

Shere Parish Council



COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday 7th November 2024 Tanyard Hall 30 Station Road, Gomshall GU5 9LF

Present: Councillors M Keeble (Acting Chair), P Tompkins, B Harrap, M Taylor-Cotter, C Carlisle, T Florent (arrived part way through) and G Reffo
Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Councillor and Surrey County Council (SCC) Councillor B Hughes
Clerk & RFO S Hoyland

24.93 To accept apologies and reasons for absence in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, s 85(1) (LGA 1972) – Councillors R Davey, J Cross, J Hutton, W Esplen, R Smith and Councillor T Florent sent apologies for being late. Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Councillor D Newson

24.94 Noted [Holmbury St Mary Election](#) is being held on Thursday 14th November 2024

24.95 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on [10th October 2024](#) – Approved and Signed as a Correct Record

24.96 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 as a non-executive Director of Boom Credit Union**

24.97 Brief Report from Surrey County Council (SCC) Councillor on matters from Surrey County Council affecting Shere Parish - Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Councillor and Surrey County Council (SCC) Councillor B Hughes reported the following:

- Speed reductions were progressing and there had been some further suggested locations. He reported there had been only a handful of opposition
- Kings Yard Gomshall – further incursions were being made by the landowner and he was trying to assist the residents
- The bus shelter on Station Road, Gomshall could not be removed to allow more parking as there was no shelter by the Compasses – this was therefore delaying the decision on double yellow lines on the Station Road bend (opposite Colekitchen Lane). Council requested that a further appeal to remove the bus stop was made. A photo was provided by a resident showing cars on the pavement blocking prams and wheelchairs, where it was dangerous to walk on the road on the bend. A copy was given to SCC Councillor B Hughes. It was **Noted** unfortunately that parking on the pavement was not illegal outside London.

Councillor T Florent Arrived

- The Brook level crossing in Albury was due to be closed for a month for the new signalling upgrade. The diversion had been moved from Little London to Hound House Road with good signage to avoid Shere Village. It was reported that Network Rail were not communicating enough with SCC and the parish councils affected. Agreed Councillor G Reffo to email dates of the Burrows Lane closures to SCC Councillor B Hughes and the Parish Office.

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- Marks had been put in the for the installation of double yellow lines (DYLs) in Shere. A resident's request for a new A25 sign and foliage cut back on Upper Street was being actioned. If the land were not owned by SCC, the landowners would be asked to cut the foliage back.
- A trial was being investigated for Albury Parish Council to take over some of the work SCC are responsible for such, as drains and ditches. This would potentially be done using money from SCC.
- Work was progressing on a unitary authority replacing SCC and GBC. It is likely this would become a reality in the next few years, saving a lot of money.
- Residents in Holmbury St Mary had asked for a 20mph limit throughout the village but this was not likely as it was a major route. However, investigation was taking place for a possible speed reduction in the centre section of the village
- Guildford Borough Council Tax was due to raise by 4.99% in the next financial year.

24.98 Brief Report from Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Councillors on matters from Guildford Borough Council affecting Shere Parish - Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Councillor and Surrey County Council (SCC) Councillor B Hughes reported the following:

- Financial situation was a little better although they have still lost control over large projects, in particular Weyside Urban Village
- £18.5m was still missing from the Housing Revenue Account from over a 2-year period

24.99 Questions or requests from members of the public to the Council in relation to the business on the agenda or future items for discussion – No Members of the Public Present

24.100 Finance Matters 2024/24 – September 2024

- **Approved** income of £18,820.56 and expenditure of £ £26,648.87 for the month ended October 2024 (Appendix 1)
- **Approved** Lloyds Credit Card cashbook transfer of £231.16 and expenditure of £820.22 for October 2024 (Appendix 2)
- **Noted** bank reconciliations and statement balances (including credit card) for month ended October (Appendix 3)
- **Noted** income and expenditure against budget and earmarked reserves to end of October 2024 (Appendix 4)
- **Noted** VAT expenditure for October 2024 (Appendix 5) and to Note VAT reclaim from 1st April 2024 to 31st September 2024 has been received £10,369.42
- **Ratified** £441.66 ex VAT for a moveable flood protection barrier for Tanyard Hall (Local Gov (Misc. Provisions) Act 1976 s19)
- **Noted** that the final costs for Guildford Borough Council bin emptying is £3,065 for the year

24.101 Interim Internal Audit Report 2024/2025 – Received and Approved [report \(Appendix 6\) of the interim audit](#) conducted in person 23rd October 2024 and **Noted** no recommendations by the Auditor.

24.102 Finance Meeting – Received and Approved the [minutes of the 24th October 2024 \(Appendix 6\)](#) and consider the following recommendations:

- **Adopted** of the [draft budget 2025/26 \(Appendix 7\)](#)
- **Agreed** the precept for 2025/26 be set at [£215,251 \(Appendix 8\)](#). Representing (on a Band D property) a weekly 0.06p. The increase reflected the loss of Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS) and inflation.

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24.103 General Purposes Committee Meeting – Received [draft minutes](#) and consider the following recommendations:

- Millenium Playground works to remove existing old trail £200 and install a new woodland trail for £1,800 ex VAT from code Play Areas Repair and Replace (Local Govt (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s 19) - **Agreed**

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

- Holmbury St Mary Football Pitch and Pavilion – to consider proposal/draft lease – **Agreed** subject to schedule of condition, 5-year break clause for either side and dedication to former Councillor B Andrews for his service to the Football Club. It was also **Agreed** to confirm what the Dorkinians meant by a discussion regarding ‘provision of suitable parking facilities in the vicinity’ - **Delegated** to Clerk and Councillors M Keeble and C Carlisle for lease preparation and signing.
- To consider Memorial Bench application for a 5ft wide hardwood bench by the lychgate, Shere – **Agreed**, subject to the original bench not being a memorial bench and confirmation that the Church is also supportive
- Library – to consider a £1 yearly nominal payment to Shere Village Hall to show consideration – **Agreed**
- To consider [proposed meetings dates for 2025-2026](#) – **Not Agreed**, Clerk to suggest new dates to include some meetings in Peaslake and Holmbury St Mary and to return to the original number of meetings. Councillor G Reffo to check availability for Peaslake Village Hall
- To close the Shere Car Park Charging working Group and add Car Parks to the Terms of Reference of the General Purposes Committee, [as per draft](#) – **Agreed**
- To consider installation of the payment [and retailer/motorist reward app Parkbunny](#) for Shere Car Park at no cost to the Parish Council – **Agreed** Councillor M Keeble to meet with businesses in January to discuss
- Peaslake Farm Fields - to consider mechanism for giving approval to Community Garden License, agreed with Coverwood Farm – **Agreed** Councillors T Florent and G Reffo to sit in on license discussions between the community and Coverwood Farm and the final license would be added to the February 2025 agenda

24.105 Media & Communication Committee – to agree December Councillor of the month for short video and on the suggested topic of parking area resurfacing in Holmbury St Mary – **Agreed** to postpone until January 2025 when the new Holmbury St Mary Councillor could be involved in designing a scheme. It was also **Agreed** to include a part about the football pitch and pavilion. There was concern over the quality of the video that the Council could produce – SCC & GBC Councillor B Hughes offered his help with the production and training, with recommendations for a suitable microphone, as it was his former career.

24.106 Date of next meeting: 7.30pm Thursday 9th January 2025 at Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall GU5 9LF

Meeting Closed