

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 7.00_{PM} ON THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2009
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, VILLAGE WAY, CRANLEIGH

The meeting was preceded by a brief presentation on Police matters from PC Lee and PCSO Baldwin. This was not open to press or public.

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 and one member of the 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 Foryszewski*

Cllr D Gallacher

Cllr Mrs R Hurlley*

Cllr K Reed*

PRESENT*

1. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 15TH OCTOBER 2009

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th October 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 D Gallacher.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr B Cheesman declared a personal interest in item 20.b. 'Cranleigh Village Hospital' as a member of the Cranleigh Village Hospital Trust.

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

The Chairman thanked Cllr Cheesman for deputising for him and laying the Parish Council wreath at the War Memorial as part of Remembrance Sunday Parade on 8th November. He also extended his appreciation to Mr Richard Bennett for providing and engraving a plaque in memory of Major Sean Birchall who grew up in Cranleigh, and who was killed in the conflict in Afghanistan earlier in the year. It is intended that the plaque will be on display at the War Memorial until a more permanent inscription can be undertaken. Special thanks were also due to Mr R Wilson from Cranleigh School who read out the prayer of the Welsh Guards, which was Major Birchall's regiment. The Parish Council has been approached by the Royal British Legion to take a more active role in the organisation of the event in the future and this will be followed up in the new year.

Emma Treeby, the Cranleigh co-ordinator, along with other key people associated with young people in Cranleigh, held a Youth Forum in November in order to try to understand how organisations in Cranleigh,

including the Parish Council, can work with local young people in order to fulfil their needs. Whilst the attendance was quite low, the discussions were useful and a good start was made in preparation for a potential celebration of youth in 2010.

Waverley Borough Council had hosted a meeting where the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) gave a presentation on their proposal to consider reopening the railway line from Guildford to Cranleigh. This was first raised in a report 'Connecting Communities - Expanding Access to the Rail network' published earlier in the year. Several councillors had attended the meeting and spoken on behalf of Cranleigh. The Chairman thanked Cranleigh Lions for the excellent fireworks display at the annual Bonfire event and Emma Treeby for what promised to be an outstanding Christmas Light turn on event the following evening.

5. QUESTIONS

There were no questions given in writing at least seven days in advance of the meeting from members of the public living or working in the Parish who were present at the meeting.

6. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee Chairman presented the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 26th October 2009 and 16th November 2009, these were RECEIVED.

7. MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee Chairman presented the Minutes of the Village Hall Committee Meeting held on 28th October 2009, these were RECEIVED.

8. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee Chairman presented the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 4th November 2009, these were RECEIVED.

Cllr Mrs Dodd apologised for omitting to declare a personal and prejudicial interest at the F&GP meeting, when the Glebelands sponsorship award was discussed.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The final expenditure list for October 2009 of £32,588.09, and the expenditure list to November 19th 2009 for £26,243.40 was presented to the Council by the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and AGREED. The Committee Chairman noted that cheque 7068 amounting to £4,700 for the Cranleigh Community Fund was passing on money which has been received by the Parish Council from the Henry Smith Charity.

Members AGREED the Financial Report to 31st October 2009 and noted the explanations within the report along with the Earmarked Reserves and special bank accounts. The Committee Chairman informed members that storm damage to trees at Snoxhall will incur additional, unexpected costs of around £600.

Members noted that the engagement letter for the internal auditor, audit plan, scope of the audit and a report of the interim internal audit were presented to the F&GP Committee on 4th November. Members of the Committee reviewed and agreed the documents. The Committee reviewed the effectiveness of the interim internal audit and was content that the internal auditor was both independent and competent. Members of the Council were aware that all papers were available on request.

10. EXTERNAL AUDIT

The Council agreed and adopted the external audit with the qualification

'The Council failed to undertake a review of the effectiveness of the internal audit. This is contrary to regulation 6 (3) of the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) regs 2006'.

An appeal to BDO Stoy Hayward was not successful.

The Committee Chairman informed members that in response to concern from the external auditor regarding the Henry Smith Charity, an additional Trustee will be appointed from the community to compliment the existing four councillor Trustees. A meeting to facilitate this has been arranged for January.

11. PRECEPT

The Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee presented the preliminary budget of £238,514 to the Council. Members AGREED to reduce the cemetery roads and pathways earmarked reserve by £2,000 following investigations by the Grounds Manager. Further information regarding future maintenance of the roads and pathways at the cemetery will be put before the cemetery committee in due course. Members considered additional items suggested for inclusion into the precept. General support was given to an additional amount of £2,500 towards the Cranleigh co-ordinator post to demonstrate to WBC the high importance of this role to Cranleigh. Members also wished to include £1,000 towards the provision of an additional 6 half sized allotment plots at Elmbridge allotments. Members supported contributing £250 towards leaflets to publicize work being undertaken on the Cranleigh Code being championed by Cllr Mrs Hurlley, but felt that this amount could be taken from the grant allocation for either this year, if funding allowed or next year. Other considerations such as the potential to provide increased services, land resulting from the land exchange and potential additional building responsibilities were noted.

12. PARKING IN CRANLEIGH

Members considered a report by Cllr Mrs Dawes expressing her concerns regarding inconsiderate parking in Cranleigh High Street. It was noted that responsibility for both on and off road parking enforcement rested with Waverley Borough Council. Considerable discussion ensued during which it was pointed out that on-street car parking in the High Street had the beneficial effect of restricting traffic speed; that in spite of the many facilities to aid safe crossing of the High Street, there were many inconsiderate pedestrians unwilling to use them; and that Surrey Police no longer had responsibility for parking enforcement except where parked vehicles caused obstruction. Members recalled that this problem had been raised with the Borough Council some years ago, and it was AGREED that the matter would again be raised with the Waverley officers responsible for parking.

13. GUIDE HALL LEASE

Members AGREED 4 minor amendments to clauses 2.9, 2.10, 2.11 and 2.13 of the Guide Hall lease.

Clause 2.9 now reads:-

‘Not to underlet the Demised Premises or any part thereof, without the prior written consent of the Council, provided that the tenant may from time to time let or hire out the Demised Premises for a charitable, religious or educational purpose, or for non-commercial purposes associated with the local community, but such letting or hiring shall not continue for more than 48 hours in any one case.

Clause 2.10 - delete ‘cover’ and insert ‘drive’. These are the same terms as in the Scout Headquarters lease.

Clause 2.11 – remove commas after expiration and expense.

Clause 2.13 – add colon at end of paragraph.

14. RECREATION REPORT

Members noted that contact had been made with the football clubs following concern regarding their leaving procedures when using Snoxhall pavilion; the Probation Services team continue to work at Snoxhall fields and have undertaken work on ditch, stream and leaf clearance, fencing and painting; that there is potential, though not confirmed funding towards the multiplay at Snoxhall; that further investigations are taking place on landscaping opportunities for the Play Park and that the fitness equipment has suffered vandalism which has been repaired by the grounds staff.

The stream through Snoxhall was recently cleared from debris by the Environment Agency and coped well with the excessive rain that fell during the recent storms. The stream is monitored by the grounds staff and cleared if

there is any threat of flooding. Special thanks was given to a local resident, Mr D Tidy, who works as a volunteer at the Cranfold Job Seekers Club and who regularly clears the stream in recognition of the Parish Council's support of the Club. Trolleys found in the stream are reported to the appropriate supermarket and they are asked to remove them.

The Groundsman has undertaken training on end of season cricket work and the St John's Ambulance First Aid at Work training. He and the Grounds Manager are the two designated first aiders.

15. PARISH BUSINESS

Members highlighted three issues to be taken up with Surrey County Council, damage to a street light outside the former Swallows Tiles site on Ewhurst Road and the removal of a post box caused during the same incident; inconsistent speed markings on the road and signage on Elmbridge Road and lack of lighting on the roundabout at Cranleigh Common.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

The Parish Council RECEIVED the Correspondence List A to 13th November 2009 and List B to 19th November 2009.

17. 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.

18. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was resolved that the Press & Public be excluded from the Meeting during items 19 and 20 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 9.40pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday 17th December 2009 at 7pm.