

BROCKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting of Brockham Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd January 2017, in the Pavilion Middle Street, Brockham at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs Hammond, Homewood, Washtell, Millward, Hamilton, Buckle, Songhurst and District/Parish Councillor Muggeridge
Inspector Richard Hamlin, Surrey Police
County Councillor Helyn Clack
District Councillor Paul Potter
Representative from BERT
25 Parishioners and Protesters from the Protect Brockham Oil site.

163. APOLOGIES: There were no apologies.

164. MINUTES:

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5th December 2016 were amended Minute 148 then approved and signed as a true record.

165. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Songhurst, Hammond and Homewood declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to the planning application MO/2016/2026OUTMAJ The Sewage Works, The Borough. Cllr Songhurst would leave the room when this item was to be discussed in Public Time.

166. PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR REPORT TO PARISH NEWS:

Cllr Hammond agreed to submit the January report to the Parish News.

167. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT:

The Chairman welcomed Inspector Richard Hamlin from Surrey Police to explain how the crime figures work. He explained that the Safer Neighbourhood Team had been disbanded and that the Mole Valley Policing Team was now at Reigate. Its an investigative team. Multi-functional policing dealing with response work and community issues. He gave a comparison of the crime figures for 2011 when there was a total of 88 reported crimes for example – criminal damage, vehicle crime, public order offences, burglary dwellings and non-dwellings and 2016 of 75 reported crimes of a similar nature. He urged the community if they had any suspicions or suspected something they should report it. On 7th December Mole Valley was targeted by Surrey Police to investigate speeding issues, untaxed vehicles, SORN vehicles and parking issues. As a result there are several matters under investigation.

The Chairman then asked Inspector Hamlin if he would take questions from the floor. He agreed to this and subsequently Standing Orders were suspended.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the activities surrounding the Brockham Oil site in Old School Lane, which has been in production since 1987 and in 2012 was taken over by Angus Energy. The Company state that there is nothing ‘new’ the field has been and will continue to be a conventional oil production site. For avoidance of doubt, there will certainly be no hydraulic fracking (no matter what any protector might imply). Inspector listened to the views from the floor and will be monitoring the situation. There will be a police presence on the 9th January when activities resume after the Christmas break. The protestors are allowed the express their concern so long as it doesn’t inconvenience the local community. Concern was raised that the police resources have to pay to control the situation and that it should be the developer. Parishioners urged to write to their MP raising this issue and asking for action.

There was a request from Cllr Songhurst that the vehicles which are parking across the pavement in Brockham Lane whilst building works are undertaken should be moved to enable wheelchair, pushchair users to pass.

Cllr Hammond thanked Inspector Hamlin for attending the meeting. At this point Inspector Hamlin and number of the public left the meeting.

Public Time continued with a planning matter being raised for general comment. The actual Application has not been listed with Mole Valley Planning Department yet but several local residents wished to express their views. The Applicant was present and the Chairman agreed he could take questions. Cllr Songhurst left the meeting during this discussion.

The matter of street lights being switched off was raised and areas of concern are Old School Lane, Mill Hill Lane and Tweed Lane. Clerk to contact SCC to request that they be restored.

Cllr Potter raised the issue of a footpath behind the houses in Warrenne Road/Oakdene Road and Cllr Homewood agreed to visit the location again. Circle Housing replied that they would not be taking any further action.

168. MATTERS ARISING:

BERT – it was reported that documentation relating to registering BERT as a charity was now with the Charity Commission for approval. The Parish Council will then pass all financial matters to the appointed Trustees. Mr Budd said that BERT would undertake a clearance of ditches on the **8th January 2017**. Householders were reminded of riparian ownership of ditches and the consequences of their neighbours' properties being flooded because of their neglect.

Tynedale Road questionnaire - Cllrs Homewood and Millward delivered the questionnaire regarding traffic issues and the island at Strood Green. Cllr Homewood will present a report at the February meeting.

Carols on the Green – Carol Singing on the Green 22nd December. 5.00 – 6.30. Very successful and actually took place in the Church Yard.

169. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Casual Vacancy – confirmed Mole Valley have not received a request for an election. Now in a position to choose a new Councillor. Agreed to advertise the vacancy and request any candidate submit a brief CV and their reasons for wishing to become a Parish Councillor and what they will contribute to the Parish.

Parish Council received an invitation to visit the Oil Site in Old School Lane owned by Angus Energy. This is to understand the improvements and maintenance work which is being carried out at the site. The site will close until the 9th January for the Christmas period. There will be no activity during this time.

Cllr Hammond in touch with SCC regarding bollards on the verge opposite the Church in Wheelers Lane – Clerk to obtain quote for the work.

Cllr Hammond to finalise Standing Orders.

Carol Singing at Christmas Corner on the 24th December. 7.00 – 8.00 at the corner of Brockham Lane with Kiln Lane. The Poland Trust made a donation. About 20 people attended and 8 charities were represented.

A request had been received for replacement posts in The Smithers – Circle Housing contacted and they are requesting an engineer visit the site and issue a job number.

BERT – the wearing of protective gloves whilst undertaking routine duties in connection with BERT. Advice sought from Mole Valley District Council on the safety aspect with regard to possible discarded needles. It has never been an issue in the Village and MVDC state there are no Statutory Regulations and suggest the using of gardening gloves or litter pickers if desired.

170. BROCKHAM VILLAGE HALL:

SCC Members Grant Application form to be completed by the Village Hall Committee. Parish Council unable to complete this form as it has no attachment with the Village Hall and they are responsible for this Grant. Clerk to liaise again with the Committee urging them to complete this application as soon as possible to avoid losing the funds.

171. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Current Acc	1,644.78	await Big Field contribution towards ditch
Deposit Acc	11,756.79	
Reserve Acc Web	2,339.70	
War Memorial Acc	1,125.16	
BERT Acc	4,621.02	
EBF Acc	285.40	
Youth Council	14,549.35	refund of grant to Police Fund-under discussion

Cheques:

1979	Mr J Parker	200.00
1980	Mrs C M Plumb (Denzil Printers – cartridges)	59.95
1981	Recreation Committee (increased to £30 per session)	30.00
1982	Mrs C M Plumb	725.00
1983	H M Revenue and Customs	97.00
Receipt	Allotment rent	20.00

BERT

Receipt	Donation	20.00
Cheque	Mr R Thomas Protective Clothing for BERT	765.99

Youth Council

Cheque			
08	Hedleys	Re: Skatepark (Mar – Sept)	£432.00

MVDC – precept form requires completion and return to MVDC with our precept for 2017/18. Authorisation Form for January 2017 signed by Chairman

To be noted - Recreation Ground increasing rent to £30 from January 2017

Grants policy approved by the meeting - Cllr Washtell to forward to Clerk.

SSALC and NALC - Council Tax referendum principles - suggested that if precept increased the Parish would need to go to the Community – decision taken by Associations of no further action. Audit firms announced for 2017.

172. CLERK'S REPORT:

Cllr Budd's resignation confirmed to MVDC. As MVDC have received no request for an Election the Parish Council will advertise the vacancy and proceed to Co-Opt a Councillor.

SALC- half-day conference re End of Year Finance 23rd February – Clerk to apply

SALC – half day training re Allotments 28th March – Clerk to apply

Request for a Bus Shelter in Middle Street – Clerk to contact Jason Hughes at MVDC

Request/suggestion for railings at footpath from Hillside Gardens to Brockham Lane

Cllr Songhurst to clarify the position.

173. PARISH PLAN AND EMERGENCY PLAN (SCC)

Flood Forum meeting 9th December in the Pavilion at 10.00am Issue of the condition of ditch adjacent to BW 52 and Brockham Court Farm brought to the Forum's attention for action – letter to be sent to SCC.

174. COMMUNITY ISSUES:

Clerk in contact with MVDC with a view to organising another HEARTSTART Course. Suggesting March and a Thursday evening. Clerk to check availability of Pavilion.

175. YOUTH COUNCIL FOR BROCKHAM:

Skatepark – Clerk advised the meeting that our Solicitor had now left Hedleys. A discussion took place and it was agreed to contact Hedleys and try and ascertain the current position. It is not an easy matter to establish ownership of the land that will be recognised by the Land Registry, and can then be used to grant a Lease. The Estate's Manager has been copied the email and we wait further instructions. In addition, the proposed site is still subject to a highways stopping-up order which SCC is required to undertake but we understand it has not been done yet. London Marathon Trust and SCC to be informed of the latest situation. Mrs Budd has agreed to serve on a sub-committee for the project. Clerk in contact with Inspector Hamlin regarding the police grant.

176. RECREATIONAL FACILITIES INCLUDING THE EBF:

Cllr Millward reported he had carried out an inspection of the field subsequent to MVDC's report. It was agreed to undertake weed killing on the footpath during March. Cllr Millward monitoring the bark chippings (cushionfall) in the play area and the gate. The goal nets may also need replacement in the near future - a matter for the Friends of the EBF to consider. The drainage of the field seems to be under control with the field not appearing waterlogged anywhere.

177. BROCKHAM WEBSITE:

Website agreed to upgrade the computer facilities at The Strood Green Shop. Cllr Washtell Researching the most suitable package. Await further instructions.

178. PLANNING MATTERS:

There were no objections in respect of these planning applications

MO/2016/1952/CAT	37 The Borough	Tree Surgery
MO/2016/1719/TFCM	South Lodge, Brockham Green	Tree Surgery
MO/2016/1915/PLAH	4 Kiln Lane	Erection of single storey rear extension following removal of existing conservatory

APPEAL – no action

APP/C/3620/W/16/3163934 9 Kiln Lane Erection of a single storey front extension

DECISIONS:

MO/2016/1013/PLA	Stoney Croft Farm, Reigate Road	Change of use of building to Use Class B1 and insertion of windows on south elevation	APPROVED
MO/2016/1762/PLAH	Rivermead, Old Kiln Lane	Extension to existing garage to the front & side	APPROVED
MO/2016/1660/PLAH	4 Old School Lane	Erection of single storey rear etc	REFUSED
MO/2016/1952/CAT	37 The Borough	Tree Surgery	NO OBJECTION
MO/2016/1719/TFCM	South Lodge, Brockham Green	Tree Surgery	NO OBJECTION

MO/2016/1574/PLAH Manor Chase, Kiln Lane Raise ridge height and add dormer windows on front and rear to increase 1st floor accommodation. Erection single storey rear extension. Demolish integral garage and erect detached garage. Cllr Homewood made enquiries with MVDC regarding the status of the front boundary wall. No issues or concerns raised Conservation Officer.

MO/2016/1691/PLA Velgrad, Mill Hill Lane Erection of 6 dwellings following demolition of existing buildings - Application referred to the February - Development Control Committee MVDC

Moore's Storage Yard – it was reported that the conditions are still being breached. MVDC to be informed. The lighting issues at the Rugby Club was felt to have improved and no further action to be taken.

Cllr Homewood to make further observations and site visit to -
MO/2016/1357/ADV The Arkle Manor Advertising consent for 2 fascia signs, an illuminated free standing post sign, car park entrance sign and various other signs around the site. Moores Storage Yard – up date awaited from Cllr Homewood.

179. HIGHWAYS AND GENERAL PURPOSES:

It was reported that the Oak Tree adjacent to Long Cottage, Brockham Green needs pruning and also another tree between the Pubs. Clerk to discuss the matter with MVDC. SCC - VMS (Variable Message System) await up dated plans.

180. ALLOTMENTS:

There are plots available on both sites. It was agreed to review the Rules before the next Allotment Meeting in April 2017.

Whealers Lane site – quote received for cutting of the hedge on the footpath boundary – Coppice Hazel to 2 mtrs on boundary and Public Footpath £300 –from stile to end of allotment Hedge (top and sides of smaller hedge £150. Lift lower branches on allotment side £150 plus VAT. Cllr Homewood to meet with contractor to discuss the work.

181. REPORTS OF MEETINGS:

No meetings attended

182. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:

Chairman to confirm date in April - Suggestions for a speaker - representative from NFU February Agenda item.

183. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS:

Possible development on Kiln Lane Nursery site – February meeting

PART 2

Co-Option of a Parish Councillor

PUBLIC TIME:

Meeting closed at 10.15pm

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