

PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting held on 19 January 2016 in the Green Hut Meeting Room at 7.30 pm.

Members present: Cllr R. Nevins (Chairman), Cllr E. Eason, Cllr S. Fidgett, Cllr J. Hallam, Cllr M. Hobbs & Cllr Richmond.

In attendance: L. Graham (Clerk).

1.	<p><u>FORMALITIES</u> To Receive Members' Apologies for Absence <i>Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Newman, Cllr Jackson (GBC) and Cllr Witham (SCC).</i></p>
2.	<p>To Receive Members' Declarations of Interest on Any Agenda Item below <i>There were no declarations of Pecuniary Interest.</i></p>
3.	<p><u>MINUTES</u> 3:1 To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting <i>ACTION: Members unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2015 and the Chairman signed them. Cllr Hallam checked and signed the bank statement and reconciliation for December.</i></p> <p>3:2 To Receive the Clerk's Report (for information, unless further action is specified) Terms of Reference: the Parish Council's terms of reference were circulated for members for review and amendment if required at the next meeting.</p> <p>Parking for funerals: precautions were taken for a recent funeral to prevent parking on the Little Green, because it was waterlogged. Notices directed motorists to LPH, where parking was available.</p> <p>Newsletter print run: no meeting has yet been possible to discuss an increase to the print run, so the usual number of 950 copies was produced for the January and February issues.</p> <p>Car park potholes: potholes are appearing in the car parks at Avenue de Cagny and Lord Pirbright's Hall and will be repaired when the weather improves.</p>
4.	<p><u>REPORTS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)</u> 4:1 To Receive Reports from the County and Borough Councillors None.</p> <p>4:2 To Receive a Report about the 2016 Scarecrow Festival None.</p> <p>4:3 To Receive an Update on Activities at Lord Pirbright's Hall The new water boiler has been installed and is working well, although it might be necessary to install a timer switch.</p> <p>4:4 To Receive Any Crime Reports None.</p>
5.	<p><u>COMMUNICATIONS</u> To Consider Communications Sent & Received Since the Previous Meeting <u>5:1 GBC, SCC & Policing issues</u> 5:1:1 Gole Road safety update 1: a report from the Guildford Local Committee's Task Group, which considers road safety schemes, has classed the installation of a pedestrian crossing for Gole Road, as a High Priority. Options for a crossing facility near Cowshot Bridge include a puffin crossing (approx. cost £170,000) or a pedestrian refuge, with lighting, anti-skid surfacing, widening the carriageway and a compacted footpath (approx. cost £70,000). However, with 44 other schemes across Guildford and no budget yet decided, further consideration on it has been deferred to the spring. <i>For information</i></p> <p>5:1:2 Gole Road safety update 2: improvements to existing road markings, new rumble strips and signs have been installed in the vicinity of Cowshot Bridge. The post for a missing VAS is in place next to the crossing point, and arrangements made for the VAS to be installed. The VAS supplier has been to the site to identify a suitable location for the second VAS on the opposite direction, near the bridge. <i>For information</i></p> <p>5:1:3 Gole Road safety update 3: in response to a resident's request for a speed camera in Gole Road, Highways have stated that SCC and Surrey Police policy is to follow guidance that ensures that permanent safety camera enforcement is</p>

	<p>introduced only at sites that have suffered a serious history of collisions and where speeds have been measured and confirmed as excessive. This ensures that limited resources are prioritised at sites that need them the most, because they do not have resources to introduce them at all the sites requested. This also helps to ensure continuing public support for speed enforcement as a road safety measure. Currently there is not any funding available for any new speed camera sites. For information – PPC’s SDR will next be installed in three locations along Gole Rd in both speed zones.</p> <p>5:1:4 Back Lane, Fox Corner: the track that runs from Brook House behind Pirbright Cottages towards Guildford Road near the Wildlife Area, has finally been ratified officially as footpath No. 531, following years of discussion and consultation. This does not affect any existing rights of local residents to access their properties from the track. For information</p> <p>5:1:5 Fixed play strategy: GBC’s Park & Leisure Services have been assessing playgrounds around the borough, including those owned by the parishes. They scored all the play areas and noted those not reaching a realistic ‘pass’ level in order to create a priority list for improvement. Each play area was awarded a Gold, Silver or Bronze level (or below this) depending on the score it achieved for play value (given for the range of activities such as spinning, sliding, jumping for example). Parishes are requested to check their entries and correct or provide further information by 22 January. ACTION: for discussion and response within the time requested.</p> <p>5:2 Other issues</p> <p>5:2:1 Sandpits car park: the Tennis Club chairman has passed on complaints from members about a) difficulties accessing the car park for early matches while school parents are still around; b) parents who leave engines running or stand around smoking while waiting for children to come out of school; c) litter in the car park and around the courts. ACTION: for discussion under item 8:2.</p> <p>5:2:2 Twinning Association Vin d’Honneur: the secretary of the Twinning Association has asked whether the Parish Council will be willing to host the traditional welcome party for the visit by residents from Cagny in June this year. ACTION 1: the Clerk has informed the Association that LPH will not be available for the party because of a wedding booking and suggested that it could be held in the Church Room, as happened two years ago. ACTION 2: for further discussion under item 6:3.</p> <p>5:2:3 Flood risk in Vapery Lane: a local resident has raised concerns about insurance companies declining to provide cover for properties in the lane, because of the risk of surface water flooding shown on Environment Agency maps for the property’s post code. ACTION: for discussion at the next meeting of the Flood Forum.</p> <p>5:2:4 Flood risk at Bullswater Bridge: a local resident has commented on the flow of water on the approach to the north side of the Bullswater Bridge, which has always been a pinch point in the system, requiring maintenance on a five to ten year basis, depending on silt build-up. The next service is due but, to exacerbate the situation, the owners of a neighbouring property have dumped topsoil and planted shrubs on top of the silt. ACTION 1: Cllr Witham has logged the issues re Bullswater Bridge with SCC Highways and has also asked if silt clearance there is on a list of planned works. ACTION 2: for discussion at the next meeting of the Flood Forum.</p>
6.	<p><u>FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES</u></p> <p>6:1 To Approve Schedule of Receipts & Payments* and Review Bank Reconciliations for December 2015 ACTION: Members approved the receipts & payments schedule for December 2015 and the Chairman signed it. Cllr Hallam checked and signed the bank reconciliations.</p> <p>6:2 To Discuss the Budget and Approve the Precept for 2016-17 It was confirmed by the Government in December 2015 that referendum principles, which can trigger a referendum if there is an excessive increase in precepts, would not apply to parish councils setting their budgets for 2016/17. DECISION 1: Members agreed unanimously that that a sub-committee should be set up to agree criteria on how funds are allocated for LPH events. DECISION 1: Members considered several options for the budget and agreed unanimously to increase the Precept by 5% for a band D property</p>
7.	<p><u>PLANNING</u></p> <p>7:1 To Receive Submissions & Updates on Planning Applications during the Month Cllr Fidgett reported that GBC’s case officer for Pirbright Institute’s Masterplan is supportive of PPC’s concerns and is trying to obtain Institute help in alleviating pressure on roads through the village. However, a programme of community projects, with financial contributions to projects for safety and calming measures at congestion hotspots and at junctions (School Lane, Avenue de Cagny, Gole Road & Fox Corner), renewal of bollards etc., cannot formally be agreed yet.</p> <p>7:2 To Receive an Update on the Withdrawal of Paper Planning Applications by GBC It was agreed that the electronic system for circulating planning applications & submitting comments is proving workable.</p>

	<p>7:3 To Consider a Response to the Following Planning Application/s 15/P/02436: Millstream House, Heath Mill Lane (Construction of a car port and log store to replace the existing double garage, together with the provision of a new a vehicular access onto Guildford Road)</p> <p>This application was considered by the full Parish Council because of the many highways and environment issues it raised.</p> <p>DECISION: <i>Members unanimously objected to this application, which raised serious concerns over the impact on highway safety, flood risk and the character and appearance of this countryside location.</i></p> <p>a) <i>This is a new access onto a busy section of the Guildford Road and PPC has concerns over highway safety especially near to the existing junction with Ash Road; b)</i> <i>the proposal would lead to the further clearance of trees and vegetation that would have an adverse effect on the character of the heath, which is a designated SSI; c)</i> <i>the construction of the drive and crossing points are a significant urbanising feature that would further adversely affect the rural appearance of the approach to Fox Corner, and is unacceptable development within the countryside, given the existing access to this property.</i></p> <p><i>The monitoring of traffic speeds, using the Parish Council’s SDR approved for use within the parish, shows speeds on the Guildford Road and environs significantly in excess of 30 mph and up to 95 mph near Bullswater Lane, which suggests that the visibility splays are likely to be inadequate and dangerous in this location on a bend approaching Fox Corner. The Parish Council is also conscious of the increase in traffic proposed associated with the Pirbright Institute at this junction. Pirbright’s Flood Form frequently notes flooding on this bend where the existing culverts take the stream under the road and the effect of this does not appear to have been considered in this application.</i></p> <p><i>The Parish Council has no objection to the replacement garage and log store.</i></p>
8.	<p><u>HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT</u></p> <p>8:1 To Receive a Report on the SDR and VAS The VAS has been fitted with a new battery and is still up near the White Hart. New locations are being identified with the Police and Highways in Cemetery Pales (before the speed hump), Grange Road, Dawney Hill and Aldershot Road, using existing or redundant posts where possible, although new posts might have to be installed in some cases. It is planned to erect the SDR in two new locations, in Guildford Rd opposite Bullswater Lane and in Ash Rd opposite Pirbright Institute.</p> <p>8:2 To Receive a Update on the Sandpits Car Park and Right of Way A letter from Surrey Wildlife Trust and other rights of way holders received just before the meeting states that they are happy to proceed with the scheme to divide the access track from the car park but has asked PPC to pay for the work. ACTION: <i>discussion of the letter and other issues raised under 5:2:1 was deferred to the next meeting.</i></p> <p>8:3 To Receive a Update on the Proposed Creation of Disabled Parking Spaces in Church Lane ACTION: <i>Members agreed to put the plans to the Parochial Church Council and request views on provision of two disabled parking spaces adhering to BS standards with one additional space for general use.</i></p> <p>8:3 To Respond to GBC’s Review of Ward Profiles of Playgrounds in the Parish ACTION: <i>Members agreed to send in corrections as appropriate.</i></p>
9.	<p><u>NEWSLETTER</u></p> <p>To Agree Items for the March Issue The precept and projects for 2016-17 will be one item for the March newsletter.</p>
10.	<p><u>CHAIRMAN’S CONCLUSION</u></p> <p>10:1 To Receive the Chairman’s Notices and Member’ Questions</p> <p>10:1:1 Mayor of Guildford’s Award for Service to the Community: members agreed on a nomination.</p> <p>10:1:2 Surrey Association of Local Councils update programme: it is hoped that a member will be able to attend.</p> <p>10:2 To Note Items for Inclusion on the Agenda for the Next Meeting (23/2/16) Possible amendments to the Terms of Reference, discussion of the Church Lane layby and the letter from the Sandpits access track rights of way holders will all be items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <p>The meeting finished at 9.47 pm.</p> <p>Signed..... Date.....</p>