

# ST MARTHA PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting of St Martha Parish Council held on 12 December 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in Chilworth Village Hall

### **23/167 Present:**

#### **Councillors:**

CLLr Mrs. P Allen (Vice Chairman) CLLr J Peake, CLLr Mrs. Price (Chairman)

Shalford Peasmarsh and Chilworth Community Councillor Adrian Cansell

Guildford Borough Councillor Danielle Newson

Surrey County Councillor and Guildford Borough Councillor Bob Hughes – arrived at 19:45

One member of the public

**In attendance:** Parish Clerk - Anne Tait

### **23/168 To accept apologies and reason for absence in accordance with the LGA 1972, Sch 1 para 40.**

Parish Councillor Jean-Pierre Pugh.

### **23/169 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) - by Councillors on any of the agenda items below in accordance with The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. (SI 2012 No. 1464)**

No declarations were made.

### **23/170 Declaration of Non-Pecuniary Interests**

No declarations were made.

**23/171 Register of Interests** – no amendments from Members were given.

### **23/172 Minutes of the previous meetings:**

- It was proposed by CLLr Peake, seconded by CLLr Mrs Price, and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 21 November 2023 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### **23/173 Public Participation Session**

- A member of the public congratulated those who took the initiative to erect a decorated Christmas Tree on the green triangle between Chilworth Station and the Bus Shelter. It was reported that the tree had been gifted by Chilworth Manor and the decorations gifted from Chilworth2gether and decorated by the King Family.

### **23/174 Reports Communications and Updates:**

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## **Parish Clerk:**

The Clerk's report had previously been circulated giving an update on the following items:

## **Penfold's Woodland Contracting Ltd to be planted in the grass island around Halfpenny Close**

Delivery of 6 x tree feathers was made on 07/12/23 to 17 Halfpenny Close, GU4 8NJ. The Clerk has arranged with SCC -Rachel Benneworth- for volunteers to help plant the six feathers on 20/12/23.

Rachel confirmed on 12/12/23 that she and my colleague will be coming along to give a brief workshop and explain everything.

## **Dates of Parish Council Meetings in 2024**

Councillors discussed a second set of suggested dates by the Clerk for Parish Council meetings in 2024:

Tuesday 20/02/24

Tuesday 19/03/24

Tuesday 16/04/24

Tuesday 14/05/24 **now suggesting 21/05/23** The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

## **Attendance at Shalford Community Council Meetings**

25/01/24 – Cllr Pugh

22/02/24 – Cllr Mrs Allen

21/03/23 – Cllr Mrs Price

25/04/23 – Cllr Peake

Shalford CC Annual Meeting to be confirmed.

## **The Website - Photos**

Cllr Mrs Allen circulated a photo of the Church – (ref e/mail on 05/12/23) and invited other Members to comment on the suitability for the PC's website – i.e. would it cause confusion with the PCC for residents...?

## **Policies Financial and Regulation Approvals**

The Clerk received a text (on 11/11/23) from Nat West confirming that the mandate for adding Cllr Mrs Price as a signatory has now been accepted.

## **Sink hole on Bridleway 252 in Chilworth IC36402**

A second sink hole was reported on 26/11/23 – at the above location. The Clerk contacted Ruth Hills from the SCC Countryside Access Team who confirmed that the same reference number has been re-opened and the local access assistant had been alerted to the matter of the hole reappearing.

## **Renewal of Dog Fouling Public Spaces Protection Order**

Guildford Borough Council (GBC) are in the process of renewing their Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for **Dog Fouling**. This order is made under Antisocial Behaviour legislation. Currently, when in a public space, failing to clean up immediately after a dog has fouled is a breach of the PSPO and can be punished with the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice. If this Notice is not paid, the Council may prosecute the offender. Without such an order in place, GBC would have no powers to enforce dog fouling.

**RESOLVED:** That this Council consider dog fouling in the Parish is not a problem and therefore the decision was AGREED not to send a comment to GBC.

## **Salt/Grit Bins in Sample Oak Lane**

The Clerk has enquired of SCC how 2 x salt / grit bins that have been upturned on the side of Sample Oak Lane. SCC have raised a ref: 2822007

The precise locations are:

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- One at the bottom entrance to the St Augustine's Abbey – which is badly broken and needs replacing.
- One at the crossroads in Blackheath Village.

## **Parish Councillors**

Cllr Mrs Allen reported that she had a meeting with the new Community Rail Partnership Manager - Sarah Grisewood. The two planters at the Station had been discussed and the proposal to erect an information board on the back of the bus shelter. Ms Grisewood is trying to find more local representatives along the line.

## **Cllr Mrs Price wrote to Mark Appleton GBC Property & Asset Manager re the sale of West Lodge**

A reply was received from Mark Appleton on 05/12/23:

*“Many thanks for your letter, I can only reiterate that agents have been instructed to market the property for sale, following a decision by the Property Review Group. With regards planning matters going forward this would be decided by the Planning Department, at the Council, as appropriate. If I can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me”.*

## **Guildford Borough Councillors’ Reports**

Cllr Danielle Newson reported on the full GBC Council meeting held on 05/12/23. It was noted that the Foodhall at M & S will be moving to Ladymead in 2024, the retail shop will remain in the High Street.

Cllr Danielle Newson asked Mark Appleton about the ‘restrictive covenant’ on West Lodge..

A reply had been received from Mark Appleton on 29/11/23:

*“With regard to your queries, I can advise that the property has been appropriated for planning purposes, in readiness to sell the property. The Secretary of State has granted consent to the appropriation, pursuant to s.104(5) of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act. The appropriation was required due to the property previously being subject to restrictive covenants under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1947. The Council relied on section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016, the effect of which was to override any restrictions on the use and development of the Land for planning purposes (section 246(1) Town and Country Planning Act 1990)”.*

*The property has not yet been sold, but estate agents are instructed to market for sale, the subject property.*

## **Surrey County Councillor’s Report**

Cllr Bob Hughes reported that the budget was nearing completion. The London Road Active Local Travel Scheme is still being discussed.

## **Shalford Community Councillor’s Report** (5 minutes)

Cllr Adrian Cansell reported that the track up to Brookwood has now been completed. Quotes have been obtained to re-build the War Memorial in Shalford.

## **23/175 Chilworth Village**

It was noted that Cllr Mrs Price will attend the Shalford meeting on 14/12/23.

## **23/176 Policies, Financial and Regulation Approvals**

- (a) **Proposed list of payments and transfers to be tabled at the meeting for approval:**

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The payment list was presented to the meeting a copy of which had been issued to all Members via email in advance of the meeting – ref Table 1. It was proposed by Cllr J Peake, seconded by Cllr Mrs Price and unanimously **RESOLVED** the payments to the value of £49.83 be approved. The payment list was duly signed by the Chairman, Cllr Mrs Price, during the meeting.

- (b) It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Price, seconded by Cllr J Peake and unanimously **RESOLVED** that £6,000.00 be transferred from the Nat West current account to the St Martha Parish Council’s Unity Bank Account.
- (c) The Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) had prepared the bank reconciliation for November 2023 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations, a copy of which had been issued to all Members via email in advance of the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Allen, seconded by Cllr Peake and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the bank reconciliation be approved and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Mrs Price during the meeting.

**Table 1: Proposed list of payments 21 November 2023**

Budget Head	Date	Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total
Clerk’s Expenses	12/12/23	Staff mileage	Ms A Tait	4.05	-	4.05
Postage	22/11/23	Correspondence	Royal Mail	1.25	-	1.25
IT expenses	12/12/23	1 x printer ink cartridge	Viking	37.11	7.42	
<b>Total</b>				<b>42.41</b>	<b>7.42</b>	<b>49.83</b>

### 23/177 Planning

- (a) To discuss and agree a response to GBC on the following applications: No applications to discuss.
- (b) There were no outcomes from Guildford Borough Council of previously reported applications.

### 23/178 Climate Change

Cllr Mrs Allen reported on the discussion regarding the Farnborough Airport Expansion proposals and support the response that the Farnborough Noise Group are making to the Civil Aviation Authority.

**RESOLVED:** - it was AGREED that Cllr Mrs Allen would draft a letter for the Clerk to send to Ms Herrington at Rushmoor Borough Council in response to the application **23/00794/REVPP – Farnborough Airport**.

*St Martha Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds that it is unsustainable development; will not reduce congestion; will not improve travel or meet public need; but it will increase carbon emissions and air pollution and will impact the Surrey Hills AONB and a large Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).*

*The Parish Council objects on the grounds that it does not meet the National Planning Policy Framework policies:*

**NPPF 152:** *this application does not ‘support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate’. On the contrary, increasing the number of flights will increase carbon emissions and there is no assurance in the application that they will be achieving zero emissions aircraft by 2040.*

**NPPF 174 & 176:** *‘planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment’. ‘Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty which have the highest status of protection.’ This application will impact the AONB of the Surrey Hills and the nearby SSSI and will be*

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*detrimental to the natural and local environment through increased noise and air pollution levels. It will also impact people's health and wellbeing.*

*Furthermore, increasing the number of private jet flights will not reduce travel movements, congestion, or meet the needs of the general public. It is understood that many of the current flights are far from full so you question the need for increasing their number!*

**23/179 Correspondence** – Surrey County Council Highways Meeting with Parish Councils – (ref email on 05/12/23 from Cllr Hughes). This item is deferred to the January 2024 meeting.

### **23/180 The Gunpowder Mills and West Lodge**

It was reported that there is no update on the sale of West Lodge.

### **23/181 Items for the next meeting**

- The format of the 2024 Annual Assembly
- Bio Diversity Duty

**23/181 Date of next full Council meeting:** Wednesday 10 January 2024