

Shere Parish Council



Full Council Minutes Tuesday 9th November 2021 Tanyard Hall 30 Station Road, Gomshall GU5 9LF

Present:

Councillors: - R Davey (Chairman), B Harrap, C Carlisle, M Keeble, B Grover, R Smith, C Brooke, P Carter, J Hutton and J Cross.

Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Councillors: R Billington and D Jones

Clerk and RFO: - S Hoyland

Three members of the public

- 21.94 **To accept apologies** and reasons for absence in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, s 85(1) (LGA 1972) Councillors G Reffo and M Taylor-Cotter
- 21.95 **Approval of the Minutes** of the Council meeting held on [5th October 2021](#) - **Approved and Signed as a Correct Record**
- 21.96 **Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) Declarations by Councillors** on any of the agenda items below in accordance with The Localism Act 2011, ss.27-34 and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. (SI 2012 No. 1464) **Councillor C Carlisle declared an interest in item 21.101 Finance Committee (c) Boom Credit Union**
- 21.97 **Brief Report from Surrey County Council (SCC) Councillor** on matters from Surrey County Council affecting Shere Parish – **County Councillor not present**
- 21.98 **Brief Report from Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Councillors** on matters from Guildford Borough Council affecting Shere Parish
GBC Councillor R Billington reported on some restructuring at GBC and declared himself unsupportive of applying for city status for Guildford, as he believed there were no benefits.
GBC Councillor D Jones reported the following:
- the launch of [Zero Carbon](#) in Guildford 14-16 Friary Street on the 20th November 2021 including [Guildford Environmental Forum](#), [Surrey Wildlife Trust](#) and a repair café. It was noted that any donations would be matched by GBC.
 - [Crowdfund Guildford for community projects](#) – project organisers could apply for money raised through crowdfunding, for a project.
- 21.99 **Questions or requests from members of the public to the Council** in relation to the business on the agenda or future items for discussion. The members of the public introduced themselves as the community Speedwatch team from Holmbury St Mary (HSM). They reported that carrying out the Speedwatch had highlighted highways and traffic safety issues in HSM. They were thanked for their excellent work and the report they provided on the issues. Chairman R Davey confirmed that the council had received the plan from Surrey County Council regarding the traffic calming planned for HSM and that the plan would be forwarded to the group for their information.

21.100 Finance matters

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- a) **Approved** income of £6,124.94 and expenditure of £12,766.25 for the month ended October 2021 (Appendix 1)
- b) **Noted** bank reconciliations and statement balances for month ended October 2021 (Appendix 2)
- c) **Noted** income and expenditure against budget and earmarked reserves to end of October 2021 (Appendix 3)
- d) **Noted** VAT expenditure for October 2021 (Appendix 4)
- e) To consider an application to [Your Fund Surrey](#) for the new car park driving surface – **Agreed** to formulate an application (for approval) to incorporate the car park, toilets and pedestrianised area in Shere to create a general community project.
- f) **Confirmed** signatories on the Boom Credit Union Account to be the Clerk, Suzanne Hoyland, Assistant Clerk Samantha Robins, Councillors M Keeble and P Carter. Either the Clerk or Assistant Clerk and two councillors to sign, as per Financial Regulations. It was also **Noted** that the credit union had a shared PIN system for withdrawals which would need to be investigated and if not thought secure, to revert to original withdrawal method.

21.101 **Finance Committee** – to [Received and Approved minutes \(Appendix 5\)](#) and consider the following recommendations:

- a) **Agreed** to add Councillors M Keeble and R Smith as signatories on all accounts
- b) **Agreed** to enter into the [RBS Rialtas three-year contract loyalty scheme](#)
- c) **Agreed** to move £10,000 from Unity Bank to Boom Credit Union, having confirmed that the money held in Boom CU is instant access
- d) **Adopted** the draft budget 2022/23 (appendix 6) including the following:
 - Formally thank Shere Village Hall for their support with the Drop-In Centre
 - Formally ask the cinema to support the Drop-In with regards to the film bank cost and refreshments
 - Approach the Henry Smith fund for support in providing a hot meal to attendees once a month
 - Approach NHS SURREY HEARTLANDS CCG to enquire about funding for the Drop-In Centre and the link with social prescribing for residents in need – **Drop-in Coordinator J Duffy to liaise with councillor J Cross representing SALV**. It was also **Noted** that the Drop-in Centre was now desperately in need of volunteers both for during the mornings and with transporting people to and from Tanyard Hall. It was **Agreed** to contact the volunteer patient transport group at the surgery to ask if they can assist.
- e) **Agreed** the precept for 2022/23 be set at £162,028 (Appendix 7) Representing (on a Band D property) a weekly increase of 21p and a total yearly cost increase from £71.13 to £82.18 (depending on the final tax base). The committee concurred those costs of supplying services (important to the community and previously provided by the Borough or County Council) were continually increasing.

It was also **Noted** that the recent election was going to cost the parish council £4,419.62 and although necessary and vital for democracy, councillors were encouraged to remain in their positions at least until the next formal elections in 2023, if possible.

21.102 **General Purposes Committee Meeting** – [Received minutes](#) and considered the following recommendations:

- a) **Agreed** - swimming pool path, to raise the soil alongside the new path – £520 exc. VAT funded from Parish Maintenance Earmark Reserve (Public Health Act 1987 s 164; Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9&10). Works to be carried out in Spring 2022 after the works to the swimming pool changing rooms have taken place. Timings to be reviewed in Spring if swimming pool works have not taken place.
- b) **Agreed** - four 84 litre metal bin inserts for the wooden bins along the stream in Shere, at £62.49 exc. VAT each, funded from general reserves via Highway's code (Litter Act 1983 ss 56)

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- c) **Agreed** - Tillingbourne silt clearance, Gomshall (works to the area of stream maintained by Shere Parish Council) – £2,600 exc. VAT funded from Parish Maintenance Earmark Reserve (Public Health Act 1936 s 260). It was also **Agreed** to do more regular maintenance to keep down the growth of vegetation.

21.103 Management and Strategy Working Group – [Received minutes](#) and considered the following recommendations:

- a) **Agreed** the following overarching objectives for all wards:
1. To try to mitigate the adverse effects of increased traffic and visitor numbers throughout the parish on the community and environment by:
 - addressing health and safety concerns, such as maintaining access for emergency vehicles, pavement obstruction and traffic speed dangers
 - prioritising the physical and mental wellbeing of residents
 - actively look for additional sources of revenue to reduce the financial burden of visitors (to reduce the percentage of parish council precept spent on visitor amenities)
 2. To recognise and try to address the risks to the parish environment and residents arising from climate change and visitor activities by:
 - Lessening, where possible, the impact of adverse trends, such as flooding from heavy rainfall, trail erosion from overuse etc.
 - considering the environmental effect of every council decision
 - furthering and promoting national guidelines, to achieve change at local level
- b) **Ratified** the Shere Public Consultation for car park charging, pedestrianisation for part of The Square and further yellow lines at a cost of approximately £600 (Local Government Act 1972 s 142)

21.104 To consider the following items and agree resolutions where appropriate:

- a) Broadband for Surrey Hills' (B4SH) Annual General Meeting – to receive a report from Councillor P Carter – A short report was given by Councillor P Carter who reported that B4SH had 25 miles of underground fibre, over 200 subscribers which covered their operating costs and progress was very good. Councillor J Cross reported that Shere Surgery was looking into the possibility for installation due to their need for faster broadband and bandwidth and that SALV was looking for a volunteer to organise the project. Investment needed was in the region of £50,000 from businesses and individuals keen for the faster broadband and would cover the North of Shere, also providing free broadband for the school.
- b) Surrey Hills All Saints – to receive update on school move from Abinger Common to Wescott from Councillor B Andrews – Report deferred due to Councillor B Andrews absence but agreed to contact Abinger Parish Council to offer support and Surrey County Councillor B Hughes to establish details and our support for keeping the school in Abinger Common.
- c) [Guildford bid for city status](#) – to consider supporting GBC bid for city status - **Not Agreed** as it was believed that the financing of the bid could be used better elsewhere and it was not clear what benefits would come from city status.
- d) Peaslake Farm Fields – to receive a brief report from an informal meeting with Leigh Thornton of Surrey Wildlife Trust (SWT), Tim Metson of Coverwood Farm and three councillors. It was **Agreed** to pursue an agreement with SWT for a 30-year lease and to outline the council's priorities for the land, including a first priority of flood mitigation, through the creation of wetland. It was **Noted** that grazing rights would be agreed between SWT and Coverwood Farm.
- e) [Shere Swimming Pool Club](#) – to consider request to increase membership number from 450 to 500 from the next season onwards – **Agreed**, subject to the agreement of the pool committee and the pool committee ensuring compliance with all regulations and suitable updated insurance cover.

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21.105 **Police Matters** - to consider any matters that need to be brought to the attention of the Police –
None

21.106 **Clerk's Report** (for noting, delegation to the Clerk or inclusion on the next agenda) – **None**

21.107 **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 11th January 2022 at Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall
GU5 9LF

Meeting Closed 9.35pm