

SHERE PARISH COUNCIL

*Serving the villages of Gomshall, Holmbury St. Mary, Peaslake
Shere and a large part of Abinger Hammer*

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13th October 2010 in Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Mr R. Newman (Chairman), Mr. R. Andrews, Dr. C. Brooke, Mr. C. Carlisle, Mr. J. Hutton (late arrival), Mrs S. Nielson, Mr. R. Smith, Mrs. M. Taylor-Cotter, Mr. J. Tenner, Mr. M. Urban, the Clerk Mrs L. Childs, Borough Councillor David Wright.

10/82 Apologies and reason for absence in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, paragraph 40 – Parish Councillors R. Davey, D. Hall and J. Williams. County Councillor K. Taylor.

10/83 Declaration of Personal or Prejudicial Interests by Councillors on any of the agenda items below in accordance with the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 – (SI.2007/1159) – no declarations of interest were made. The Clerk **INFORMED** Councillors that it was expected that the Standards Board would be abolished and that, in its place, the non declaration of interests could become a criminal offence.

10/84a Register of Interests – no amendments were declared. *(Members were reminded that any amendments must also be notified by Councillors in writing to the Monitoring Officer, Guildford Borough Council, Millmead, Guildford. GU2 4BB).*

10/84b. Declaration of gifts or hospitality over £25. *(Members were reminded that once a declaration of gifts or hospitality has been made then a new Form of Financial and other registerable interests must be completed).* No declarations were made.

10/85 The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2010 were **APPROVED**.

10/86 Police Matters – the Clerk reported that two people had been questioned in relation to the unlawful killing of magpies in the Peaslake Area. In addition, following ongoing issues of anti social drivers damaging the new car park on the Shere Recreation Ground and cars being scratched in Sandy Lane, the police have increased patrols using both marked and unmarked vehicles in the village. Several local drivers have been given Section 59 warnings for anti social driving and a resident of Shalford has been interviewed.

SHORT ADJOURNMENT TO ENABLE THE PUBLIC TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS, GIVE EVIDENCE OR ASK/ANSWER QUESTIONS RELATING TO ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA

Borough Councillor David Wright gave details of the very successful Countryside Watch scheme stating that membership was comprised of a network of local people who undertook to report incidents to the Police and to act, if wished, on information received. A scheme will be launched locally in approximately two months' time.

Borough Councillor David Wright also gave an **UP TO DATE REPORT** on Surrey Save stating that the necessary funding had been received to enable an application to be made to

the Financial Services Authority for a Licence. It is anticipated that the business will open next May.

10/87 Traffic/Highway Problems

Car Park, Shere – the Parish Council was informed that the car park had been selected to receive one of the 2010 design awards from the Guildford Society in the Environmental Improvement category due to the sympathetic use of materials to cause the minimum impact on the environment especially in relation to the view of it from the North Downs. Ironically they were pleased with the discreet nature of the parking space markers which are so discreet that many drivers do not notice them! All parties involved with the car park are pleased to receive this recognition and it is very regrettable that the motorised vandalism continues on occasions despite the police having warned several possible drivers.

Pavement, Upper Street, Shere – Surrey County Council had again stated that it would do what it can when it can! It was **DECIDED** that a plea for funding be made to County Councillor Keith Taylor.

Upper Street – the Council **RECEIVED** a letter from a local resident regarding problems of access following the installation of the build out together with the Clerk's reply. This matter will be **CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING** when the build out is reviewed.

Possible installation of speed cushions in Upper Street, Shere – the Council **AUTHORISED** the sending of an email to Surrey County Council requesting that a design plan be drawn up prior to a consultation with the residents of Shere. It was **NOTED** that a charge may be made for this.

Speeding problems - Sutton Abinger corner of the Horsham Road. A **REQUEST** will be submitted to Surrey County Council Highways for a 40 mph speed limit along the Horsham Road, clearance of obscured signs and a priority system plus signage.

10/88 Parish Plan – a report on the recent Working Group meeting was **DISTRIBUTED** to Councillors. The Council also received details of GBC Strategic Planning and how it fits with local Parish Plans and surveys and an Acre briefing re Community Led Planning. The Chairman stated that the Council must be absolutely sure of the benefits of any future action and much work needed to be done before any decision was made. Borough Councillor David Wright warned the Council that any consultation document must be very well presented to avoid residents jumping to the wrong conclusions.

10/89 Emergency Plan – the Council **APPROVED** the draft plan which will now be fine tuned and **SUBMITTED** to Guildford Borough Council by the beginning of November.

10/90 Firework Displays – the Council **AUTHORISED** the use of Goose Green and Holmbury Village Hall car park for bonfire and firework displays during November. It was noted that risk assessments had been received.

10/91 Standing Orders –the Council **ADOPTED** the revised standing orders as recommended by the National Association of Local Councils subject to two very minor amendments.

10/92 Peaslake Farm boundary – the Council **RECEIVED** notification from Surrey County Council Highways Department that additional ditching work is required adjacent to the Ewhurst Road, Peaslake (part already carried out by Surrey County Council). The farm tenant will be **REQUESTED** to carry out this work as the lease states that he is responsible for the clearance of ditches.

10/93 Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – 4th June 2012. Request for notification of any local plans received from Guildford Borough Council – **NO DETAILS** available at present.

10/94 Land adjacent to Felbury House, Holmbury St. Mary – The Council noted that it was not possible to deregister Common land in this part of the Country at present without exchanging it for non registered land. Confirmation had also been received from the Solicitor that the land should not be fenced as it is Common land and the tenant had been informed of the status of the land.

10/95 Local Elections May 2010 – the Clerk **INFORMED** the Council that Parish Council elections would take place on 5th May 2011. She reminded Councillors that the Police would be informed of the names of any Councillor who had not returned their expense form within 28 days of the election. This also applies to nil returns. The Clerk stated that it would be helpful to know if any Councillors have decided not to stand for re-election. The Council **AGREED** that the Clerk should not act as a collection point for nomination papers but that these should be delivered by candidates direct to Guildford Borough Council.

10/96 Shere Recreation Ground Association – the Council **FORMALLY AUTHORISED** Mr Roger Newman to act as a substitute on this Committee should Mr Hall be unable to attend a meeting.

10/97 London Lane, Shere – it was noted that problems arose with the soakaway approximately 30 minutes after the commencement of heavy rain. It was **AGREED** that the Council did not have the resources to clear this during periods of heavy rain although the adjacent area would be cleared twice a week. It was **DECIDED TO MONITOR** the situation.

10/98 School Admissions – letters received from Sir Paul Beresford M.P. and Mrs Anne Milton M.P. were **READ** to the Council. Enquiries will be made by the Chairman regarding the possible lack of extra funding to secondary schools from the redevelopment of the Defra Guildford site.

Committee meetings – the Council **RECEIVED** the Minutes of the recent Parish Maintenance and Playground Committee meetings. The Clerk updated Councillors on the work to be carried out to the Holmbury St. Mary and Peaslake play areas. A replacement swing was required at Holmbury St. Mary to comply with safety regulations and this had been scheduled into the project. Costings had slightly altered with the Holmbury scheme costing £7,763.24 instead of £7,210.70 and Peaslake £21,106.33 instead of £21,568 as no new safety surface is required under the roundabout. The Council **APPROVED** these amendments.

10/99 Clerk's Report – the following matters were raised:

Aerial runway, Gomshall – ROSPA approval to be **SOUGHT** for the repairs suggested by the Council's contractor.

Shere Swimming Pool – work to commence at the end of October to replace the pool edging.

Insurance for tracking to be sought by the Parish Council on behalf of the Club.

Holmbury Football Pavilion – a quote for £3,000 and £5,000 contents insurance to be **SOUGHT**.

Gomshall Village sign – slight amendment to wording.

Borough/Parish Liaison Meeting – **NOTIFICATION** that the Government intend to consider stronger enforcement powers and the limitation of retrospective planning applications. The Clerk requested Planning Trainings to be held after May for any new councillors.

10/100 Councillors' Business (for noting, delegation to the Clerk or inclusion on the next agenda):

The Chairman reported on the AGM of the Surrey County Association of Parish and Town Councils that he had recently attended.

He also gave details of an interesting meeting attended that day, hosted by the Surrey Hills Office, to discuss cycling in the Surrey Hills. He stated that it is thought that almost 1,000 cyclists pass through Peaslake on each Saturday and Sunday (the Hurtwood being the most popular site in the S.E. England) and therefore sites are being sought to enable facilities to be provided using a Leader Grant.

SHORT ADJOURNMENT TO ENABLE THE PUBLIC TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS, GIVE EVIDENCE OR ASK/ANSWER QUESTIONS RELATING TO ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA - Borough Councillor David Wright advised the Council that Surrey County Council had indicated that they intended to withdraw funding for the Hurtwood and it was probable that Guildford Borough Council would do the same.

He also stated that there would be less grant aid available to the Parishes in future. **GREAT CONCERN** was expressed by the Council regarding this as grant aid was in fact compensation for double rating of the Parishes.

10/101 Finance Matters

- a. The Council **APPROVED/AUTHORISED** income totalling £61,736.20 and expenditure of £23,163.02 including Petty Cash expenditure of £14.89 since the last meeting. The lists of transactions were signed by the Chairman.
- b. Direct Debits – the Council **AUTHORISED** the setting up of direct debits in favour of British Telecom and Talk, Talk which would avoid extra charges being incurred.
- c. Insurance – Shere car park – the Council was **INFORMED** that the insurance company had stated that, at present, there were no additional perils that could be applied to the car park. However, funding for the installation of a fence will be **CONSIDERED** at the next meeting which could alter the situation.

- d. Finance Committee meeting – it was **RESOLVED** that the budget for 2011/12 would be considered at the Finance Committee meeting to be held on 4th November. The meeting on 18th November will therefore be **CANCELLED**. The Chairman and Mr Andrews were **AUTHORISED** to review the Financial Standing Orders and also the insurance cover. Their **RECOMMENDATIONS** will be circulated to Councillors before the meeting on 4th November.
- e. It was **AGREED** that the submission by the Clerk of a Bank Reconciliation and budget update be **POSTPONED** until the Finance meeting on 4th November.

10/102 Consultation Documents

Guildford Borough Council – Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation – closing date for comments 15th October 2010. See www.guildford.gov.uk/1a03consultation No representations to be made.

Waverley Borough Council Local Development Framework consultation regarding the number of new homes that should be built in Waverley –closing date 13th October 2010. No representations to be made.

Surrey Transport Plan – closing date for responses 9th November 2010. No representations to be made.

Publicity Code Consultation Document – link emailed to all Councillors. No representations to be made.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England - Electoral Review of Surrey County Council – invitation to meeting on 26th October (6 p.m.) received – Mrs Taylor Cotter to attend. Closing date for submissions 22nd November 2010.

Guildford Society – Town Centre consultation 11th November – Mr. Tenner to attend.

Guildford Borough Council antisocial drinking consultation. Closing date for representations 31st October 2010 (proposal to enlarge scheme to cover the whole of the town centre).

10/103 Correspondence

Notice served under the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995, Article 6 re proposed development at Felbury House, Holmbury St. Mary (Council is adjacent landowner). **RECEIVED**.

Correspondence received after the agenda had been printed – none received other than consultation documents listed above.

Correspondence not necessarily requiring discussion by the Council – details available at the meeting:

Direct Information Service magazines received from the National Association of Local Councils.

Government Consultation Paper – Local Referendums – copy of Guildford Borough Council's submission.

About Guildford – newsletter.

English Rural Housing Association – newsletter.

Surrey Playing Fields Association – Annual Report and Accounts 2009/10.

Spottiswood Memorial Hall, Peaslake – letter of thanks for donation towards the maintenance of the floor.

Local Council Review

Guildford Environmental Forum newsletter.

10/104 Date of next Council meeting: Friday 26th November 2010 8 p.m.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS (Public Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

The Chairman proposed and the Council **AGREED** to the Exclusion of the Public and the Press in order to comply with the Data Protection Act.

10/105 The Confidential Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2010 were **APPROVED**.

10/106 Five yearly review of rent for a Parish Council property – The Council noted that the increased rental payment had now been received.