

PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the virtual meeting held on Tuesday 9th June 2020 at 7.30pm

The meeting was held using the video conferencing platform Zoom, with details available for members of the public in advance by application to the Parish Clerk.

Those present:

Councillors

Cllr Fidgett (Chairman)
Cllr Eason
Cllr Godfree
Cllr Hallam
Cllr Richmond
Cllr Swinney
Cllr Woollett

Officers of the Council

Mrs Helen Myers (Clerk to the Council)
Mrs Lindsay Graham (Secretary to LPH)

Members of the public

A resident from Gole Road, Pirbright

Also in attendance

Cllr Gordon Jackson (GBC)

1.	FORMALITIES To Receive Members' Apologies for Absence <i>The Chairman welcomed members to the virtual meeting of the Council. Apologies for absence were received from Keith Witham, SCC.</i>
2.	To Receive Members' Declarations of Interest on Any Agenda Item below <i>There were no Members' Declarations of Interest.</i>
3.	MINUTES 3:1 To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting (12/5/20) RESOLUTION: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously. They will be signed by the Chairman in due course. 3:2 To Receive the Clerk's Report (for information, unless urgent action is required) Gov.uk email address for the Secretary to LPH and new Parish Website – this is covered in Item 6.2. Annual Audit – The AGAR has been prepared and will be the subject of an independent internal audit in the coming weeks, whilst adhering to social distancing requirements. Litter & Anti-Social Behaviour – <i>this is covered in Item 8.4</i> Rat Problem at the Pond – An external contractor has been employed by PPC to visit and re-visit the bait boxes around the pond. The contractor will continue with these visits until there is evidence that the rats have been eradicated. War Memorial – The maintenance of the War Memorial in St Michael & All Angels churchyard is the responsibility of PPC. The current church groundsman has been employed by PPC to mow around the Memorial each time he visits at an agreed fee. The groundsman currently mows every 17/18 days. The parochial church council have suggested that PPC might own the piece of land that the War Memorial sits on.

	<p>Action: <i>The PPCC and Cllr Swinney have agreed to look at any deeds held by them and PPC to ascertain if this is the case. This will take place after lockdown.</i></p> <p>Road Signage at Entrance to Gibbs Acre / Cowbridge Meadows – <i>this is covered under 5.3</i></p> <p>Groundsman for PPC/LPH – <i>this is covered in Item 6.3</i></p> <p>Posts along the Little Green and opposite The Cricketers - <i>this is covered in Item 8.1</i></p> <p>Benches around the Parish - A bench on the green collapsed on Friday 5 June. All benches are regularly checked by the groundsman and a checklist/log of this activity is kept by the Clerk. PPC’s carpentry contractor has quoted for repairing the collapsed bench and has quoted for the repair of the bench on the Little Green which has also been identified as urgently needing repair.</p> <p>Action: <i>A survey of all benches should be undertaken and each bench should be assessed and numbered on a location map for ease of reference. Visual checks by the groundsman should continue to be weekly. The quotes from the carpentry contractor were accepted by the Council and a purchase order will be raised. The work should be completed as soon as possible.</i></p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>REPORTS (for information, unless urgent action is required)</u></p> <p>To Receive Updates on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pavilion Project – PPC has been in touch with the Cricket Club who have started looking at other funding options for the pavilion. PPC secured a GBC grant commitment for assistance in providing improved car parking to the rear of pavilion building and it may be possible to implement planning permission and commence with the parking element in advance of any other element. Various pre-commencement conditions would need to be completed, if this is to be undertaken within 12 months . ACTION: <i>PPC to review the planning permission and report back at the July meeting.</i> • Lord Pirbright’s Hall – It was reported that the front borders had been planted and that debris and litter had been cleared from around the entire perimeter of the Hall. This had made a positive, visible difference to the appearance. <p>4.1 To Receive Reports from the Borough Councillor (for information only)</p> <p>GBC: Cllr Jackson gave a verbal report which included the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increased littering across the County • GBC’s consultation on its Planning Policy including a Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy Supplementary Planning document is will run from 12:00 midday on Wednesday 3 June 2020 to 12:00 midday on Wednesday 22 July 2020. • GBC’s Action Plan on Single-use Plastics and how it is likely to adopt SCC’s policies • the numbers of calls, food parcel deliveries, prescription collections/deliveries and leaflet drops made • other care in the community efforts being made by GBC during the pandemic
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>PUBLIC FORUM & COMMUNICATIONS</u></p> <p>To Discuss any Urgent Issues Raised in Recent Communications Sent & Received</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A resident from Gole Road was in attendance about the speed watch which was carried out on Gole Road between 20th March 2020 and 4th April 2020. Speeding was reported at this location in the March Parish Meeting and a traffic evaluation requested and undertaken using the SDR. RESOLUTION: <i>Cllr Godfree advised that the Community Speed Watch Programme remained suspended due to the coronavirus but that once it was running again Gole Road could be</i>

added to the list of locations to be targeted. Volunteers for the CSW programme are required. Cllr Godfree stated he would follow up with SCC to ascertain whether the data received from the speed watch in Gole Road would affect any speed calming measures by SCC. Cllr Godfree further advised that he would suggest this location should be added to the mobile speed watch list of locations for the radar gun. The Police and SCC had confirmed widespread speeding issues during lockdown in addition to those raised in Pirbright.

2. A request was received by a local resident that they would like to see an honesty box supplying healthy food for the ducks on the pond. Currently bread is often fed to the ducks and geese which can result in a condition called Angel Wing which has already been seen in the Egyptian geese. The resident was willing to supply and manage the “quack snacks” station.
ACTION: *PPC will accept the resident’s offer and trial the “quack snacks” station for an initial period of two months.*
3. A local resident has witnessed two accidents at the exit from Gibbs Acre/Cowbridge Meadows onto The Green near to White Hart Corner, where cars exiting the estate cross the pavement and had hit a child on a bike travelling from the direction of the pond towards The White Hart.
RESOLUTION: *PPC has spoken to SCC who cannot add extra signage to this exit as it is not part of the Adopted Highway. PPC will monitor.*
4. Correspondence has been received that an accident took place close to Chapel Lane on Cemetery Pales where a lady cyclist had been hit by a motorist.
RESOLUTION: *Maintain monitoring of speeds with the SDR as Pirbright has experienced increased speeding through the village since the lockdown.*
5. Hawksmoor Homes had contacted PPC to raise an objection to the name Morton Meadows which had been allocated to the development of nine properties in the area formerly known as Law Meadows. Hawksmoor Homes had hoped to call the development Morton Place and wished PPC to reconsider its recommendation to GBC.
ACTION: *PPC remained of the view that “Place” was too urban for the village and not in keeping with other local developments. PPC was reluctant to change the historical name of the site as proposed in light of recent world events. . PPC wished to further raise the “gated” aspect of the development as the original plans submitted had been for an open entrance to the nine properties as part of the wider community.*

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

6:1 To Approve the Receipts & Payments and Bank Schedules for May 2020

The list of receipts & payments with the bank schedule were circulated with the agenda papers as usual, and a physical check to ensure BACS details were correctly applied will take place when it becomes possible later. In the meantime, the regular payments can continue to be made under delegated powers and where necessary one-off payments can be authorised by members via email, to ensure an appropriate audit trail is maintained.

RESOLUTION: The payments and receipts were approved pending physical reconciliation.

6:2 To discuss content for the new Parish Website - PPC has launched its new website which improves the security, look and content. As part of this PPC has adopted two new email addresses for the Parish Clerk and Lord Pirbright’s Hall. There is scope for further content to populate and update the website from time to time.

ACTION: *It was agreed to announce the new parish website in the July PeriNews and to ask the public for photos and ideas for content. These should be submitted to the Clerk.*

6:3 To discuss the appointment of a new Groundsman for PPC and LPH - The current groundsman retired on 1 June 2020. A new groundsman should be sought and a job description has been put together by the LPH Secretary. The groundsman carries out tasks for both LPH and PPC. As an interim measure a temporary groundsman should be employed.

	<p>ACTION: The Council resolved to employ a temporary groundsman. PPC will set out his terms of employment. A more permanent appointment will be made in the coming months and PPC will seek expressions of interest in this role.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>PLANNING To Consider Responses to Currently Pending Planning Applications in the Parish:</p> <p>20/P/00784 (Land adjacent to Brunswick Rd, Brookwood, Proposed installation of 1 Swann Lattice Tower, 3 antennas, 2 dishes, 3 equipment cabinets and ancillary development thereto, to be installed within a high chain link fence.) PPC response: Pirbright Parish Council has no objection. The proposal is for a 35m radio mast with several antenna for EE on behalf of Network Rail. While the need for wifi communications serving trains along the rail corridor is accepted, the siting and design of the proposals is considered reasonable and benefits from a degree of screening within the woodland. The track is used by walkers, cyclists and others and is close to the Basingstoke Canal and associated towpath and the mast will have a visual impact, but this is to some extent mitigated by tree cover. The proposal results in the loss of 3 mature trees and a condition requiring replanting of new trees should be imposed.</p> <p>20/P/00809 (Mount Lodge, Malthouse Ln, GU3 3PS Proposed change of use of domestic garage to enable the brewing of 100lts of beer/wk with associated product development & online sales.) PPC response: Pirbright Parish Council has no objection. The proposal is for the small scale brewing of craft beer and its online sale. As long as the proposal is maintained within a small scale and does not involve significant additional vehicle movements, the proposal is supported. Given the rural location along a narrow lane, conditions should be imposed to prevent further intensification or alternative industrial style uses. Given that these are domestic garages for the host dwelling, a personal permission would be appropriate to control subsequent alternative commercial use.</p> <p>20/T/00127 (Pear Wood Lodge, Gibbs Acre, GU24 0JX. Fell 1 Willow, reduce height by 6m of a Lawson Cypress, to reduce height by 4m of a Lawson Cypress.) PPC response: Pirbright Parish Council has no objection subject to the view of the Tree Officer.</p> <p>20/T/00140 (The Bungalow, The Green, Pirbright, GU24 0JE. Crown lift to 5m a Copper Beech tree and clean by removing any deadwood and crossing branches). PPC response: Pirbright Parish Council has no objection subject to the view of the Tree Officer.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>8.1 To Discuss & Agree the Installation of Replacement Posts Around the Little Green and opposite The Cricketers - It was decided that posts should be installed along two sides of the Little Green. It was felt that the kerb along the northern side of the Little Green was high enough to act as a natural barrier, although this aspect should be kept under review and posts added if necessary. It was further agreed that posts should be installed in selected places around the area of land opposite the Cricketers if needed after the Little Green work has been completed. RESOLUTION: It was agreed that PPC should approve the purchase of the posts for the Little Green and the security drop post.</p> <p>8.2 To receive an update on the Tree Survey. A tree location survey has been carried out and a report has been provided to the Council. The Council is required to identify all trees or areas of woodland that fall within the PPC landholding. This noted that it still needed to mark the boundary line east of the cricket ground. ACTION: It was agreed that spray paint should be used to re-mark out the boundary line and subsequently some permanent markers should be installed. Tree surveyors should now be approached to quote for completing an assessment of the trees and woods marked in the tree survey to ensure they are in a safe condition and to focus appropriate maintenance. The woodland strip of land needs to be revisited – a large number of trees behind cricket pavilion that border The Gardens (approx. 50 in number) still need to be identified. The tree survey that was performed for the pavilion project might include these and will be studied.</p>

	<p>8.3 MoD Consultation of Bylaws for the Ranges and closure of the Ash and Porridge Pot Hill sections - these two areas have been closed without warning. ACTION: PPC should take Jonathan Lord MP up on his offer and draft a response to the MoD and the Rt Hon Michael Gove's office to state that this has happened in advance of any consultation and raise PPC concern.</p> <p>8.4 Increased use of the Green; litter, anti-social behaviour – it was noted that there was a daily increase in the amount of litter around the Green and also around the recycling bins at LPH. Laminated notices have been attached to bins around the Green encouraging the public to take their litter home and a note has also been added to the website. Various volunteers and employees of the Cricketers have helped clear the litter and fly tipping. There have also been reports of anti-social behaviour with some visitors using nearby lanes as public conveniences. RESOLVED: The Council wished to thank the volunteers for clearing the litter. The Council will also keep in contact with The Cricketers who are also clearing some of the litter. It was agreed to monitor the situation and to include extra litter picking into the duties of the temporary groundsman to be appointed. Cllr Gordon Jackson (GBC) advised that increased litter was a borough-wide problem seemingly caused by the easing of the lockdown.</p> <p>8.5 Activities at Stoney Castle: various fires have been noted and those aware of such activities should continue be report them to the relevant authorities.</p>
9.	<p><u>NEWSLETTER</u> To Confirm Items for the July Issue The Chairman will write a piece to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the relaxing of lockdown and how it has affected village life • the current closure of LPH, the groundsman's retirement and thanks from PPC for his service • the new posts around the Green • the new PPC website and email addresses and an invitation to the village to forward photos and ideas <p>It is hoped that the newsletter will be distributed by the same volunteers as for the June edition.</p>
10.	<p><u>CHAIRMAN'S CONCLUSION</u> To Receive Chairman's Notices & Members' Questions No date has been set for the July meeting and it is likely to be arranged around the completion of the independent internal audit. It will be a virtual meeting if the Government restrictions are still in place.</p>

The meeting ended at 21.30

Signed.....

Date.....