



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 Albury Parish Council meeting held on

Monday 8th April, 2024 at 19:30 in the village hall

for the transaction of the under mentioned business.

There will be an informal question time of up to fifteen minutes during which members of the public, who live or work in the Parish, may ask questions relevant to the work of the Council. The Council meeting will start immediately following public question time or at 7.45pm, whichever is the earlier.

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs A. McCann, G. Robinson, P. Gellatly, N. Edwards, and S. Dennis

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

Members of the public: Mrs Sally Blake and Mr Robert Kelly

Apologies for absence

Cllrs S. Bevan

Borough Cllr D. Newson

In the Chair's absence, Cllr Dennis stood as Chair.

Open Forum

A member of the public, Mrs Sally Blake, attended the meeting as a representative from Save Surrey Countryside to provide Council with an update. Sally advised that the Surrey Hills National Landscape (previously Surrey Hills AONB) is currently setting its management plan for 2025-2030, with Sally producing data for them herself. Sally offered to provide the PC with similar information. SHNL are putting more emphasis on the nature and climate in this new management plan, and the new Chair, Kathy Atkinson, is focused on this also.

Sally also advised that GBC have recently sold some land at Blackwell Farm to the University of Surrey, who have permission to build 1,800 houses on this land and are seeking permission to erect over 25,000 solar panels. Sally advised of issues surrounding notices for all of the public meetings of the sale of this land, which she is currently addressing with GBC. The Clerk to liaise with Cllr Hughes about this to see if he can provide any more information.

Another member of the public, Mr Robert Kelly, also attended the meeting to discuss the condition of highways within the parish, specifically New Road. Cllr McCann circulated a draft document created by Mr Kelly which he intends to send to SCC. The issue that has arisen is that due to large and wide vehicles travelling down New Road at the national speed limit has caused considerable damage to the side of the roads, creating deep and dangerous gullies. This is worsened due to increased rainfall which washes out the gullies. The current planning application for the filling of the sandpit at Woodhill Sawmills is concerning some residents, as if this application is approved, the number of HGVs through the parish will increase significantly. He is writing to SCC to highlight the impact of this planning application, and also the issue of the dangerous edge of New Road, especially as the more the road erodes, the more often it will need to be repaired at taxpayers expense. Cllr Dennis advised that the Land Use

CJ
BH

BH

Policy in the Neighbourhood Plan stipulates that any planning applications will have to take into account the effect they will have on the parish, which will include the roads. This will be planning policy if the NP is approved. Cllr McCann advised that this issue has been escalated with Cllr Hughes, and he is looking into this. Clerk to discuss the rules around restrictive access on highways with Cllr Hughes

067/24 **Declarations of interest:**

None.

068/24 **Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19th February and 4th March; Annex 1**

March minutes agreed as a correct record of the meeting. Amendments for the February meeting to be circulated.

069/24 **Actions Update; Annex 2**

Cllr Dennis requested the Clerk to circulate action list within the minutes.

CJ

a) *Parish Meeting*

Cllr Dennis asked the Clerk to confirm whether there was an ad put in the parish mag for the parish meeting on 29th April. Cllr McCann confirmed there was. Cllr Dennis also asked the Clerk to liaise with Mr Brockwell as he is currently organising some banner signs for the NP meetings, and to see if he can organise some for the parish meeting also.

CJ

070/24 **Brief Report from Borough Councillors**

Nothing to report.

071/24 **Brief report from County Councillors**

Nothing to report.

072/24 **Matters arising**

Nothing to report.

073/24 **Clerks matters arising**

Nothing to report.

074/24 **Police matters**

- a) *Link to crime statistics* - <https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/surrey-police/albury-shalford-compton-holy-trinity-shere-gomshall-peaslake-and-farley-green/>

Committee reports:

075/24 **Highways, Byways, and Traffic: Cllr Robinson**

a) *New Road*

Cllr Robinson advised that there are erosion issues on the edge of Guildford Lane which are also dangerous as with New Road.

b) *Slow signs at Westonfields*

Cllr Robinson has had requests from some residents at Westonfields for Council to erect “slow, children” signs near the recreation ground, as some vehicles drive very fast around the rec. Cllr Edwards to look into costs with manufacturer used recently.

076/24 **Outdoor maintenance and open spaces: Cllr Edwards**

a) *Ditch at The Warren, Church Lane*

This clearing of the ditch at has been delayed due to the resurfacing of Blackheath Lane. The contractors who were originally going to clear the ditch are now unable to, so Cllr Edwards has been getting some quotes for this, but it should be around £350. Cllr Edwards has met with Mr Lees, who attended the last meeting to discuss the ditch which needs to be cleared, he suggested that the ditch is dug out, and left sloping, so that when it rains the water runs off out of the ditch.

NE

b) *Memorial Library Repairs*

- Cllr Edwards has confirmed with the Albury Estate the new plastic cast-iron effect guttering, which will be purchased in green and then painted with the exact Albury Green, so that if the paint chips there will not be black underneath which is beginning to show. Even though this is more expensive, the total costs of the repairs have decreased. The approved costs were £6,500 for the guttering, but are now circa £1,200. The cost for the repairs by the contractor were £3,100 last year and are now £2,965. The scaffolders are yet to confirm if their quotes have changed, so this is assumed to be the same. Cllr Edwards proposed to go ahead with the new costs. Cllr Robinson seconded. All in favour. **NE**
- Cllr Edwards also advised that the lights need to be removed to replace the guttering, so he suggested to replace them with LEDs due to environmental and economic benefits, despite more expensive installation. Cllr Edwards to get a quote for this. **NE**
- c) *No parking signs on Farley Green*
Cllr Edwards advised these have all been erected on Farley Green. Cllr Edwards has been in discussion with Edgeley Park with concerns that their booking system does not make clear that they do not allow commercial vehicles on site, which means that customers end up parking on the Green. The manager of Haulfryn has agreed to attend the May Council meeting to discuss concerns. **NE**
- d) *SITA/SUEZ Viewpoint Sign*
Cllr Edwards presented the latest draft of the sign. Cllr Gellatly advised an amendment to the design. Everything else was agreed. Cllr Edwards to order. **NE**
- e) *Grass cutting around the parish*
Cllr Edwards has been looking into new quotes for the grass cutting around the parish as the current contractor is not available. The next cheapest quote is £2,470 for the year with Clovers. Cllr Edwards proposed the next cheapest quote. Cllr Robinson seconded. All in favour. **NE**
- f) *Replacement tree on Farley Green* **NE**
Cllr Edwards advised that the replacement has been agreed as an Indian Bean Tree, which the contractor who is going to plant it is able to source the delivery of. The original tree, which was around £125 was just ornamental and won't grow to full size, so a full size one will cost around £235, with £60-100 for planting. Cllr Edwards proposed. Cllr Dennis seconded. All in favour.
- g) *Village Hall Planters* **NE**
Cllr Edwards suggested to purchase 1m high planters and some cosmos flowers to plant in these. Cllr Edwards to get a quote for this.
- h) *Strimming around the parish* **NE**
Cllr Dennis raised that the contractor who has been clearing the footpaths around the parish, has not cleared The Street from Bakery Mews down to Church Lane. Cllr Edwards to raise this. Cllr Dennis also asked the Clerk to send invoice to the landowners of footpaths that Council paid to be cleared after no action from the landowners. **CJ**
- i) *Defibrillators* **NE**
Cllr Edwards looking into turning the phonebox on Farley Green into a defibrillator.
- j) *Recreation Ground Equipment* **CJ**
Cllr Robinson raised that the protective bark on the ground by the play equipment in the recreation ground is wearing and should be replaced. Clerk to look into this.
- 077/24 **Planning and environment: Cllr Gellatly**
Nothing to report.
- 078/24 **Village Hall: Cllr Bevan**
a) *Village Hall Heating Issues* **CJ**
The Clerk advised that there have been no recent issues with the heating in the hall, and that these seem to be intermittent. Cllr Bevan and the caretaker are checking the heating and the thermostat regularly. Clerk and Cllr Bevan to continue to monitor.
- 079/24 **Allotments: Cllr Robinson**
a) *Tenancy agreements*

The Clerk has now received back all tenancy agreements and payments from all tenants, including 1 new tenant, other than 1 tenant that Cllr Robinson will chase. **GR**

b) *Spraying and strimming*

Cllr Robinson has confirmed with Mr Yeoman that he will do this.

080/24 **Communications: Cllr Dennis**

a) *Albury Matters*

Cllr Dennis advised the latest issue of Albury Matters was circulated with the recent parish mag.

081/24 **Environmental projects: Cllr McCann**

Nothing to report.

082/24 **Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Dennis**

a) *Update*

Cllr Dennis advised that the first presentation of the Neighbourhood Plan will be at the annual parish meeting on the 29th April. There will then be 2 engagement events on 8th and 15th May, which will allow parishioners to provide their ideas or opinions. There will be more information on the NP available on the NP website before 29th April. Cllr Dennis is still waiting on the Affordable Housing report from AECOM, but this should be received before 29th April also. The executive summary of the Housing Needs Survey Report has been received but not the full report.

Finance; moved to start of meeting as Mr Brockwell assisting

The following to be approved and signed, where necessary:

a) *Bank reconciliation end of March; Annex 5*

b) *Invoice list end of March; Annex 6*

c) *Payments and receipts end of February; Annex 7*

083/24 d) *Bank statement end of March; Annex 8*

None of the above were agreed as they have not been reviewed by Mr Brockwell, and the s137 grants provided have not been included in the figures. Deferred until May.

084/24 **Councillor's business: for noting or including on a future agenda**

085/24 **New Correspondence**

086/24 **Dates of meetings**

Full council: 29th April (parish meeting), 13th May

Planning: 22nd April, 13th May

Meeting closed: 20:59

Dated this:

8th May, 2024

*Signed: CJ Bishop-Wright
Parish Clerk*