

# ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a meeting of Albury Parish Council held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllr J Brockwell (in the chair), Cllrs J Chapman, J Croucher, P Gellatly, P von Radowitz

1 member of the public

The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

### 126/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Were received from Cllrs R Hogben, D Nicholson, G Robinson and N Wenman; Borough Cllr D Wright, County Cllr D Davis.

### 127/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 1) Councillors were reminded that they must register an interest in any items on the agenda for this meeting, where appropriate, at the beginning of the meeting
- 2) Councillors were further reminded that they must ensure that their register of interests is kept up to date and the Clerk advised of changes and additions.

No interests were declared.

### 128/08 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2008

Were agreed as a true record of the meeting, and signed by the Chairman.

### 129/08 MATTERS ARISING

**110/08:91/08a:** *Albury House:* The Clerk had given Albury House and GBC contact details in order to progress this purchase.

**110/08:91/08d:** *Lighting outside library:* This work had now been completed. Cllr Brockwell explained that lighting now covered the walk to and from the car park, and the area outside the library. He would change the bulb in the large light over the village hall, which would give additional lighting when leaving the hall.

**110/08:91/08e:** *Hall decoration:* work on painting the main hall commenced on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July. To date the walls had been completed, and a large portion of the windows. The Clerk would liaise with the caretaker to ensure that the hall was returned to order in time for the Village of the Year judges' visit on Friday 11<sup>th</sup>.

**111/08c:** *Maintenance of Old Churchyard:* GBC had acknowledged the Parish Council's request to take on this work and had now advised that this matter had been passed to their Parks Department.

**111/08e:** *Surrey Hills Society:* Founder Membership had been applied for.

**111/08g:** *Albury Produce Show:* Cllr Nicholson had advised that the stand was booked, and SITA had confirmed that the CAD drawings would be available to show. The Clerk would circulate a request for people to 'man' the stall, giving time slots.

**121/08c:** *Village Green:* The Clerk had asked Design Drives to remove the orange fencing; Cllr Chapman advised that it had been removed by the Estate.

**121/08e:** *Youth:* Cllr Wenman was liaising with Russell Gant, who had agreed to assist the Parish Council in involving youth in the village in a Parish Council sub-committee.

**123/08b:** *Heritage Lottery Fund – celebrating the 50 years of the AONB designation:*

Members to receive a report and recommendations from Cllr Hogben on his return.

## **130/08 CLERK'S MATTERS ARISING**

- a) *CPRE*: Members were asked to consider whether the Parish Council should take membership of this organisation. SCAP&TC had advised as following: "*local councils have power to join societies with aims and objects which can be said to benefit people living in their area. CPRE might be considered a campaigning organisation, and it is possible that a council might be in conflict with the organisation over a matter in their area*" and, as members, would be required to register an interest. After discussion, it was **agreed** not to take up membership for this reason.
- b) *Albury Heath: cricket nets*: The £10,000 grant had been received from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts. The remainder of the expenditure, £12585.00 had been reimbursed through GBC S 106 monies. VAT was reclaimable on the total.
- c) *Complaints about the conduct of Borough and Parish councillors*: The Borough Council, having taken responsibility for receiving and making initial assessments of complaints about the conduct of councillors in its area, was required to establish 3 sub-committees to deal with the various stages of the complaints process, each to include a parish council representative. Two were currently serving, nominations were sought for a third member, to be received by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008. The Clerk requested that any councillor interested in taking up this post should contact her.

## **131/08 POLICE MATTERS**

No report had been received, although it was noted that an article had been submitted to the parish magazine.

The comment was made that it was very difficult to get hold of the police. Cllr von Radowitz had attempted to ring several times as she had seen a suspicious person knocking on doors in Farley Green, and the main Guildford office had not answered the telephone.

**Action:** the Clerk to ask PC Patey for a comment.

Lampards had been burgled recently, and a great deal of damage done.

## **132/08 OPEN FORUM**

The member of the public advised of a nuisance problem with a neighbour at no 33a, Westonfields, which had now continued over a period of several years. The Borough Council were involved, but seemed unable or unwilling to do much to intervene. The residents affected had been asked to write to the Borough Council and this had been done, the letter having been signed by 15 people. These residents were also keeping a diary of incidents.

**Action:** The residents involved to copy the letter to the Borough council to the Parish council. The Clerk to seek advice, and also to talk to the police. An official from the Borough Council housing department to be asked to explain what action was being taken.

## **133/08 COMMITTEE REPORTS** **Highways and Byways**

- a) *Minutes from the meeting held Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June*: had been circulated prior to the meeting. The amended plans for proposed traffic calming through the village were tabled.
  - On the 3<sup>rd</sup> June John Cheeseman had advised that Water Lane and Little London were to be jetted within the month, but nothing had happened.
  - When the roads were surface dressed, the sweeper which cleared the road beforehand had not done an adequate job, and the tar was poured on dust,

and would not hold.

- b) *Speed Cameras*: The Clerk reported that the PCSO would undertake a percentile check, recording 100 vehicles in both directions. If the average speed was over 36mph then, as part of a campaign, temporary signs would be erected for a period of 6 – 8 weeks. Speeds would then be recorded again after they were removed, to see if they had made a difference. The Clerk had advised Surrey Police that the Council had already undertaken a speed/volume/type check through the village, and asked if this information could be used, but had not yet received a response.
- c) *Hedges in the Street*: The Clerk had written to Albury Estate and 'Albury Peace'. The Estate had written back to advise that the ones at Weston Lea had been cut, and the one in front of Knowles was due to be done shortly. Cllr Chapman requested that the owners of "Pippins" be asked to cut back their forsythia.
- d) *Bus shelter at Boundary Cottages*: a price list had been circulated. Mr Clark had confirmed that the Parish Council will receive a 50% discount, but would need to pay the full amount for the base. After discussion, Cllr Brockwell PROPOSED that this bus shelter should be removed completely, this was SECONDED by Cllr von Radowitz, all in favour. **Action**: The Clerk would confirm with Mr Clark that this was permissible and, if so, Philip Goddard would be asked to undertake the work.

#### 134/08 Community Development

- a) *Website*: all corrections, as discussed, had been made. Local businesses had been contacted and 6 had replied to date. Any changes requested by them to the information on the web site had been made. Awaiting information on activities in village hall, and contact details, and also information on local societies.
- b) *Community*: Cllr Nicholson had suggested that all parishes get together to form a "knife free" area, as this was an issue that was affecting everyone more and more. It was **agreed** that this should be discussed by the Community committee, and recommendations brought to the September meeting.

#### 135/08 Open Spaces, Recreation and the Environment

- a) *Minutes from the meeting held Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June* had been circulated.
- b) *AGLV*: Surrey Hills office had asked whether there would be support for an investigation into whether it would be productive for the AONB to be extended to include the AGLV (Area of Great Landscape Value). It was **agreed** to give support, as this would afford the AONB greater protection.
- c) *Date for litter pick*: As the previously arranged litter pick had not gone ahead, this was now re-arranged for 7pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July, to clear the village. Cllr Croucher volunteered to litter pick the Heath.
- d) *Recreation Ground*: The gate from the garages had been broken and the lane outside full of garden refuse. The apparent binge drinking had been reported to the police. **Action**: the Clerk to write to the residents and also the housing department, GBC, concerning the refuse. The old goal posts to be removed.
- e) *Footpaths*: Cllr von Radowitz confirmed that the person she had found to trim the footpaths had arranged public liability insurance. He would be responsible for his own tax and NI, and would confirm this on his invoice.  
**Action**: Clerk to ascertain whether SCC will reimburse the Parish Council for doing this work on their behalf. All Councillors to contact Clerk with nominated footpaths, and a list will be drawn up. The contractor, Matt Hiley, to clear footpath 212 initially, and Cllr von Radowitz to assess his work, before he continued with others.
- f) *Village Hall*: A recommendation from the committee will be tabled at the September Council meeting.
- g) *Amber Heights*: The owners had been advised that the Parish Council would not give permission for access. A view on the legal position had been sought from

Roger Taylor, but not yet received.

h) **Pond: Action:** The Clerk to chase John Britton and Tadpole Water Services.

## 136/08 Planning

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

#### 08/P/1066 Cheynes, Brook Lane, Albury

*Insertion of two dormer windows to front elevation*

The Planning Committee had no objection to this application. Cllr Gellatly advised that he had discussed this response with neighbours, who had been in agreement.

#### Public Inquiry: 07/P/2182 Land Adjacent to Cheynes

*Retrospective application for continued use of former stable building to house a domestic generator in addition to use of building for storage for domestic purposes*

A public Inquiry would be held in GBC offices on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2008, lasting 1 day.

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED BY GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### 08/P/0483 Land at Albury Wellsite, Albury Park

*Consultation from SCC for retention of an existing wellsite compound with associated surrounding bunds, access and roadway of some 1.51ha; the erection of a new security fencing; the use of the appraisal site for drilling and flow testing for hydrocarbons from up to two appraisal boreholes; the retention of a transformer and switchroom and the retention of an existing appraisal well involving flow testing for hydrocarbons, the installation of appraisal facilities and provision of a container unit for use as offices and messroom, all for a temporary period of up to 3 ½ years, with restoration to commercial forestry (as amended by plans received 30.4.08)*

Objection. It was noted that SCC officers had recommended this application for approval.

#### 08/P/0832 Hurst Lea, Park Road, Albury

*Erection of front porch*

Approved with conditions

The planning committee had no objection to this application.

## 137/08 Star Energy

Members were asked to consider what representation should be made by the Parish Council at the SCC committee meeting scheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup> July, when the application for appraisal of Albury 2 was to be considered. It was **agreed** that the representation from Albury, to include Cllr Wenman, and Andrew Oliver and Tim Harrold from CPRE, would put forward the case as outlined in discussion documents, and that they had the Council's full support.

## 138/08 Albury Landfill Site

- a) *Restoration Plan:* Draft plans have been viewed by Cllr Nicholson and some members of the Landfill Committee. A meeting will be held with the whole committee, without SITA's presence, to discuss these further. A date to be arranged.

## 139/08 Finance

1. *Annual Return:* The Annual Return for the External Auditors, BDL, was tabled at the meeting for approval. Statement of accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 had been circulated. Acceptance of the Annual Return was PROPOSED by Cllr Brockwell, SECONDED by Cllr Croucher, all were in favour.
2. *Statement of Assurance:* this was completed and acceptance was PROPOSED by Cllr Chapman, SECONDED by Cllr von Radowitz, all were in favour.

3. Expenditure against budget to end of June had been circulated with the agenda. There were no questions. The Clerk would hand the books to Cllr Brockwell for an internal audit as soon as the annual return was completed.

	Chq no	Amount	Exp power
<b>a) The following were paid out of meeting:</b>			
24) E Balshaw: Wages, June	d/d	£480.01	LGA '72
25) Albury Estate: rent, hall	197	£1519.27	
26) Albury Estate: rent: library	197	£84.01	
27) Village day refreshments	198	£104.57	
28) Phillip Goddard: strimming	199	£150.00	
29) Save Blackheath Common	200	£250.00	
30) Surrey Hills Society	201	£65.00	
31) J Cadman: salary, June	202	£763.68	
32) Albury Estate: insurance	203	£157.53	
33) G A Chedd	204	£95.20	
<b>b) The following are presented for payment</b>			
34) Guildford Lock and Safe	205	£64.53	
35) Clerk's expenses 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2008	206	£374.22	
36) GBC: rates July	d/d	£130.00	

**140/08 COUNCILLORS BUSINESS for noting or including on a future agenda,**

- a) *Church Lane:* banks were in a bad condition. **Action:** The Clerk to refer this to the Estate.
- b) *Parkers Hill:* Pavement in a very bad state of repair. It was noted that it was not possible just to clear this, as the pavement had crumbled. **Action:** the Clerk to refer this to Highways.
- c) *Litter bins on Heath:* the Clerk had written to GBC in May concerning this, and had heard nothing. She would chase this up.
- d) *Village Hall Sign:* Very faded. **Action:** Clerk to contact Estate.

**141/08 OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

This would be circulated after the meeting.

**142/08 NEW CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) *South East Regional Sustainability Framework:* Information was on circulation.

**Routine correspondence was distributed at the meeting**

**143/08 OPEN FORUM**

**144/08 DATES OF MEETINGS:**

**Full Council:**  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September, 7.30pm  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 7.30pm  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 7.30pm. *Precept meeting*

**Planning:**  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 7pm  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 7pm  
*If there are plans to consider*

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.50pm.