.

CJ

012/22 b) Re Tree planting at Farley Green. The 2 groups supporting the Prince Philip and Queen Elizabeth trees are currently coordinating with each other. Cllr Yeoman has been asked to plant the trees, without any ceremony or resident input allowing appropriate ceremonies to be arranged in due course, when they arrive this week or as soon as weather conditions permit. The tree positions agreed were between Ride Lane track and the ditch on Farley Green, with approx. 20m between the trees, and furthest from the road so that it doesn't disturb anyone's view.

020/23 **Councillor's Business**

Nothing to report.

021/23 **New Correspondence**

Nothing to report.

022/23 **Date of Meetings**

Full Council: 6<sup>th</sup> February, 6<sup>th</sup> March.

Planning: 30<sup>th</sup> January, 20<sup>th</sup> February

The meeting closed at 21:30

*Dated this:*

*Signed: C J Bishop-Wright, Parish Clerk*