



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 1st February 2016 at 7.30pm

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



Present: Cllr J Brockwell (in the chair), Cllrs G Firth, R Hogben, G Robinson, P Webb

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

Anne Sassin Allen, from the Tillingbourne Tales Project, gave a presentation on the plans for the next few months:

- They are looking for someone in the village who is interested in the history of the parish and would be willing to collate it. Cllr Brockwell suggested she speak to Alf Howick, who was born in the village and whose father came to the village in the latter part of the 19th century to work for the Duchess. Cllr Brockwell will speak to him.
- They would like to hold an event by the river, by appreciated that there is little public access. It was suggested that she should ask Michael Baxter.
- They intend to make a map of Tillingbourne trails.
- They are working with Surrey Wildlife Trust.
- They are interested in using the Saxon Church. Cllr Hogben referred her to the opening of the church for the Heritage weekend in September.
- Their website will be live in the next month.
- It was suggested that they attend the Produce Show, an ideal place to reach the public. Cllr Brockwell will put the organisers in touch with Anne.
- The final event for the project will take place in October/November, but it has not yet been decided what this should be.

22/16 **Apologies for absence:** were received from Cllrs J Rowland, S Scott, MA von Radowitz
Apologies were also noted from County Cllr K Taylor, and Borough Cllrs R Billington and D Wright.

23/16 **Declarations of interest:** none were made

24/16 **Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 4thJanuary 2016:** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman,

25/16 **Matters Arising**

118/16e: *Sherborne junction with A25*: Cllr Firth tabled pictures which showed a large amount of damage to kerbs and signs, caused by cars taking avoiding action. In her view, the junction does not work. She has been advised that a number of people find the road layout very confusing, particularly at night when it is very difficult to see what lane to take. Cllr Brockwell will write to John Hilder and request that this is brought to Local Committee, after discussing the problem in more detail with Cllr Firth.

18/16h: *Postman*: the postman has not yet been moved to Guildford, and so the intended gift has not yet been given.

26/16 **Chairman and Clerks Matters arising**

- a) *Website, dropbox and newsletter update*: the website has been updated and dropbox populated.
- b) *Defibrillator update*: the new replacement defibrillator has been received and placed in the box outside the library. The updated version gives verbal advice on CPR. All other defibrillators in the parish are working well.

27/16 **Police matters**

PCSO Damon Young had reported as follows:

12/1/16: Burglary, non dwelling: mountain bike taken in Albury.

13/1/16: 2 x vehicle damage, Park Road

13/1/16: vehicle damage Albury, linked to above

21/1/16: burglary non dwelling: nothing taken.

28/1/16: telephone fraud: persons impersonating a police officer for gain. Nothing taken.

Cllr Hogben mentioned strange markings made with sand on the ground around the parish. Cllr Robinson believed it might be Harriers. It was understood that the police are taking this seriously and sometimes these type of markings have been used for burglaries.

28/16 **Open Forum: members of the public are welcome to attend and to ask questions or make representations**

- a) *Newlands Corner*: Sue Darling expressed strong concerns about SCC's plans to develop Newlands Corner, and was joined in these by John Powell. She advised that 8,000 people had signed a petition against the proposals to impose parking charges, install a trim trail and build a new visitor centre. Increased traffic will have huge implications as far as access is concerned, particularly as the access is where walkers and riders also cross the road. It was noted that Newlands Corner is part of Albury, is owned by Albury Estate and is sub-let by SCC to Surrey Wildlife Trust to manage. SCC's grant to SWT is to be withdrawn in 2021, and this is a move for SWT to be self-supporting. Cllr Brockwell advised that the Parish Council had not been party to initial discussions about the proposals, and had great concerns about the plans. The parking charges had already been agreed by SCC Executive, without consultation.

Cllr Firth was concerned about the urbanization of the area, and believed that its greatest attraction was its naturalness.

Members **agreed** the following:

1. To hold a public meeting on either Saturday 21st or Saturday 27th February. Representatives from SCC and SWT to be invited.
2. To gather a response to the plans from other parish councils.
3. To send out a flyer to advertise the meeting
4. To send information to the Surrey Advertiser.

29/16 **Committee reports: Highways, Byways and Open Spaces**

- a) *minutes of the meeting held 18th January* had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- b) *Members to receive reports as follows*: Highways: Cllr Scott: Cllr Scott had sent a written report:
 - i. Guildford teams spent three days in The Street, according to Gavin

Gillies. Clean up crews were not sure where Toppers Alley was, so Galvin has requested a map. The Parish Council will provide this.

- ii. Drain cleaning is a SCC responsibility and Cllr Scott will look into this shortly.
- iii. Cllr Scott has asked Galvin for Shophouse Lane to be cleaned again with a specific request to clear the drains at the top of Shophouse Lane.
- iv. The Clerk has written to the owners of The House concerning their responsibility to clear the ditch near Shophouse Farm. The Clerk advised that she had received a telephone call from the owners, advising that this had been done before without much effect, but they would have this work carried out again.

c) Byways: Cllr von Radowitz was not present to give a report.

d) Open Spaces: Cllr Brockwell reported on behalf of Cllr Rowland:

- i. *Farley Green ditch*: Doug Chandler has excavated the first 100 metres of ditch, from the top. Cllr Brockwell will meet Alex Duggan, who has been in touch. The spoil has been left in a pile, and will be removed rather than spread out.
- ii. *The bin at Albury Heath*: has been replaced.
- iii. *Winter plans*: John Hilder had sent a message of congratulations to the Parish Council for the steps it had taken regarding the grit spreader. Although no clarification on procedure had been received from SCC, it was intended for the roads to be gritted before snow.

e) Cllr Hogben reported that the big oak by the bus stop has a very low branch which needs removing.

f) *Damage to village green*: it was noted that the tractors taking timber from Blackheath are damaging the triangle opposite the post office.

30/16 **Committee reports: Community Development**

a) *Cllr Hogben reported as follows:*

- i. *Traffic Calming*: work will start on the gateways on the 29th February.
- ii. *Recognition of exceptional services to the community*: an invitation to nominate someone for this award in the parish magazine.

b) *Welcome pack*: the following comments were made

- Cllr Hogben would like pictures in the content and considers that the presentation should be more professional. Members were reminded that the outside cover will carry pictures.
- The history of the parish should be shortened.

The Clerk requested further feed back by email, so that the pack can be completed.

31/16 **Allotments**

Cllr Robinson reported as follows:

- He and Cllr Brockwell had undertaken a site meeting.
- The estate will hire in a large excavator to do work on Blackheath. Michael Baxter had suggested that this could then be used to grade the allotments. It was hoped this would happen very shortly.
- There will then be a general site meeting after the grading has been completed.

32/16 **Committee reports: Village Hall:**

All one-off bookings are now paying by Paypal. There are a number of long term debts, and Cllr Brockwell asked for Council agreement to chase these through the small claims court. He understood that it was possible to do this online for £25 per case. It was **agreed** to do this, but first all debtors to receive a letter advising them

that this is the next course of action. Cllr Firth offered to help with the claim process.

33/16 **Committee reports: Planning and Environment**
Planning applications received and planning applications determined by Guildford Borough Council

- a) *Members received a report from Cllr Gellatly:*
 - i. GBC had received an application for the conversion of 4 units in Farley Green
 - ii. There would be no planning meeting on the 8th February, as there are no plans to determine
 - iii. Jim McAllister had asked Cllr Gellatly to support his masterplan for the development at Dunsfold Aerodrome. Cllr Gellatly had requested more information and advised that his major concern would be the impact of the additional traffic.
- b) *Report on new planning process:* the Council has been registered for the process. Discussions are under way at GBC on the equipment to be given to Parish Councils. Paper plans will continue to be sent out for the immediate future.
- c) *Planning list of determined applications:* had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk will highlight the additions to the list in future circulations.

34/16 **Committee Reports: Parish Plan committee:**

- a) Minutes of the last meeting : the Clerk had requested these but had not received a response from Mr Mingo before the meeting.

35/16 **Finance**

- a) *Management report to 31st December 2015 :* had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted and agreed.
- b) *Cheque lists for January 2016* had been circulated prior to the meeting. The expenditure of £4766.90 for January was noted and agreed.
- c) *Financial statement for 2014/15:* Cllr Brockwell has completed this and the Clerk will circulate. As at the 31st March 2015, the Parish Council held reserves of £35,000.

36/16 **IGas wellsite.**
There had been one letter of objection to IGas' recent application, from a member of Frack free Surrey, who was concerned about flaring. It was noted that flaring would only occur for the first two weeks. The Borough Council had raised no objections.

37/16 **Albury Landfill site**
Members agreed that the site is now looking very attractive. There is a great deal of water run-off, which is only obvious at closer inspection.

38/16 **Outstanding matters**
The list had been circulated. Members noted that some of the pavements through the village have been cleared. Cllr Brockwell confirmed that the posts between the road and the Tillingbourne will be dealt with when the weather improves.

39/16 **Councillors business: for noting or including on a future agenda**

- a) *De-cluttering:* a meeting took place on the 13th January and it was agreed to review all the warning signs in the Surrey Hills, A matrix has been drawn up to assist the appraisal and photographs will be taken to accompany the completed form.
- b) *External audit:* As a result of the abolition of the Audit Commission the current audit regime will

end on 31 March 2017. New regulations have made it possible for the audit to be taken back within the Parish Council's remit, but this needs to be reviewed.

- c) *Position of Parish Council:* Cllr Hogben raised the forthcoming referendum on the EU. it was noted that the Parish Council is non-political, and also noted that any information circulated to parishioners must not be the view of one councilor, or of a minority.
- d) *Row Lane:* Mr Malcolm Clark had advised that the tanker delivering his oil could not negotiate the ridge between Row Lane and the main road. He would be advised to refer this to SCC Highways.
- e) *Village Hall piano:* the old upright piano has been advertised on Ebay, buyer to collect.
- f) *SALV: generator for surgery:* their request for funding from GBC has been turned down. They have decided to rent a generator for three months whilst considering the next step. The next meeting of SALV will be in Shere village hall on the 19th of April.

40/16 **New Correspondence**

No new correspondence has been received.

41/16 **Open Forum**

42/16 **Dates of meetings**

Full Council: 7th March

Annual Assembly: 18th April

Planning: 8th February

Community Dev: 15th February: Cllr Hogben advised that there was no need for a meeting.

Highways:

Parish Plan

Village Hall: 29th February

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.35pm