

DRAFT MINUTES

Shalford Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 20th April 2017 at Peasmarsh Village Hall

- 1) Hannah Dix, GBC Arts Officer** outlined proposals for a piece of public art for the parish available from £4500 of S106 monies from the recent housing development on the site of the former Nelco Works Station Road Shalford. GBC was managing the project and it was suggested that something could be placed somewhere on the Common close to Station Road so that it would be as visible and accessible as possible. GBC Parks dept may be able to support the project with a small contribution particularly if it had a wildlife or nature focus - a stalling tower or a bug house had been suggested. An artist would be chosen and GBC would write a brief for the work. It could be anything relevant to the area. The Chairman agreed that this would be discussed again at the next meeting
- 2) Apologies: Present:** Cllrs. Bill Birkett (Chairman), Mary Phillips (Vice Chairman), Adrian Cansell, Jeff Cox, Nigel Keane, Alan Midgley and David Thomson.
In Attendance: SCC Cllr Keith Taylor, Nuala Livesey (Parish Clerk), Cllr Stephanie Sokolowski (St Martha PC)
Apologies: Cllrs Mike Parsons and Nick Wiggin, SCC Cllr George Johnson, GBC Cllr Matt Furniss
- 3) Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests by Councillors on any of the agenda items, in accordance with The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. (SI 2012 No 1464):** None
- 4) Minutes: Confirmation:** The Council considered and confirmed the minutes of the last Council meeting held on the 23rd March 2017. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.
- 5) Councillor Report: SCC Cllr Keith Taylor** reported that school place outcomes had been positive this year with an increase in first place preferences and top three preferences being achieved. The Chairman asked if SCC were consultees on the Dunsfold Park development. Cllr Taylor confirmed that they were and that the A3 would be critical to this development for those people wishing to get around rather than in to Guildford, and that of course the finance needed to achieve this would be enormous. The Clerk reported on behalf of SCC Cllr George Johnson that he was thankful for all the support and help he had received from Shalford ward over the past four years and that he had enjoyed working with the parish council. The Chairman confirmed that the council would like to offer a vote of thanks to both George Johnson and Keith Taylor for their work on behalf of the parish over the last four years
- 6) Crime Report:** the Clerk present the published crime figures for February (attached at the end of the minutes). It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Chief Constable requesting attendance at a meeting to explain what seemed to be a significant increase in the crime figures over the last 12 months.

7) Public session: a representative of Protect Our Waverley (POW) explained what the organisation was doing in relation to the Dunsfold Park planning application for 1800 houses and associated developments. POW had been set up in January 2016 as a result of the proposed application with the aim of fighting against it. The current situation was twofold in that the Waverley Local Plan was under consideration and the Dunsfold application had been “called-in” as a result of representation from POW and the Joint Parishes Group (JPG) (of which Shalford was part). Approval for the planning application which had been granted by Waverley BC in Dec 2016 had therefore been overridden with the decision now being made by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (SOS) guided by the Planning Inspectorate, following a public enquiry scheduled for July 2017. POW and the JPG were key to the inquiry, having equal status to Waverley BC and the applicant at the enquiry. It was agreed that this would be a complex enquiry. At the same time the Waverley Local Plan is under consideration by the Planning Inspectorate and questions had already been asked about the sustainability of the Dunsfold development. A great deal of work was needed to be done by the two groups opposing the application with the help of many specialist consultants and costs were likely to be between £175K and £200K. The impact on the infrastructure of all parts of Shalford parish would be significant and although Guildford BC had agreed to work with Waverley BC on mitigation works particularly along the A281, the impact would stretch beyond the A281 to the through routes from Peasmarsh to Chilworth and beyond to the A3 and A25. He confirmed that the outcome of the Local Plan would be known by the time the SOS would make a decision and whilst the Inspector could not change the plan it could be sent back for further work. If Dunsfold Park is deemed inappropriate the SOS would find it difficult to approve the application. Cllr Phillips added that there had been very few “call-ins” since 2010 so that was a promising move in itself. At the same time POW had applied for a judicial review with regard to Waverley BC acting unlawfully in approving the application.

8) Planning: Current Planning Applications (Appendix 1): The Council considered each application and agreed to support all applications except:

17/P/00612 23 Kings Road Shalford: Part two storey, part single storey side and rear extension to provide a new self-contained dwelling, together with reduction in existing shop floor area and new entrance to existing first floor flat over shop, including internal alterations on the grounds that the increase in size of the existing upstairs rear window and the addition of a second large window will overlook the properties that back on to this building and that the amount of parking for two properties as opposed to the current single dwelling will impact on the amount of vehicles parking on the road. The full response can be seen on the GBC website.

9) GBC Planning procedures: the Chairman outlined the background to changes to planning procedures that had been agreed by GBC prior to this meeting, in particular the change to the number of objections required for an application to be referred to the Planning Committee. This had been dealt with as purely an internal operational process with no consultation. This had not been brought to the attention of Shalford PC by our own GBC councillors. Some PC’s had expressed concern but the changes had been implemented anyway albeit to be reviewed after 12 months. After some discussion it was agreed that it would be useful to bring this to the attention of a wider audience by writing to the Surrey Advertiser.

Resolved: to write to the Surrey Advertiser expressing concern at the changes to planning policy and the lack of consultation on these changes in particular the change in number of objections required to take an application to the Planning Committee

Proposed: Cllr Mary Phillips **Seconded:** Cllr Nigel Keane

10) Dunsfold Park: the Chairman explained that in the past the PC had been reluctant to give financial support to the Joint Parishes group for fighting this application, although we had always given verbal support. All the other councils in the group were contributing having either provided through their precept for this or by using reserves. SSALC have confirmed that it was acceptable for the PC to contribute and although our concern was solely with transport issues the group needed funds to fight on all issues. Cllr Phillips added that it was important that residents understood fully that the mitigation actions agreed with GBC would involve deregistering parts of the Common alongside the A281 in Shalford and that no mitigation was being offered for either Chilworth or Peasmarsh.

Resolved: to continue supporting the Joint Parishes Group and agree a financial contribution at the May council meeting

Proposed: Cllr Phillips, **Seconded:** Cllr Birkett. **Approved** on a vote of 6 for, 1 abstention

11) Brookwood Field: the Chairman confirmed that progress was being made with Guildford Saints to reach agreement for use of the field from September. Albury Eagles had also expressed an interest in using the field if no agreement could be reached with Guildford Saints. Costs had been obtained for line marking and grass cutting throughout the winter with additional works needed on the top end of the field to make it suitable for extra pitches. It was agreed that a one year contract should be offered initially, and once agreement had been made the additional improvement works could be carried out.

Resolved: to offer a one year contract to Guildford Saints and carry out the additional works if this was agreed .

Proposed: Cllr Keane **Seconded:** Cllr Cox

12) Resilience planning: Cllr Midgley reported that a draft plan had been drawn up for the parish which would require the involvement of the PC and other local people. It would be necessary to establish a committee with the bulk of members coming from the local community and supported by the PC. He confirmed that he would discuss things further with Sarah Burchard who had written the initial draft.

13) Highways issues: the Chairman reported that 8 representatives of Shalford PC and one from St Martha PC had successfully completed the VAS training programme. The next stage would be for SCC Highways and Surrey Police to confirm agreement for the proposed locations so that the VAS could start operating over the summer months.

14) Children's play areas: the Clerk confirmed that the Working Group would be meeting the next day to prepare a plan for improvements across the four play areas. A quote of £1,094 had been received for painting the youth shelter dark green. This was part of the S38 agreement for its retention on the Common. It was agreed to see whether GBC had a contractor who might be cheaper.

15) Cemetery Chapel restoration: the Clerk reported that work was progressing well on the chapel. Since the last meeting there had been two representations from members of the public for Shalford Infants School not to be used as a Polling Station. It was agreed that the clerk would speak to the GBC Elections Officer. However it was felt that although the chapel should be finished before the election date the timescale would not allow for its use on this occasion.

16) Shalford fete: it was agreed that the Council would have a tent at the fete on 11th June. Cllr Cansell confirmed that the tents used last year would be available again. The focus would be on the Local Plan and the Dunsfold Development. All councillors would have badges to identify them.

17) Finance report:

17.1) Report for the year up to the end of March 2017 (Appendix 2): Income for March totalled £6,225.00 being mainly cemetery income and a concurrent grant payment from GBC towards cemetery chapel costs. Expenditure for the month was £18,273.88 incl VAT including regular expenses, bus shelter repairs, cemetery chapel restoration works and Brookwood Field grass cutting. The cash balance at the end of March was £118,782.27 compared with £130,831.15 at the start of the month. In comparing actual with budget, expenditure at 94.23% was comfortably within budget at the year end.

17.2) Report from Finance Committee meeting: the Chairman reported that following consideration of different options for a second deposit account the committee had agreed that Unity Trust bank provided the best option for the Council and asked for approval to use Unity Trust bank for a second deposit account.

Resolved: to open a deposit account with Unity Trust bank

Proposed: Cllr Birkett, **Seconded:** Cllr Phillips

17.3) Young Achiever Award: the Council was asked to consider offering a token or voucher to be awarded along with the Young Achiever Award. It was agreed to provide £100 in cash to support the award. Cllr Cox agreed to draft some criteria for applications for the award.

Resolved: to provide £100 in cash to support the award.

Proposed: Cllr Keane **Seconded:** Cllr Phillips

18) Authorisation of Expenditure: the Council approved the following additional expenditure:
SSALC Health and Safety and Risk Assessment training £80.00 + VAT

19) Allotments update: the Chairman reported that both sites were looking in much better condition and Bradstone Brook in particular was looking very good. An allotment holder at Bradstone Brook had offered to contribute to the cost of a skip to tidy up the site. The Clerk agreed to look into the logistics of this and other methods of disposing of old metal in particular. A meeting had been arranged with the contractor to look at further works at the Peasmarsh site

20) Annual Assembly: the Chairman reported that there had been around 20 people at the Annual Assembly and that the Council needed to consider how to move forward with this event. It was not attracting many residents and those who did attend were generally people already known to the Council. It was suggested that a date later in the year away from school holidays might be helpful.

21) Report from St Martha PC meeting: Cllr Cansell reported that there was one vacancy for a councillor . A meeting had been scheduled for 24th April with GBC to discuss the future of West Lodge and possible change of use to provide a community facility.

22) Correspondence: The Clerk reported on recent correspondence received:
Cllr Cox agreed to attend the GBC Civic Service on 7th May
Guildford Vision Group Town Centre Update was circulated to all members
Newlands Corner Update from Save Newlands Corner Campaign Group circulated to all members
SCC Statement of Nominations for the CC elections would be posted on relevant notice boards
Surrey and Sussex Ambulance Service event on 17th May. Members to contact the Clerk if interested in attending

23) Members reports: Cllr Midgley asked when the Local Plan consultation would be taking place. It was confirmed that this would be in June and July

Meeting closed at 9.55pm

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 25th May 2017 at **Shalford Village Hall.**

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....