

ST MARTHA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of St Martha Parish Council held on 28th October 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in St Thomas' Church Room

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr Mrs. P Allen (Vice-Chairman), Cllr G. Brown, Cllr J Peake, Cllr Jean-Pierre Pugh (Chairman) and Cllr Mrs. J Tantram
County Cllr Bob Hughes (left at 7:20 p.m. to attend the Shalford Parish Council meeting)
Borough Cllr Diana Jones

Three members of the Public

In attendance: Parish Clerk - Anne Tait

AGENDA

21/138 To accept apologies and reason for absence in accordance with the LGA 1972, Sch 1 para 40.

Apologies and reason for absence were received from: Cllr Mrs C Price, Shalford Parish Cllr A Cansell and Borough Councillor R Billington. Apologies were accepted.

21/139 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)

None were given.

21/140 Declaration of Non-Pecuniary Interests

None were given.

21/141 Minutes

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Peake that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th September 2021 were APPROVED. The Chairman signed as a correct record.

21/142 Reports

Surrey County Councillor's Report:

Cllr Bob Hughes requested that he be informed immediately about any further planning application for a 5G telecoms installation mast in Chilworth. He reported that a consultation had taken place on the catchment Policy change for Tillingbourne School. Cllr Hughes distributed further written information on a Gigabit Broadband voucher scheme for community groups. He confirmed that Surrey County Cllrs are unanimous in their decision to REFUSE the proposed new Hydrogen plant at iGAS plant in Albury.

Parish Clerk

a) A request from the Leader of Guildford Borough Council, Cllr Joss Bigmore – for a letter of support for 'Back Our Bid for City Status'.

RESOLVED: That this Parish Council would send an email supporting the Bid for City Status.

b) **RESOLVED:** Shalford Parish Council - Cllr Brown AGREED to attend the next meeting on 18th November 2021.

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- **RESOLVED:** SLCC Website Accessibility - The Parish Council AGREED to pay the fee (£35+vat) for Emma Hosking to attend the website accessibility webinar on 24/11/21. Emma confirmed that she is willing to attend (with no charge for her time), and then share the information and plans on how to make the Parish Council website compliant.

- c) Shalford Parish Council change of name to: Shalford Peasmarsh and Chilworth Community Council
The Clerk reported on a message received from John Armstrong – GBC Democratic Services and Elections Manager: *it appears that Shalford Parish Council may be contemplating, or may have already agreed, to adopt an “alternative style” as provided by Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Parish councils may resolve to adopt one of three alternative styles, namely:*
 - “community”;
 - “neighbourhood”;
 - “village”.

Section 12A also requires the Parish Council, as soon as practicable after passing such a resolution, to give notice of the change of style to all the following:

- *the Secretary of State;*
- *the Local Government Boundary Commission for England;*
- *the Office of National Statistics;*
- *the Director General of the Ordnance Survey;*
- *any District Council, County Council or London Borough Council within whose area the parish lies.*

RESOLVED: That this Parish Council should object on the change as it is inappropriate and misleading to residents of Chilworth. Additionally, it is historically wholly inaccurate. The Chairman AGREED to speak informally in the first instance to the Chairman of Shalford Parish Council.

Parish Councillors:

- (a) The Wooden Snail Memorial in the Gunpowder Mills Estate - Cllr Peake reported that he had been approached by a resident who has offered to raise funds for the replacement of the now rotten wooden snail. A sculptor has been contacted to carry out the work.

- (b) The Royal Mail post-box – it was reported that this had been removed from the end of Halfpenny Close with the junction at Blacksmith Lane.
RESOLVED: The Clerk to report the theft to Royal Mail.

- (c) Four Percy Cottages opposite Chilworth school – Cllr Peake reported that the residents have reported that they are unable to park outside their home.
RESOLVED: The Clerk to write to Andy Harkin with a request that a bay ‘residents parking only’ is painted on the A248 – outside the four properties.

- (d) Hedge at 3 Dorking Road – Cllr Peake stated that a near resident has reported that the sight lines for traffic safely exiting from Blacksmith Lane are obscured by the overgrown hedge.
RESOLVED: The Clerk to write to the residents with a request that it would be appreciated if the hedge could be cut back.

- (e) Planting at the War Memorial - Cllr Mrs Allen reported on the new planting – one Malus Golden Hornet and spring bulbs. Another tree is to be planted – out of the £100.00 pledged for the Queens’ Canopy. Cllr Mrs Allen will research into providing a plaque.

- (f) GBC Local Listing for Pilar Lodge – the Clerk was asked to contact GBC to ascertain the progress of Local Listing on this property.

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Councillor Diana Jones Borough Councillor's Report:

- a) **Weyside Urban Village** – Cllr Diana Jones reported that permission has been granted for 1,500 houses to be built on a new riverside community on brownfield land at Slyfield Guildford.
- b) There would be no Christmas lights 'switch on' event in Guildford High Street this year.
- c) **Waverley and Guildford to create shared management team** - Waverley and Guildford Borough Councils have completed the first phase of their move to partnership working by appointing Waverley's current Chief Executive, Tom Horwood, as Joint Chief Executive of both councils, replacing the need for two separate Chief Executives. The Councils agreed the appointment at their respective Full Council meetings on 1st November 2021 and Mr Horwood will take up the new role in early December 2021.

The current Managing Director at Guildford, James Whiteman, did not express an interest in the new role and has taken voluntary redundancy following an accomplished career at the Borough Council spanning thirty-two years.

Mr Horwood, who has been chief executive at Waverley for four years and was previously a shared Director of two Hampshire district councils, will begin the recruitment of a new joint senior management team. He will also propose governance arrangements for the new collaboration, which, by population and expenditure, is one of the largest borough council partnerships in the country, serving 275,000 residents. Once in place, members of the new management team will head their respective service areas across both councils and be responsible for preparing business cases for further collaboration. The partnership comes after KPMG published a report in February this year, that highlighted a clear need for neighbouring councils across Surrey to consider the expansion of existing partnerships to reduce the duplication of services, increase efficiency and provide better value for money for residents.

- d) Cllr Jones reported that the launch of Albury Climate Change Environment Group (ACE), took place on 16/10/21. Fifty plus people attended with many interesting talks including from the Guildford Environment Forum.

21/143 Public Participation Session

Rosemary Lemon thanked Cllr Mrs Allen for donating plants and bulbs for the Chilworth Station planter.

21/144 The Gunpowder Mills

• **West Lodge:**

Cllrs Pugh gave an update regarding the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) application. It was noted at this stage the Parish Council's application to the HLF has not proved successful, and feedback had yet to be received from the Engagement Team. Cllr Mrs Allen AGREED to remind the Engagement Team that they have not responded. The Clerk was asked to set up a Zoom meeting on 04/11/21 to decide whether to pass a RESOLUTION to re-submit a HLF application at the next Parish Council Meeting on 25/11/21.

- **RESOLVED:** The Chairman to send an email to Tim Anderson on the progress by the Parish Council to secure funding.

21/145 Planning

Cllrs to note the outcome of applications previously reported:

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- **21/P/00369: 38 Dorking Road, Chilworth GU4 8NR** – proposed garage conversion to habitable accommodation with first floor extension over, two storey front extension, single storey rear extension, changes to fenestration. **GBC APPROVED 04/10/21**
 - **21/P/01679 - Middle House, Lockner Holt, Chilworth, GU4 8RG AND 21/P/01680 - Listed Building Consent** for the installation of an outdoor in ground swimming pool and pump house within garden. **GBC APPROVED 08/10/21**
- (b) Cllrs to discuss and agree a response to GBC on the following application:
- **21/T/00281 - 9 Mill Reach, Mill Lane, Chilworth, GU5 9BA.** T1 Alder by seating area - reduce back to near previous points and shape over garden, T2 small Alder on bank - fell to ground level, T3 Willow on island - re pollard, T4 alder - remove X2 lowest branches (Chilworth Gunpowder Mills Conservation Area).
- RESOLVED: The Parish Council recommend that GBC APPROVE the plans as submitted.**

21/146 Highways and Rights of Way

The Clerk reported that no reply had been received from Richard Parker regarding the letter requesting a site meeting with Cllrs to discuss sightlines along the Dorking Road.

RESOLVED: Cllr Mrs Tantram AGREED to visit the various points along the Dorking Road with poor sight lines (previously discussed at the meeting with Jason Lewis on 24/08/21), to assess the clearance that has since been carried out and forward the information to the Clerk to send to Jason - as an update of the situation.

Salt/Grit Bins

The Clerk was asked to undertake an audit on the number of salt/grit bins in the Parish and report on the contents in each and ascertain who is liable for funding replacement stocks.

21/147 Financial

RESOLVED:

- (a) The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) had prepared the bank reconciliation for September 2021 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations. Copies of which had been issued electronically to all Members in advance of the meeting.
- RESOLVED:** Cllr J Peake checked and signed the bank statements and bank reconciliation as correct and matching.
- (b) **RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Pugh that the schedule of payments presented by the Clerk are APPROVED. Appendix one of these Minutes.

21/148 Items for the Next Meeting

War Memorial Service
Wooden Snail
Funding for West Lodge
Shalford Parish Council – name change
Tillingbourne School Catchment Policy change
Tillingbourne River Pollution
Chilworth Station

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

DATE OF THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: 25th November 2021