

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 7.00PM ON THURSDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2009
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, VILLAGE WAY, CRANLEIGH

During the first fifteen minutes of the meeting members of the public with a legitimate interest in the parish were able to ask questions relevant to the work of the council. There were no members of the public or press in attendance. The Clerk, Pauline Whitehead and the Assistant Clerk, Mrs Vivien Edwards were present.

Cllr BA Ellis * (Chairman of the Council)
Cllr BH Cheesman* (Vice Chairman of the Council)
Cllr B Arendell*
Cllr C Baily
Cllr J Bainbridge
Cllr Dr V Dawes*
Cllr Mrs JE Dodd*
Cllr Mrs P Ellis*
Cllr Mrs M Forszowski*
Cllr D Gallacher*
Cllr Mrs R Hurlley
Cllr K Reed*

PRESENT*

The meeting was preceded by a presentation outlining proposals for the former Rowland House site from Thames Valley Housing Association and the Head of Housing at Waverley Borough Council (WBC). This was not open to the public.

1. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 17TH SEPTEMBER 2009

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th September 2009 were AGREED and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

The Council accepted apologies and reasons for absence from Cllr C Baily, Cllr J Bainbridge and Cllr Mrs R Hurlley.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that any changes in member's interests should be notified to the Clerk so that appropriate action can be taken. There were no declarations of interest.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Repairs to the War Memorial had been completed within budget. Restoration work had been started on the Obelisk area with funding obtained by WBC. The Obelisk has had some re-pointing to the lower, brick section. The surrounding brick paving will be replaced by tarmac with a resin and gravel surface layer. Wooden posts similar to those in Fountain Square will replace the existing metal bollards.

A Thanksgiving Service organised by Canon Nicholson to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Cranleigh Hospital had been held at St Nicolas Church during October. The Chairman expressed his regret that Mrs D Davies who had worked tirelessly for the new Cranleigh Hospital had not been able to attend. Further events to mark the anniversary had been planned, including an exhibition at the Village Hall on 17th October when prizes would be given out to young people who had entered a competition organised by the Cranleigh and District Rotary Club and Cranleigh Lions.

Cllr Christine Howard had been appointed Chairman of Surrey County Association of Parish and Town Councils (SCAPTC) at its recent AGM and Brian Ellis elected Vice President. The SCAPTC AGM was held in partnership with Surrey Community Action who held workshops during the day.

The Chairman had sent a letter to the Chief Executive of the Surrey PCT on 5th October, on behalf of the Parish Council, expressing concern regarding the 'Right team, right time' consultation. The letter outlined the strength of feeling demonstrated by the public on having their health facilities altered and reduced by stealth, as is the case with the 'temporary' closure of the community beds and day hospital in Cranleigh Village Hospital. It also pointed out the confusing and inconsistent messages from the PCT and lack of clarity within a number of the 'Right team, right time' consultation questions. A response to this had been received which indicated that the PCT had commissioned The Evidence Centre, in London to undertake an independent analysis of all of the responses received by the PCT. The Cranleigh Village Hospital Trust (CVHT) plan to circulate copies of the Parish Council letter to all homes in the parish.

5. QUESTIONS

There were no questions from members of the public living or working in the Parish.

6. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee Chairman presented the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 5th October 2009, these were RECEIVED. The Chairman informed members that the Thames Valley Housing Association proposal to demolish part of the existing Rowland House had been before the planning committee and there had been no objection.

7. MINUTES OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee Chairman presented the Minutes of the Cemetery Committee Meeting held on 8th October 2009, these were RECEIVED.

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The final expenditure list for September 2009 of £35,794.34 and the expenditure list to October 15th 2009 for £31,219.32 was presented to the Council by the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and AGREED.

The Chairman noted a donation to the Christmas lights of £1,000 which had been agreed at the September Parish Council meeting and a cheque for £50,000 transferring funds to the Nat West Bank where it will be invested in a deposit bond for 6 months to yield the highest return available.

Members AGREED the Financial Report to 30th September 2009 and noted the explanations within the report along with the Earmarked Reserves and special bank accounts.

9. EXTERNAL AUDIT

The external auditor's report from BDO Stoy Hayward LLP had been received with a report of the issues raised from the audit. Members deferred agreeing and accepting the annual return until further dialogue with the external auditors had taken place as there was a qualification on the accounts which the Responsible Financial Officer and Internal Auditor felt was unjustified. Members noted the comments contained within the report and acknowledged that they would be raised at the forthcoming Finance and General Purposes Meeting which will be held on 4th November.

10. PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

WBC had invited the Parish Council to contribute their views to a consultation on their budgetary priorities for the coming year. Members AGREED to submit the following results to WBC:-

Childrens' play area equipment; grant to CAB; care for the elderly; Hoppa; Arts Centres; street cleaning; grass

cutting; environmental health, noise, pest and animal nuisance; public toilets; cardboard recycling and planning enforcement keep as now. An increase of 30% to £4.30 per meal for Meals on Wheel; one fewer countryside ranger; reduce investment in upkeep of parks and open spaces by 5%; reduce the publication of Making Waves to twice a year; increase the car parking charges by an average of 10% and reduce funding to museums by 30%. There was a tied result between reducing the hours of service at all locality offices and keeping as now. Members wished it to be noted that there were concerns regarding the lack of guidance on the methodology of this exercise as lack of consistency across Parish Councils could affect the overall results.

11. RECREATION REPORT

The recreation report circulated with the agenda was noted by the Council. Members confirmed their support for cricket at Snoxhall, following concern surrounding an incident where Cranleigh St Andrews Cricket Club breached their hire agreement by exceeding their licensing hours. The Parish Council AGREED to work with Cranleigh St Andrews Cricket Club and the Licensing Authorities to put in place measures that ensure that the bar at Snoxhall is run according to the conditions on their licence.

12. PARISH BUSINESS

There was no Parish Business.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

The Parish Council RECEIVED the Correspondence List A to 9th October 2009 and List B to 15th October 2009.

Members AGREED to write a letter of support for a proposal by Surrey County Council to serve a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) on BOAT 395 (Cranleigh) Lions Lane. The TRO will prohibit all motor vehicles and horse drawn carriages with four or more wheels, wider than 5 feet from entering or proceeding along Lions Lane from its junction with Knowle Lane in a westerly direction for 1217 metres to the junction with Alfold Road.

14. REPORTS

The Chairman advised all Councillors that Waverley Borough Council's list of meetings and Surrey County Council's Environmental Update were available on their respective websites.

15. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was resolved that the Press & Public be excluded from the Meeting during item 16 in accordance with section 100A (2) and (4) of the L.G.A. 1972 and Standing Orders 55(c) and 55(d).

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.07 pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday 19th November 2009 at 7pm.