



ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Serving Farley Green, Brook, Little London & Newlands Corner

PARISH OF ALBURY

NOTICE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of a meeting of Albury Parish Council held on

Monday 7th January 2013 at 7.30pm

In the **Memorial Library** for the transaction of the under mentioned business.



Present: Cllr N Wenman (in the chair), Cllrs J Brockwell, P Gellatly, R Hogben, A Kerslake, K Kinnes,

G Robinson, S Scott, P von Radowitz

County Cllr K Taylor

1 member of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

01/13 Apologies for absence: all members were present.

Borough Cllrs R Billington and D Wright had sent their apologies.

02/13 Declarations of interest: none were made.

03/13 Minutes of the Meeting held 3rd December 2012: were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

04/13 Matters Arising

230/12a: Mayors Visit: Although originally made and confirmed for the March meeting, it was considered that the Mayor might find the Annual Assembly more valuable, and her visit has now been confirmed for Monday 15th April.

243/12a: Shophouse Lane: the water leak has been attended to.

243/12b: Shophouse Lane: the Clerk has reported the damage caused by lorries to SCC and requested signs: 'unsuitable for HGVs'. This item is now moved to outstanding matters.

05/13 Chairman and Clerks Matters arising

a) *BT kiosk at Brook:* The Clerk contacted BT to ascertain the current status of this box, who advised that they believed it was in working order, as GBC had not allowed it to be adopted, but that no calls had been made from it in the last year. They would consider re-starting the adoption process if the Parish Council so wished, but not in the near future. Cllr Brockwell advised that the receiver cable is not attached, the Clerk will advise BT and ask for it to be repaired.

06/13 Police matters

No report had been received from the police.

Members asked for the following matters to be drawn to the attention of the police:

- a) *Silent Pool Cottage:* the residents have again reported a number of cars in the car park, and young adults moving around the car park, apparently holding large sticks. This has happened on three nights in the last week, between 9 and 11pm.
- b) *Shed break-ins:* these have started again, with a number of occurrences over the Christmas period.
- c) *Farley Green:* 4 wheel drive cars are driving around the Green again, having been seen between 6 and 7pm the previous evening.

07/13 Open Forum

- a) *Albury Heath*: Mrs Goddard reported that one of the edging posts is missing.
- b) *Albury Heath*: Mrs Goddard advised that the previous night there had been a number of cars racing up and down Sandy Lane. The Clerk would advise the police.

08/13 **Committee reports: Facilities**

- a) Minutes of the meeting on the 10th December had been circulated before the meeting.
- b) Cllr Brockwell reported as follows
 - i. *Flooding opposite Edgeley Park*: this has been resolved.
 - ii. *Ditch at Farley Green*: the work carried out at the expense of the Countryside Access team, the Parish Council, and a favour by Sita had not resolved the flooding from this ditch because the ditch adjacent to August Lane had not been dug out. Until the owner of the property adjacent to August Lane formally advised SCC that he did not intend to dig out the ditch, believing it not to be his property, they could take no action.
Cllr von Radowitz could not understand the logic of clearing the top of the ditch if the bottom was not to be cleared. Already the flow of water down the ditch, bringing down silt, had caused the ditch to block up again as there was no-where for the water to go to, so the digging was a waste of time and money. This was acknowledged, but Cllr Brockwell advised that it had originally been intended to dig the whole of the ditch, but the SCC contractor had run out of time on the allocated day. Once he had left the site, SCC would not allow a contractor to return to complete the work, as they did not have the funding.
 - iii. *VAS*: the speed check report had thrown up a number of anomalies, appearing to show that there was more traffic in the early hours of the morning than in the commuter hours. Cllr Brockwell would discuss this with Matt Redfern.
 - iv. *Footpaths*: Cllr Brockwell has arranged a meeting with Anne Woods to discuss SCC's schedule for maintenance of the footpaths, in order to ensure that the Parish Council did not cut footpaths that SCC intended to do.
 - v. *Grit bins*: Cllr Taylor had contacted the Parish Council to advise that a SCC survey had shown that two grit bins were broken and were to be removed. As their scoring did not add up to 100, they would not be replaced. The Brook Hill bin had been removed, but not the one at Church Lane. Cllr Brockwell was of the opinion that the bin at Brook Hill had still been perfectly serviceable. Cllr Taylor would request that the bin at Church Lane be left in place, and the Parish Council will use it elsewhere. Cllr Taylor pointed out that the Council would need to ask for a license to install its own bins on Highways Land.
Cllr Brockwell has purchase two new bins, one for Church Lane and one for Brook Hill.
 - vi. *SCC Funding*: Cllr Taylor had offered £1,000 from his allowance for a new bin and salt to fill it. The Clerk had requested, after discussion with Cllrs Wenman and Brockwell, that the funding be used to buy 4 new bins, at a cost of approximately £450 for the 4 (to be filled from existing stocks of salt); a new cooker for the village hall at approximately £250, and the remainder to be used towards a refurbished piano. Cllr Taylor agreed to this funding.
 - vii. *Shophouse Lane*: a road closure order would be produced shortly and the work was scheduled to go ahead in January.

09/13 **Committee reports: Community Development**

Cllr Hogben reported as follows:

- a) *Parish Plan*: the results are awaited, which will inform the direction that this committee will take this coming year. A meeting is scheduled for the 21st January.
- b) *Albury Mill bus stop*: As a result of Cllr Hogben's written question to the Local

Committee, he had a meeting with a SCC representative in December and a further meeting had been arranged for this coming Wednesday. Cllr Hogben was now hopeful that the Old Mill passenger refuge might become a reality this year.

- c) *De-fibrillator for Newlands Corner*: this was to be delivered this week. Cllr Hogben had spoken to Michael Baxter and Surrey Wildlife Trust regarding its siting.
- d) *De-fibrillator at Westonfields*: this is letting in water. Cllr Hogben will attempt to waterproof it in the coming week. Craig Chitty had provided a more robust box for this location, but it would need two posts to support it. It would be fitted if the waterproofing did not work. The Clerk reminded all those who had agreed to keep an eye on the de-fibrillators that they should carry a battery with them, as the alarm battery would wear out quickly in the colder weather.
- e) *Damaged village sign at August Lane*: this had been reported to Surrey Hills AONB.
- f) *Albury Matters*: the Spring edition is due at the end of this month or early February. Cllr Hogben requested copy and photographs.
- g) *Committee meeting*: the next meeting is scheduled for Monday 28th January.

10/13 **Committee reports: Village Hall:**

There were no items to report.

11/13 **Committee reports: Planning and Environment**

Planning: *Planning applications received and planning applications determined by Guildford Borough Council*

Applications received: Members to note that minutes from planning meetings and responses to GBC are filed in the planning file, tabled at the meeting.

Applications determined by Guildford Borough Council

List to date for 2012 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr Gellatly advised that he had tried to contact Tim Dawes about a meeting, but had not heard back yet.

Albury House: the appeal against refusal to give permission for further building in the grounds had been turned down. Cllr Gellatly would look at the conditions regarding the old access, as it was believed that this should have been removed and the area restored to garden.

Neighbourhood Planning: Cllr Brockwell and Cllr Wenman had attended a meeting at GBC on this subject. These are being piloted by some parishes, and might be beneficial as they seem to give Parishes some influence on the future of their parish. They involve a great deal of work and are costly. It was agreed that the Parish Council should register an interest in carrying out one of these plans in the future, although with no specific plan at present. Cllr Hogben undertook to do this.

It was noted that the results of the Parish Plan questionnaire would be discussed at the February meeting. Once these were published, the next step might be to set up a Parish Council committee to take its findings forward and decide what action to take.

12/13 **Finance**

- a) *Management report to 1/12/2012*: this would be circulated shortly, once the Clerk had all the information necessary to complete it.
- b) *Cheque list for December*, was noted and approved. Total outlay for the month is £4587.12
- c) *Budget for 2013/14 and Precept request*: The Borough Council had given the Parish Council a Local Council Tax Support Scheme grant of £1865, to be deducted from the Precept request for the year. This had been generated because the way Council Tax for a Band D property was calculated had changed, and Government had stipulated that impact of an increase in Council Tax on a Band D property should be no more than 2%. As the calculation was unclear, the Borough Council had decided on this route.

Cllr Wenman, Cllr Brockwell and the Clerk had discussed this and had decided

to increase the precept by 2% for a Band D property. The precept request for 2013/14 is therefore £37,540, with an impact on a Band D property of £63.81. With the £1865 grant, this gives an income from the Borough Council of £39.405. (The precept for 2012/13 was £38,515.)

The proposed precept request, including the LCTSS, for 2013/14 was PROPOSED by Cllr Brockwell, SECONDED by Cllr Wenman, with all in favour.

13/13 **Igas wellsite**

There was nothing to report.

14/13 **Albury Landfill site**

Despite a number of requests, SITA have not responded with any dates for a meeting. The Clerk will e-mail again, and will copy the Chairman.

15/13 **Outstanding matters**

The list had been circulated. It was noted that the hedges in the Street and in Church Lane had been cut back and could be removed from the list.

The current contractor for Farley Green pond had been asked, as a result of a discussion at the Facilities Committee meeting, what he would recommend to keep the pond in better order. He had suggested increasing his hours to 4 a month from 2, for 10 months of the year. This was discussed and it was agreed that he should provide the following information: when the work would be carried out each month, what his work plan would be and what this would achieve. It was also suggested that some of his total hours for the year be spent at this stage, with a day continuing with the work of clearing that he started before Christmas in order to improve the visual appearance of the pond. Cllr Hogben stated that the iris should be in clumps, not surrounding the pond. Cllr Gellatly offered to meet the contractor to discuss the work.

16/13 **Councillors business: for noting or including on a future agenda**

- a) *Barn Church*: Cllr Kerslake had received a request from Sasha McCann for those attending a function at the church on the 12th January to be able to park on the Green. This was agreed, provided that they restricted parking to the dry areas.
- b) *Landfill site*: Cllr Robinson noted that dumping had re-commenced and asked for an update. The meeting was advised that the recent landscaping had given rise to a void, which was being filled with waste. This was a short term operation.
- c) *Tuppers Alley*: there are now no operational lights in Tuppers Alley
- d) *Drains in Church Lane*: are full. This matter was referred to the Facilities committee but, in the meantime, Cllr Robinson would report them to SCC Highways.

17/13 **New Correspondence**

- a) *Routine correspondence was available at the meeting*
- b) *No new correspondence had been received.*

18/13 **Open Forum**

No further matters were raised,

19/12 **Dates of meetings**

Full Council: 4th February at 7.30pm, 4th March, at 7.30pm

Facilities: 11th March

Community Development: 28th January

Village Hall: to be arranged

Planning and Environment: 28th January, 18th February, 11th March

Annual Assembly: 15th April. **Mayors visit.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

