

**BROCKHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the General Meeting of Brockham Parish Council held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018, in the Pavilion Middle Street, Brockham at 7.30 pm.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Roger Hammond – Chairman  
Cllrs Homewood, Washtell, Millward, Songhurst, Venables, Gargani and  
Muggeridge - District and Parish Councillor  
District Councillor Paul Potter  
Simon Budd – BERT and Bonfire  
7 Parishioners

211. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Cllr Buckle (at MVDC meeting) and Clerk unwell

212. **MINUTES:**  
Minutes of the Meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 were read, approved and signed.

213. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
There were no Declarations of Interest.

214. **PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR REPORT TO PARISH NEWS:**  
Cllr Hammond agreed to submit the February report to the Parish News.

**MOLE VALLEY LOCAL PLAN – CALL FOR SITES**

A presentation was given by Ms Claire Mallelieu on the new Local Plan being evolved by MVDC Planning Department. She stated that under the new Housing Needs Assessment 6000 new housing units would be required in Mole Valley during the plan period. However, Mole Valley is very constrained in available land because of the Green Belt considerations. The Council would also be against using office land for development, to retain land for employment. The district has only 2.6 years of land supply left. The direction being looked at was to build ‘urban extensions’ with modest extensions in villages – these would involve a 5%-10% increase in housing units to revitalise village life with new families. ‘Affordable’ housing was important. In Brockham’s case (the village has currently 750 homes) this would indicate an increase of around 75 units. Village boundaries might be changed to incorporate new areas of housing.

Ms Mallelieu explained that the present phase of the Local Plan was to look at parcels of Greenfield land put forward by landowners. These would be subjected to consideration by the Planning Department, and at public consultation later.

In Brockham, she directed attention toward an area in Strood Green marked HSG6 on the map provided. This is comprised of Tanners Meadow and the Elizabeth Bailey Field (previously a Mole Valley Reserved Housing Site). She stated that there is a possibility of government grant money being available for a flood relief scheme there.

During questions that followed attention was drawn to infrastructure deficiencies for larger village populations – highways, schools, surgeries etc., and availability of local jobs. All of these were needed for sustainability of enlarged communities.

Also pointed out that the area marked HSG6 contained a children’s play field and an area which had been comprehensively rejected for housing on flooding grounds at a planning enquiry in 2014. Cllr Homewood to respond to MVDC.

**215. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT:**

There being no police representative present, the month's crime figures were circulated. Cllr Songhurst deplored that with the impending closure of the Police Desk at Pippbrook there would be no place for face-to-face contact with the local police. He stated that a 'yellow phone' would be no replacement, bearing in mind the long waiting time for police calls on 101. Chairman to send letter of protest.

**216. MATTERS ARISING:**

Simon Budd reported on behalf of BERT – one successful callout had been made to a home in Strood Green following heavy rains last week.

Mr Roger Abbott (a parishioner) also reported that there had been some surfacing flooding in Kiln Lane resulting in blocked drains.

**Telephone Kiosk on Green** – Cllr Gargani said that a defibrillator could be purchased and that the Parish Council's share of the price would be around £550. This was agreed.

**217. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

The Chairman expressed the Council's sympathy to our Clerk, Celia Plumb, and wished her a swift recovery. Up date on the Clerk's retirement – in Part 2.

Data Protection Regulations – the Council need to be compliant by 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

SALC Seminar 31<sup>st</sup> January Bletchingley Golf Club – since our Clerk had been unable to attend the meeting, a speaker from MVDC would be sought. It is understood that it might be possible to have several parish councils with one Data Protection Officer.

Local business enquiring about selling food on The Green – no news.

**218. BROCKHAM VILLAGE HALL:**

Agenda sent, but no representative present. It was understood that the Youth Café could function in February but the future uncertain.

**219. BROCKHAM OIL WATCH**

Cllr Homewood reported on a meeting held with the PR representative of Angus Energy, Mr Robin McKie, and attended by the Chairman, Cllr Gargani and himself. A list of the questions put forward by the Parish Council and the responses from Mr McKie was read out. These have now been circulated to all Councillors and to Brockham Oil Watch. – [www.brockhamoilwatch.org](http://www.brockhamoilwatch.org)

**220. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Current Acc	3,486.94	
Deposit Acc	9,762.28	(39p interest)
Reserve Acc Web	1,508.75	
War Memorial Acc	1,125.77	(4p interest)
BERT Acc	0.00	
EBF Acc	285.40	
Youth Council	13,987.45	
2080	Youth Café/Council	300.00
2081	Dorking Business Supplies	79.02
2082	Mrs C M Plumb	780.53
2083	Recreation Committee	30.00
2084	Mr C Long	247.50
2085	Mrs C M Plumb Expenses	163.50

H M Revenue and Customs direct payment from Bank £104.80

Authorisation Form for February 2018 attached.

The meeting agreed the Precept for 2018/2019 at £29,552 as per Minutes 198 January.

SALC subscription for 2018/19 will be £855.84

Clerk awaiting cheque from Brockham Big Field Committee forwards the maintenance of the Big Field Ditch.

**221. CLERK'S REPORT:**

Items referred to under specific Agenda headings

Surrey Hills Newsletter to be circulated.

**222. PARISH PLAN AND EMERGENCY PLAN:**

Brockham Flood Forum – no date yet available

SCC Highways Forum – no date available

**223. COMMUNITY ISSUES:**

Weather Station for North Downs School (Brockham site) This is to be referred to by 'Surrey Weatherman' Mr Ian Currie at the Annual Public Meeting. Parish Council would be willing to contribute.

Parishes in Bloom – Cllr Venables reported that this resembles the Best Kept Village Competition, with free entry. An attempt would be made to arrange the judging day for the Open Gardens Day – (23<sup>rd</sup> June) and to co-ordinate with the Horticultural Society.

Balchins Pond Middle Street – Cllr Venables said that work to remove reed growth might well take three years to accomplish before pond could be restored to its original 'picture postcard' condition. Quotations are being sought for a lectern board to display the pond's history.

**224. YOUTH COUNCIL:**

It is understood the Youth Café will run until February, but after that the future is uncertain.

**225. RECREATIONAL FACILITIES INCLUDING THE EBF:**

Cllr Millward reported that the field had drained well in heavy rains. New goal posts would cost up to £1,000 but there were hopes of grants from Surrey Playing Fields Association and from other directions. There was an agreement that the Parish Council would also help if necessary. Cllr Gargani suggested that the Friends of the Elizabeth Bailey Field should be reformed – perhaps notice in the Parish Magazine would help?

Under this heading District Councillor Paul Potter raised the matter of the skatepark. The Chairman responded that the matter is now dormant, with much of the grant money now having been returned to the donor organisations because of the many legal problems and delays which had been put in the way of a decision.

**226. BROCKHAM WEBSITE:**

Cllr Gargani reported that she was trialling the new parish council email address system.

**227. PLANNING MATTERS:**

Cllr Songhurst reported that there was only one application that was significant in terms of extensions proposed, but since this was on a large plot and not in public view he felt that no action should be taken.

There were no comments to the undermentioned:

MO/2017/2272/PLA Sunny Banks Farm Relocation of existing entrance from Station Road to A25 Reigate Road – For Reference

MO/2018/0025/CAT 13 The Borough Tree Surgery

**DECISIONS:**

MO/2017/1948/PLAH	55-56 Old School Lane	Rear Extension	APPROVED
MO/2017/1949/PLAH	55-56 Old School Lane	Rear Extension	APPROVED
MO/2017/1950/PLAH	90 Middle Street	single storey side ext	APPROVED
MO/2017/1986/PLAH	109 Middle Street	2 storey wrap round ext	APPROVED
MO/2017/1528/PLAH	33 Oakdene Road	single storey rear ext	APPROVED
MO/2017/1912/PLAH	4 Glenfield Road	Loft conversion ext	REFUSED
MO/2017/2038/CAT	15 Middle Green	Tree Surgery	APPROVED
MO/2018/0025/CAT	13 The Borough	Tree Surgery	NO OBJECTION

**228. HIGHWAYS AND GENERAL PURPOSES:**

SCC had been approached re – the deepening hole on west side carriageway on Brockham Lane. Traffic calming on Middle Street – unlikely to take place because SCC’s shortage of money and police unlikely to monitor speeds. A re-formation of Speedwatch was doubted by Councillors because it could have the effect of pushing traffic round into Old School Lane as a ‘rat run’.

Cllr Songhurst reported that he understood there were to be double yellow lines from the junction of Brockham Lane and The Avenue and will be a fairly short stretch from the junction into The Avenue to prevent parking on the junction.

Chairman reported that posts on Wheelers Lane corner have been re-instated after damage carried out by a lorry.

Cllr Millward reported on potholes in Tweed Lane and manhole cover surrounds slowly collapsing on Middle Street.

**229. ALLOTMENTS:**

Collection of Allotment Rents 17<sup>th</sup> April in the Pavilion at 7.00 pm

Middle Street – Chairman, Mr Cannon and Clerk inspected plots. Letter to be sent to allotment holder regarding the condition of his plot. Mr Higgins has offered to produce an up to date plan of the Middle Street site.

**230. REPORTS OF MEETINGS:**

Clerks meeting 31<sup>st</sup> January cancelled.

Chairman reported that Dorking Rugby Club wish to extend the clubhouse to accommodate a medical room and an additional balcony in 2020 if funding can be raised.

**231. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:**

Date – 20<sup>th</sup> April when Mr Ian Currie, the Weatherman will speak. 7.30 pm in the Pavilion.

**232. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC TIME**

A parishioner, Mr Abbott, reported that the stolen post box on Mill Hill Lane had been replaced with a new one.

He also drew attention to the bad condition of Bridleway 52 leading up to the ‘Velgrad’ site caused by developer’s lorries, and its waterlogged state further along, on the pathway beyond the footbridge. Could SCC be asked to improve this? Additionally, he stated that there had been bonfires on the ‘Velgrad’ site to dispose of demolition rubbish which included the burning of plastic materials. He understood that an official warning had been given by MVDC.

The Chairman said that he would ask the public in this Parish Magazine report to monitor this situation.

**PART 2**

Cllr Millward to retire after the April meeting.

Cllr Gargani to deal with applications for the replacement Clerk.

The Village Hall have invited the Parish Council to rent office space in the Hall but it was resolved to decline this offer.

Meeting closed at 10.30 pm

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