

## PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting on 25 November 2014 held in the Parish Shop at 7.30 pm.

Members present:Cllr R. Nevins (Chairman)Cllr M. JacksonCllr E. EasonCllr C. NewmanCllr M. HobbsCllr R. Richmond

In attendance: L. Graham (Clerk) and Cllr Keith Witham (SCC)

- 1. To Receive Members' Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S. Fidgett & Cllr G. Jackson (GBC).
- 2. To Receive Members' Declarations of Interest on Any Agenda Item below There were no members' declarations of interest.

#### 3. <u>MINUTES</u>

#### 3:1 To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

**ACTION:** it was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 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 Annual Parish Meeting** (27/4/15): the Mayor of Guildford (Cllr David Elms) and his wife have been invited to attend the APM.

**3:2:2 Damaged benches on the Green:** the groundsman has carried out minor repairs to some of the benches and has put red striped warning tape on others where the damage is extensive.

**3:2:3 Phone box on the Green:** BT has again been contacted about the poor state of the box, which has now been visited by an engineer but the damaged door has not yet been replaced.

**3:2:4 Royal British Legion:** the local co-ordinator for poppy sales has written to thank PPC for its donation.

**3:2:5 New equipment in children's playground:** the application specifying the equipment selected for purchase and installation under the S.106 agreement has been submitted to GBC.

**3:2:6 Periwheels donation:** the request for a donation towards running costs of Periwheels has been withdrawn, following receipt of a further grant from the Lemprière Trust.

### 4. REPORTS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

#### 4:1 To Receive Reports of Crime in the Parish

4:1:1 No reports of crime were received.

**4:1:2** The Clerk was introduced to the area's new PCSOs at the Remembrance Sunday parade.

#### 4:2:1 To Receive a Report from the County Councillor

- Aldershot Rd: the resurfacing of the road has been completed.
- **Bus services review:** routes 28 & 48 are both subsidised by SCC, which has a target to save £2 million per year on bus services. Bus users are advised to comment on the need for both routes via the consultation on the SCC website, which closes on 14 January.
- **Police precept:** the Commissioner is floating the idea for a 24% increase in police precept, which could go to a referendum on the same day as the general and local elections in May.

#### 4:2:2 To Receive a Report from the Borough Councillor

No report was available for this meeting, but Cllr Jackson had given an update on Heathland work in the December newsletter.

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

The new gutters and down pipes on the east side of the Hall have been performing well during the recent heavy rain and it is now planned to replace those on the other sides of the Hall.

#### 5. <u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>

# To Consider Communications Sent & Received Since the Previous Meeting GBC & SCC issues

**5:1 Faulty light in The Gardens:** in response to a resident's complaint SCC has given a technical explanation from Skanska about telephony problems with the wireless system that some light columns across Surrey are currently experiencing.

For information

**5:2 Plastics recycling:** SCC has begun a campaign for more recycling of plastics to improve the 27% currently done.

**ACTION:** a request to residents to increase their recycling of plastics will be put in the newsletter.

**5:3 A3 Guildford Bypass:** the Highways Agency is undertaking a feasibility study of the A3 in order to identify potential improvements that could be implemented within the next 5-10 years. *For information* 

**5:4 Police Commissioner:** a representative has been invited by the Surrey Police Commissioner to attend the Guildford Crime Summit on 26 November.

ACTION: no one from the Parish Council would be available to attend.

#### Other topics

**5:5 Remembrance Sunday, Police parade:** the membership secretary of the Surrey Police Ceremonial Association has written to thank PPC for use of LPH before and after the parade. *For information* 

**5:6 Avenue de Cagny:** a resident of Chapel Lane has commented on the danger to cyclists in Avenue de Cagny due to lack of lighting and proximity of speeding traffic. He has requested the creation of a footpath, traffic calming measures and lighting.

**ACTION:** a speed hump and improvements to lighting have been considered in the past but it was felt that they would spoil the rural character of the village. The Community Highways officer has pointed out that it is illegal to cycle on footways.

**5:7 Cunningham House:** a committee member has asked PPC if there are any grants within the Parish/Borough/County councils which they could source for help with funding for a new assisted bathroom.

**ACTION:** the Clerk provided information about the Surrey Community Buildings grants, supported by SCC and GBC for such projects.

**5:8 Farnborough Airport flights:** a local resident has queried whether the frequency of flights over the parish to Farnborough has increased.

#### Background:

TAG Farnborough Airport submitted a planning application in June 2009 to increase the total number of business flight movements from 28,000 a year to a maximum of 50,000 a year, including an increase in the number of movements at weekends and on Bank Holidays from 5,000 a year to 8,900. Rushmoor Borough Council refused permission but TAG appealed and the government granted permission in 2011 for the increase to go ahead. More recently TAG has carried out a consultation on an Airspace Change Proposal (ACP) about introducing an improved operating environment in the skies around the airport., which would involve some changes to flight paths for inbound and outbound aircraft. The consultation, which included county/borough councils and local MPs, ran from 3 February to 12 May 2014 and feedback reports are due for publication soon. *For information* 

### 6. <u>FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES</u>

#### 6:1 To Approve PPC Payments Made During November 2014

**ACTION:** Members approved the schedule of receipts and payments for November and it was signed by the Chairman. The Chairman also signed the bank reconciliation and HMRC receipt for submission of the PAYE return for the month.

#### 6:2 To Discuss the Budget for Financial Year 2015-16

Figures recently announced show that the Retail Prices Index (RPI) increased by 2.3% to the end of October (the Consumer Prices Index was 1.3%). Use of the RPI figure would mean an increase of £1067 in the budget to £47476. GBC will again add £1197 in Local Council Tax Support. **ACTION:** Members approved the proposal to calculate the budget using the RPI inflation rate of 2.3% as its basis.

#### 6:3 To Approve the Budget for Printing the December Issue of PeriNews

Members expressed concern over the lateness of the suggestion to print the December issue of PeriNews in colour, which will increase the cost by £229.50, paid jointly by PPC and the Parochial Church Council.

**DECISION:** the suggestion was approved but a request for earlier notification will be made because the amount was not allocated in the current budget.

# 6:4 To Approve the Quote for the Grant-Aided Project to Replace Drains on the Cricket Ground

**DECISION:** Members approved the second (lower) quote for the work.

#### 7. <u>PLANNING</u>

#### 7:1To Receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee

**ACTION:** Members received the minutes of the meetings held on 28 October & 18 November. **7:2 To Receive an Update on the Borough Local Plan** 

About 15,000 of 20,000 responses received to the consultation on the borough's draft Local Plan have been processed, showing widespread opposition by local residents to building on the Green Belt. GBC will now carry out a comprehensive reassessment of all site constraints using the recent clarification to the government's planning practice guidance.

#### 8. <u>HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT</u>

**8:1 To Receive an Update on the Progress of the Village Road Safety Scheme Phase 2** Cllr Witham reported that Highways will be assessing the effectiveness of the built-out area by Rose Cottage because it does not appear to be slowing traffic entering Church Lane as planned.

#### 8:2 To Receive a Report on the SDR and VAS

The VAS has been put up by White Hart and the SDR is in Church Lane (opposite Sunset Cottage).

#### 8:3 To Discuss Parking Issues at the Sandpits and at Lord Pirbright's Hall

Members discussed discrepancies in the legal documents for the Sandpits site held by PPC and residents with rights of way across it, which remain unresolved. A further issue to be resolved is the provision of an adequate safe area away for children at the schools being dropped off and collected by car, while not blocking access to neighbouring properties or contributing to the congestion in School Lane.

**ACTION:** Members agreed that the issues need further discussion between all parties involved. In the meantime, the Clerk will write to the school to explain that priority is being given to users of the Hall and grounds, and that sometimes the LPH car park may not be available for school parking.

#### 8:4 To Approve the Risk Assessment for Traffic Issues in School Lane

**8:4:1** The increase in traffic using School Lane has raised concerns by the Parish Council about the safety of all children travelling to and from school, whether walking, cycling or being driven by car. **8:4:2** The car park at the Primary School has 41 spaces (including one for disabled access), which is adequate for the number of staff normally on the premises. However, the Knowl Hill car park is small and staff are parking in the Sandpits car park and on the road, which may be contributing to congestion at peak times of day. **8:4:3** Concern was expressed that Pirbright's primary school is currently full (417 pupils) and there may not be space for children of the 1st Battalion the Welsh Guards, due to arrive in the Camp in December. Pirbright is the nearest primary school, and several children already walk to it from the Camp, raising concerns about their safety when crossing Gole Road and the condition of footpath 396, which is often very muddy.

Alternative schools for the children would be either Brookwood (with a bus link or a relatively safe walk) or Bisley (to which it might not be practical to walk and with no convenient bus link).

**ACTION:** Members approved the updated risk assessment for traffic issues in School Lane and the car parks at the Sandpits and Avenue de Cagny. Further updates might be required when it is known which school the incoming children will attend.

#### 8:5 To Agree Actions to Improve the Drainage on the Green

**8:5:1** Recent heavy rain has raised the level of the water table across the Green considerably and the island in the pond became submerged. The land naturally drains into the pond from the west and the drainage outlet on the eastern edge of the pond allows surplus water to pass through pipes across the southern section of the green to the ditch on the far side.

**8:5:2** Mr Hartney (the groundsman) and Mr Cheeseman (his predecessor) lifted the manhole covers between the pond and the ditch to discover that there was no flow of water. They rodded through from the drainage outlet to the nearest manhole cover in order to clear the impacted tree roots from willow and birch trees growing at the side of the pond. The water is now flowing and the water level of the pond has dropped, but is unable to move far because of the high water table and the clogged ditch in the woods on the east side of the football ground. Surface water is still entering the pond from the west side of the Green.

**ACTION:** Members approved the following proposals

- to clear the ditches just inside the woods on the eastern side of the Green (it is GBC land and the idea has already been proposed as a grant under the Western Parishes scheme);
- to remove the willow and birch trees (including roots) by the drainage outlet on the east side of the pond;
- to rod through from the drain in the middle of the Green to the west of the pond and make repairs to the drain if required (to be undertaken when the water table has dropped);
- to rod and jet through the drains across the Green to the ditch in the woods to the east of the playing fields.

#### 9. <u>NEWSLETTER</u>

#### To Agree Items for the January Issue

The recycling of plastics and Christmas trees, SCC's bus consultation and a plea to residents to pick up one piece of litter a day/week will be items for the January newsletter.

#### 10. CHAIRMAN'S CONCLUSION

**10:1 To Receive the Chairman's Notices and Members' Questions** There were no notices or questions.

#### 10:2 To Note Items for Inclusion on the Agenda for the Next Meeting (20/01/15)

Approval of the Precept for 2015-16 will be a major item for the January meeting.

The meeting closed at 20.50 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....