

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF RIPLEY HELD ON
THURSDAY 10th MARCH 2011 AT ST MARY MAGDALEN CHURCH ROOM AT 19.30 HOURS**

Present:

Cllr Jennie Cliff Chairman
Cllr Mike Baker
Cllr Lisanne Mealing
Cllr Vernon Wood
Alison Jones Clerk of the Council

Guildford Borough Councillor John Garrett
16 Members of Public

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Colin Cross and Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker

2. WELCOME

Councillor Cliff welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 29th APRIL 2010

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Ripley held on 29th April 2010, were received, confirmed and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairman, Councillor Jennie Cliff.

4. CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman Councillor Jennie Cliff presented the annual report of the Parish Council to the meeting. A full copy of the report is attached to these minutes in the minute book. Members of Ripley Primary School PTA were thanked for their help with the refreshments.

5. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM PARISHIONERS

Parishioners were invited to ask questions of the Parish Council.

- a) Guildford Borough Cllr John Garrett thanked the Parish Council and REPS for their hard work and support in various planning issues. Team Ripley was a force to be reckoned with!
- b) Mrs Margaret Field reported that there had been no improvement to the drainage of Portsmouth Road. Water still ran down the road like a stream after heavy rain and flooding still occurred in the High Street. The Parish Council would continue to inform Surrey County Council of the problem.

Mrs Field also asked if the Gateway signs were finished. It was explained that SCC Highways still had some work to do particularly at Newark Lane and the London end of Portsmouth Road but that the supports for the signs were not being painted white.

- c) Mr Chris Lee asked about the level of response to the Broadband survey. Currently approximately 74 responses had been received.
- d) Mr Roger Cox asked how the possible new Broadband scheme would work. Councillor Mealing explained that the proposed scheme would use radio frequencies and this method for the provision of Broadband had been used successfully in Ockham. To be viable a commitment of at least 100 households and approximately 20 businesses would be required. There may be grants available from the new Local Enterprise M3 Partnership. It was unlikely that BT would provide a solution in the near future.

- e) Mr Robert Wilson asked if it would be possible to extend the Broadband scheme to Send Marsh. This would be possible.
- f) Mrs Sue Morrison approved of the oak posts for the road signs and asked if the young people playing at the bike mounds in the woods on the Green could be encouraged to put their litter in a black bag hanging from a near by tree.
- g) Mr George Pither expressed concern at the difficulty of turning right from Newark Lane into the High Street and suggested a mini roundabout was placed there. It was explained that Highways had not been supportive of any change to the junction in the past. The Developer at the former Suzuki site had planning permission to demolish some of the buildings and rebuild allowing for a pavement but the roadway in Newark Lane would not be wider.

Mr Pither commented on the poor repair of potholes along Newark Lane. It was hoped that the road surface would be improved in time for the Olympic cycle race in 2012.

- h) Mrs Edna Mills commented on the number of large lorries making their way down Newark Lane. It was thought that these may be going to Ripley Primary School in connection with their building project.
It was noted that the vehicular entrance to the former Suzuki site will be from the High Street and not Newark Lane in the new development.
- i) Mrs Rosemary Wallis asked if there was any information about the development of the Stansfield site in Newark Lane. The Parish Clerk would check but it was thought that planning permission had been given to develop the site.
- j) Mr Robert Wilson of the Village Hall Development Committee thanked the Parish Council and the Farmers Market for their support. A fund raising lottery was being rolled out on Saturday and would run indefinitely providing funds for village causes. A fete was planned in conjunction with RHS Wisley Gardens on 25th October 2011. It is hoped that the Parish Council and other village organisations will support this initiative.

6. PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS MAY 5th 2011

Councillor Cliff introduced the topic of the Parish Council elections explaining that the council consisted of 7 councillors and that there would be at least 2 vacancies at the time of the elections. A council consisting of elected members is able to use more powers to help the community than one with mainly co-opted members.

Members gave a presentation covering the following topics:

- What is a Parish Council?
- What services can a Parish Council provide?
- What do Parish Councillors do?
- How much time does it take up and when?
- How do I stand for election?

Richard Ayears thanked the Parish Council for their work on behalf of Ripley.

Cllr Mealing gave a vote of thanks to Cllr Cliff for chairing the meeting and to the Parish Clerk for taking the minutes.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm and refreshments provided by Ripley C of E Primary School were served.

Signed:

Date: