



PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 26 November 2013 in the Parish Shop at 7.30 pm.

Members present: Cllr R. Nevins (Chairman) Cllr M. Hobbs
Cllr E. Eason Cllr M. Jackson
Cllr S. Fidgett Cllr R. Richmond

In attendance: L. Graham (Clerk), Cllr K. Witham (SCC), PC McMurtry & PC Warner

1. **FORMALITIES**

To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C. Newman and Cllr G. Jackson.

2. **To Receive Members' Declarations of Interest on Any Agenda Item Below**

No Declarations of Interest were received.

3. **MINUTES**

3:1 To Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting as a True Record

ACTION: *it was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2013 should be approved and the Chairman signed them.*

3:2 To Receive the Clerk's Report (for information, unless further action is specified)

3:2:1 Caravans on Dawney Hill: the caravans have finally been moved off the land by GBC, and rubbish has been cleared from the site.

3:2:2 Census 2011: the results of the census are available to view on www.surreyi.gov.uk. Figures for Pirbright have been collated for the village (excluding Fox Corner and the MoD areas) and also for the ward as a whole. Key points show a decline in population from 4214 in 2001 to 3691 in 2011, probably because currently there is no resident regiment at Alexander Barracks. The number of households in 2001 was 1089, compared with 1101 in 2011 (565 of which are in Pirbright village).

4. **REPORTS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**

4:1 To Receive Reports of Crime in the Parish

Crime figures for the period 26 October - 19 November in Pirbright village record one burglary, four cases of criminal damage, one theft, one child/vulnerable adult report, two domestic incidents and one other non-crime (trespass). In the camp areas were two thefts, one attempted burglary, one public order offence and one case of domestic violence.

4:2 To Receive Reports from the County and Borough Councillors

SCC: Cllr Witham distributed copies of his e-bulletin with updates on SCC's preparations for winter and other emergencies, Surrey superfast broadband, help for young people aged 16-19, plans for additional school places and how SCC will feature in the GBC new Local Plan.

GBC: a new recreation area in Beech Grove is to be created in a joint project by the Army Training Regiment, Guildford and Woking Borough Councils, aided by funding from Surrey CC. It will be open to both civilian and military communities in the area and will contain recreational and play equipment for all ages of children from toddlers to teenagers.

4:3 To Receive Updates on Activities at Lord Pirbright's Hall

4:3:1 New Green Hut: the contractor for the new Green Hut has been on bereavement leave but hopes to supply updated figures, to meet the requirements of GBC building control, in the New Year.

4:3:2 Christmas trees: because of concerns about health and safety in hoisting a Christmas tree and lights on to the roof of the committee room, it has been decided to install lights around the apex of the roof at the southern end of the Hall. Trees will still be placed in the Main Hall and Clubroom.

5. **COMMUNICATIONS**

To Consider Communications Sent & Received Since the Previous Meeting

Guildford Borough Council issues:

5:1 Surface water management: GBC is working with SCC to produce a surface water management plan (SWMP) for the borough, to outline the preferred strategy for managing surface water in particular areas.

ACTION: *the Clerk has responded, requesting a CD of the report and also querying why Pirbright has not been included in the list of areas identified at greatest risk from surface water flooding.*

GBC's response: *PPC will be put on the list for a CD when they are available. Pirbright did not appear on the list because it is having its own study and it would have been duplication of effort to include it. As the SWMP will be a live document, it is the intention to feed Hyder's findings into the working plan.*

5:2 Salt Supplies: GBC has supplied more details about the parish salt initiative.

ACTION: *for information*

Surrey County Council issues:

5:3 Footpath 420 (Ash Road - Aldershot Road): a complaint has been received about the footpath, which has become impassable from excessive growth of vegetation, especially holly.

ACTION: *the Clerk referred the complaint on to Cllr Witham, who in turn passed it on to the rights of way officer at SCC. Future action may be clearance of the path by a volunteer work party or, if this is not suitable, by alternative action to ensure it is maintained to a useable condition again.*

Other topics:

5:4 Police parade: an organiser of the Surrey Police Ceremonial Association has written to thank PPC for use of Lord Pirbright's Hall to muster for the march to Brookwood Cemetery.

For information

5:5 Estate agents' boards:

a) A resident has written to complain about the estate agent's boards erected to advertise the school Christmas Fair, because they do not comply with GBC's regulations that the event should have more than 50% of the space on the board.

ACTION: *the complaint has been referred to the GBC enforcement officer who dealt with the query that was raised last summer.*

b) Another resident has complained about the estate agent's board that is fixed to the street name sign on the corner of the Green, advertising a house in The Gardens that has long been sold.

ACTION: *members agreed to write to the estate agent, requesting the board's removal.*

5:6 Parking along the Little Green: a resident has written to complain about several staff cars from Squire Furneaux that are being parked on the road outside houses on the Little Green. She considers that it is beginning to destroy the ambiance and outlook for nearby residents and is also making it hard for GBC's road sweepers to access the gutters.

ACTION: *parking will be discussed at the next Highways & Environment Committee meeting.*

5:7 Placement of Surrey Wildlife Trust rubbish & recycling bins: a resident of School Lane has complained about SWT keeping its rubbish and recycling bins permanently outside its gates on the right of way across the Sandpits site, because it is unsightly and can also spill out, causing rubbish to be blown on to the road.

ACTION: *members agreed to write to SWT, requesting removal of the bins from the right of way.*

6. **FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES**

6:1 To Approve PPC Payments Made During November 2013

ACTION: *the schedule of payments for November was approved and signed by the Chairman.*

6:2 To Approve the Budget for Printing the December Issue of PeriNews in Colour

The Parochial Church Council has suggested that the Christmas issue of PeriNews might be printed in colour, as last year. The print cost is £298, to be shared equally by PPC and the PPCC.

DECISION: *members approved the cost but were concerned about short notice of the request, because a virement will be required in the Parish Council's budget.*

6:3 To Approve the Revised Budget for the Parish Consultation

The cost of printing the road safety plans for the consultation had increased because they would be easier to understand if printed in colour. The total revised costs for the consultation were £391.41.

DECISION: members approved the increased budget for the event.

6:4 To Discuss Budget Proposals for the Financial Year 2014-15

Pirbright's precept for 2014-15 must be submitted to GBC by 22 January 2014. Last year's precept of £45,410 was supplemented by a Local Council Tax Support Scheme grant of £1197.00, which enabled the Band-D rate to be set at £37.48 (an increase of 1.96%) instead of £38.47 (4.65%) for the total of £46,607. However, it is not yet known if GBC will be making a similar grant for 2014-15.

DECISION: members approved the following decisions unanimously:

- 1) to increase the precept in line with inflation (2.2%) to £46,409.00.
- 2) to increase the precept by 4.84%, if the LCTSS grant is not made by GBC.
- 3) to agree the overall budget figure (as above) at this meeting and grant delegated authority to the Finance & General Purposes Committee to finalise the details.
- 4) to approve the precept at next meeting on 21 January (in time to meet GBC's required date).

7. PLANNING

7:1 To Receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee

ACTION: members received the minutes of the meetings held on 29 October and 19 November.

7:2 To Agree a Response to GBC's Local Plan Sites & Strategies Issues & Options Document

Residents' views expressed at the Parish consultation on 14 November indicated a preference for an approach that maintains the existing level of protection for Pirbright within the Local Plan, while being open to the consideration of a small, sensitively designed housing scheme, similar to Cowbridge Meadow. If a suitable site can be found, any development should be subject to strict design and environmental criteria. Based on this, Cllr Fidgett tabled draft responses to 31 of the 40 questions posed in GBC's questionnaire that would particularly affect Pirbright.

ACTION: members considered each response and unanimously approved the proposal that the representation should be finalised in time for submission to GBC by 29 November.

8. HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT

To Approve the Measures Proposed by SCC Highways for the Parish Safety Scheme Phase 2

Cllr Hobbs had collated responses from the Parish consultation for proposed measures for phase 2 of the Parish safety scheme. These mostly showed support, although some residents did not like the rumble strips suggested for Aldershot Road.

DECISION 1: members considered each element of the scheme and agreed to accept proposals for Gole Road and Dawney Hill. It was agreed to defer decisions about the remaining elements until a meeting of the Highways & Environment Committee to be arranged in the following week.

DECISION 2: it was agreed unanimously to grant the committee delegated power to make the final decision about accepting or requesting modification of the remaining elements of the scheme.

9. NEWSLETTER

To Agree Items for the January Issue

Residents will be thanked for coming to consultation and given assurance that their views will be considered when submitting responses to GBC & SCC.

10. CHAIRMAN'S CONCLUSION

10:1 To Receive the Chairman's Notices and Member' Questions

There were no notices or questions.

10:2 To Note Items for Inclusion on the Agenda for the Next Meeting (21/1/14)

The main item will be approval of the precept for 2014-15.

The meeting ended at 9.20pm.

Signed.....

Date.....