

**MINUTES OF THE SHERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON FRIDAY 22 MARCH 2013 AT  
8.00 P.M. IN TANYARD HALL, 30 STATION ROAD, GOMSHALL**

**Present:** Parish Councillors R Newman (Chairman), R Andrews, B Cohen, R Davey, J Hutton, R Smith, M Taylor-Cotter, J Tenner, M Urban, the Clerk: J Millett, Borough Councillor R Billington and four members of the public. PC Matt Taylor and Sergeant Anne Ward attended for part of the meeting.

**12/180 Apologies** were submitted on behalf of Parish Councillors C Brooke, C Carlisle and D Hall.

**12/181` Casual vacancy in the North Ward of the Parish Council** – Brian Grover was unanimously elected as a ward councillor for the North Ward, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Sally Nielson and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillor was duly signed by him. Consideration of the filling of vacancies on committees and working groups was deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

**12/182 Declarations of Interest** – declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests from Members in respect of any item to be considered at the meeting – **NO DECLARATIONS** of interest were made.

**12/183 Register of Disclosable Interests – to declare any amendments.** (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 so that they may be added to the Register). **NO AMENDMENTS** were disclosed.

**12/184 Declaration of gifts or hospitality over £25** - Members were reminded that once a declaration of gifts or hospitality had been made then the Monitoring Officer of Guildford Borough Council must be informed. **NO DECLARTIONS** were made.

**12/185 The Minutes** of the meeting of the Council held on 22 February 2013 were **APPROVED** and **SIGNED** by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting, subject to minute 12/175, Hurtwood football field, being amended to refer to a ‘four-wheel drive’ and not a ‘motor bike’.

**SHORT ADJOURNMENT TO ENABLE THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL.**

A local resident expressed his concern about parking on the pavement, outside Tanyard Cottages, Gomshall and in the nearby bus stop. The cars were causing an obstruction to pedestrians and causing large vehicles to cross the white lines into the on-coming carriageway. The Police said that they would investigate the situation and put a plan of action into place. R Billington commented that there had been a lot of accidents on this stretch of the A25 and said that he would raise the issue of community speed watch with Guildford Borough Council.

A local resident asked what was happening about buses using Upper Street, Shere. It was **NOTED** that a traffic consultant had been appointed by Surrey County Council to look at

traffic problems in Shere but the consultant had not yet reported back to the Parish Council. It was **AGREED** that this matter be pursued with Surrey County Council.

A local resident and fire-man reported that that Gomshall was soon to lose its fire engine.

Another local resident reported that there had been an increase in the use of sandwich boards, in Shere, to advertise local businesses. It was **NOTED** that this was a planning enforcement matter and possibly a highways issue if footpaths were being obstructed. It was **AGREED** that this situation would be investigated.

R Billington reported that there had been some flooding at The Mill car park and that the culvert needed cleaning out. The Chairman undertook to discuss this matter with the Manager of The Mill.

**The meeting restarted.**

### **12/186 Police Matters**

It was noted that there had been further shed burglaries in Peaslake and thefts of wall coping stones, in Shere and Peaslake. The local PC had been in attendance at Peaslake, since then. Also, the football pitch and pavilion at Holmbury-St-Mary had been broken into. The Police had issued an amber alert on oil thefts. They were also aware of an increase in fly tipping and could prosecute where they found people in the act. It was **NOTED** that the Police were stepping up night patrols and they also explained a method of marking coping stones so that they were traceable. PC Matt Taylor was to leave the Parish but he was to be replaced by PC Ryan Stephens. It was noted that the local Special PC had some limited access to vehicles as well as to public transport and a bike.

**12/187 Community Right to Bid** – to consider community assets that could be held on a register by Guildford Borough Council’s Planning department – none were identified.

**12/188 Shere Recreation Ground – CCTV** – a report was received of a recent joint meeting between representatives of the Parish Council, Shere Recreation Ground Association, the two nurseries, the Museum and the Village Hall, Church Club and library. It was **NOTED** that the first issue was to decide exactly where the CCTV should go, ie, which areas were in need of surveillance. Advice from engineers and the local Crime Prevention Officer was being sought on positioning the CCTV and on the best type of system to use. A progress report would be made to the next Council meeting.

**12/189 Filming in the Parish** – Regarding filming in Holmbury-St Mary, it was noted that the Location Manager had originally promised to pay the Parish Council £100 for each of the three days that filming had taken place in Holmbury, earlier in the year. It was **AGREED** to ask the production company to pay £300, this money to be allocated to the South East Ward film account.

**12/190 Minutes of the Tanyard Hall Committee meetings held on 7 March 2013** – the minutes were **RECEIVED**.

**12/191 Minutes of the Health & Safety Committee held on 7 March 2013** – the minutes were **RECEIVED**.

**12/192 Local Train Services** – it was **NOTED** that there was soon to be a temporary footbridge to link the two platforms at Gomshall railway station. This temporary bridge would allow people to cross safely and quickly. Then a permanent bridge would be built at a later date. This was to happen once Network Rail received government funding for the project. There was also to be a dedicated Level Crossing Manager who would be the lead contact with the local community.

**12/193 River bank, Ewhurst Road, Peaslake** – it was **AGREED** that a letter be sent to the residents of Ewhurst Road explaining that they do not have a right to park on the grass verge and to invite them to a meeting with Parish Councillors to discuss this matter. The question of them contributing towards the cost of maintenance of the verges could also be discussed at that meeting. Prior to the meeting, there was a need to find out which properties could accommodate their owners parking in their own gardens.

**12/194 Parking on Manorial Waste Land in Holmbury St Mary** – it was **NOTED** that the owners of Manor Cottage, Laurel Cottage and Cherry Tree Cottage had requested that parking places be allocated to them but that the Parish Council's solicitor was still awaiting a response from Surrey County Council on the draft contract.

**12/195 Highways improvements in Peaslake** – it was **NOTED** that the lead Traffic Engineer, from Surrey County Council, had confirmed that a discussion had been held about the possibility of removing the existing grass verge, at the south side of the junction, and creating a wide footway similar to the north side where the bus shelter is located. Surrey County Council had investigated the turning point at the south section and was happy with the proposal, in principle. They would prepare and forward a plan to the Parish Council, for discussion. Grant Aid from Guildford Borough Council of £2,500 (match-funded) for this project was available until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014.

**12/196 Council's Complaints Policy – training** – R Billington reported that an interim Head of Legal Services had been appointed by Guildford Borough Council who might also take on the role of Monitoring Officer and provide training for Parish Councils in handling complaints.

**12/197 Clerk's Report** (for noting, delegation to the Clerk or inclusion on the next agenda)  
The following items were raised:

- **Keep Britain Tidy Roadshows** – it was **NOTED** that these events were being held around the country and the South East roadshow would be held in Guildford on 26<sup>th</sup> March.
- **'Putting Communities First'** – it was **NOTED** that this conference was to be held in London, on 6 June. The keynote speaker would be the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and he would focus on Localism.

**12/198 Councillors' Business** (for noting, delegation to the Clerk or inclusion on the next agenda)

The following items were raised:

- There was to be a Duathlon event (a marshalled cycling and running race) on the Hurtwood, on 13 April.
- There were flooding problems on the road adjacent to Peaslake Farm Barn because the developers of the site had filled in the ditch and it was **AGREED** that this should be raised with Guildford Borough Council's Planning Enforcement team.
- There were to be some major cycle events going through the Parish on 15 September (Tour of Britain) and 31 July.
- It was noted that signage for Shere car park was inadequate on some of the approaches to the village and it was **AGREED** that the North Ward Parish Councillors think about how this could be improved and report back to the next meeting.
- It was noted that a site visit had been held to look at constructing a barrier at the back of the Tower Hill play area at the top of the steep bank above Burrows Lane. An estimate for this work was being sought.

### **SHORT ADJOURNMENT TO ENABLE THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

It was noted that Surrey County Council had attended to the potholes in Hound House Road.

#### **The meeting to restart.**

#### **12/199 Finance Matters**

- income of £4,462.30 and expenditure of £4,730.79 since the last meeting was **NOTED**. Details of the items of income and expenditure would be reported to the next meeting, for approval.
- The following bank balances were **NOTED**:  
Lloyds business 30 day notice account - £158,590.05  
Lloyds Treasurer's account - £20,000  
Bank of Ireland Treasurer's account - £1,962.96
- Bid for Local Committee Allocations: Highways Localism – it was **NOTED** that the grant towards the cost of employing a Lengths Man had been agreed and that legal documentation was being finalised with the Surrey and Sussex Association of Local Councils. Surrey County Council would then issue a 'next steps' document to parish councils.
- IGas Energy Community Fund – please visit [www.igascommunityfund.co.uk](http://www.igascommunityfund.co.uk) – an application for a grant towards the cost of renewing the surface at the front of the Peaslake Memorial Hall was shortly to be submitted to the Fund.
- Churchyards – to consider a request from Shere Parish Church Council for a grant towards the cost of mowing churchyards – it was **AGREED** that the Clerk be requested to review these grants paid in the last three years.

## **12/200 Correspondence**

- Goose Green – a request from AFC Gomshall to hold a fundraising event on Goose Green, this summer, was **APPROVED**, subject to the organiser being advised that there had been a change in the law as far as bonfires are concerned.
- Legal & Finance Training by SALC, 26<sup>th</sup> April – **NOTED**
- Surrey County Council Congestion Programme March 2013 – **NO COMMENTS** were made on the plans outlined in the congestion programme
- Buses in Upper Street – to consider a further enquiry from a local resident as to what steps the Parish Council can take to prevent buses and other vehicles mounting the pavement along Upper Street, Shere - it was suggested that a holding response be sent to the local resident, explaining that a traffic consultant had yet to report on his study into traffic conditions in Shere.

**12/201 Correspondence received after the agenda had been printed** – details available at the meeting on 22 March 2013 - for noting, delegation to the Clerk or inclusion on the next agenda).

The following correspondence had been received:

- Notification from Guildford Borough Council that neighbourhood planning groups (which includes parish councils) would be able to bid for up to £7,000 to pay for neighbourhood planning activities, from 15 April
- Information that Shere Infant School hoped to expand to a full primary school and had the possibility of a site and some funding.
- Notification that there would be remedial works to Shere car park, at the beginning of April.
- An e-mail from the solicitor to the prospective purchaser of 'Wylton', Goose Green, advising that her client wants to construct an electric gate and enquiring as to the acceptability to the Parish Council of installing gate posts to either side of the drive.
- An e-mail from a local resident suggesting that the 40 mph speed signs on Horsham Road encourage drivers to believe that this is a safe speed when, in fact, it isn't.

**12/202 Correspondence not necessarily requiring discussion by the Council** – details available at the meeting.

The following had been received:

- NALC newsletter for March
- LCR Local Councils' Magazine
- Guildford Environmental Forum newsletter – March – June 2013
- Register of Electors for 2013
- Came & Co. (parish council insurance) newsletter – Spring 2013