



Ripley Parish Council

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MINUTES OF RIPLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16th JUNE 2011 AT 7.30PM AT RIPLEY VILLAGE ANNEX.

Present: Cllr Lianne Mealing (Chairman)
 Cllr Caspar Hancock
 Cllr Vernon Wood
 Cllr Richard Ayears
 Cllr Suzie Powell-Cullingford
 Cllr Colin Cross

Alison Jones Clerk of the Council

Also present: 2 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr Jennie Cliff

35/11 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, members of the public were invited to speak. The following comments were received:

a) Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker advised members of a Surrey wide consultation on parking which will take place in July. The issue was on the agenda for the Local Committee meeting on 22nd June. Are retailers in Ripley happy with the current situation? Should parking meters be introduced to stop all day parking in the service roads?

RESPONSE: The Chairman thanked Cllr Barker for bringing the matter to the attention of members.

b) A resident commented on the problem of keeping parking outside the church clear when there is a funeral. Provision would need to be made for funerals.

36/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from Councillor Jennie Cliff were received and accepted.

37/11 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillor Colin Cross declared a personal interest in Item 11 Parking on the Green: Cllr Cross owns a property on the Green.

Councillor Caspar Hancock declared a personal interest in Item 15 Allotments: Cllr Hancock is an allotment holder.

38/11 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19th MAY 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19th MAY 2011 were received, confirmed and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairman, Councillor Lianne Mealing.

39/11 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

The meeting received an oral report from the Clerk, (copy attached to record minutes), which included:

- White Hart Court including damage to car park fence
- The lack of progress regarding the gateway signs to the village
- The need for a replacement padlock for the Lock up
- Mobile Police Counter at the Village Hall
- Standards and Audit Committee nominations
- Fence Panel in Church yard
- Standing orders review
- Society of Local Council Clerks publications

It was **RESOLVED: That the report by the Parish Clerk be noted.**

40/11 CORRESPONDENCE

an e-mail dated 9th June 2011 from Stephen Shaw of Local Works asking for support regarding a proposal under the sustainable Communities Act that would help Town and Parish Councils respond to very large development plans in their area e.g. supermarket. (Copy attached to record minutes)

It was **RESOLVED: That, as Local Works is a lobbying group, no letter of support be given.**

41/11 REVIEW OF COUNCIL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Members received and considered the council Health and Safety Policy which was adopted in January 2009. (Copy attached to record minutes). Councillor Ayears had identified some points that needed updating and he would advise the clerk of these before the council meeting on July.

It was **RESOLVED: That the Health and Safety Policy be updated by Councillor Ayears.**

42/11 REVIEW OF COUNCIL DATA PROTECTION AND HANDLING REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION POLICIES

Members received and considered the council Data Protection and Handling Requests for information policies which were adopted in January 2009(Copies attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the Data Protection Policy and the Handling Requests for Information Policy be approved without any changes.**

43/11 SCAPTC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Parish Clerk reported that the Surrey County Association of Parish and Town Councils (SCAPTC) is looking for new members to serve on its management committee. Elections will take place at the AGM on 27th September 2011. There are 4 to 5 meetings a year usually held at Wonersh Pavilion.

It was **RESOLVED: That the need for new members to serve on the SCAPTC management committee be noted.**

44/11 BROADBAND SURVEY

Cllr Mealing reported that 160 positive responses had been received to our broadband survey all showing very slow broadband speeds and, in some cases, intermittent connection. However a wireless solution in Ripley would cost householders more and would need to be subsidised by businesses.

Surrey County Council has funding for a project to provide Superfast Broadband across rural areas of Surrey by the end of 2013. This solution is likely to be cheaper for Ripley residents and more reliable. Ripley responded to their survey of the parishes and will continue to communicate with the project team and report back to members any further information from Surrey County Council.

It was **RESOLVED: That the results from the survey of Ripley households be forwarded to Surrey County Council after removal of any personal data.**

e-mail: ripleyparish@btconnect.com web site: www.ripleyparish.org.uk

45/11 CHRISTMAS FAIR 2011

Members received and considered the minutes of the Christmas Event Committee meeting held on 23rd May 2011 at 6.30pm at MDM House. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Christmas Event Committee held on Monday 23rd May 2011 be noted.**

46/11 PARKING ON THE GREEN

Members received and considered a report on the progress of the investigation of the possibility of registering the land by Newark Lane car Park (30ft by 300ft approx) in the name of the Parish Council with a view to offering it as exchange land to enable more of the Green to be deregistered to allow parking. Minutes going back to 1990 refer to Surrey County Council maintaining the car park although they no longer do so.

Members considered the estimated cost of £500 to engage Hedley's Solicitors, East Horsley to register the land. The parish council would need to supply the necessary evidence to Hedley's Solicitors.

It was **RESOLVED: That the engagement of Hedley's Solicitors, East Horsley be approved at an estimated cost of £500 provided that as much evidence as possible is gathered by the Clerk.**

47/11 PLANNING GROUP

Members received and considered the minutes from the planning meeting held on Monday 23rd May and Monday 13th June 2011. (Copies attached to record minutes). The Planning group had responded to the "Who needs Housing?" consultation form Guildford Borough Council and the Department of Communities and Local Government consultation "Planning for Traveller Sites."

It was **RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning Group meetings held on Monday 23rd May and Monday 13th June 2011 be noted.**

48/11 ENVIRONMENT GROUP – THE GREEN

Members received and considered a quote of £400-£500 for minor work to remove dead branches from the 3 groups of sycamore trees on the Green following the inspection by a tree specialist. Conservation Area consent would be required.

Members received and considered a report from the Parish Clerk on various ongoing matters (copy attached to record minutes) including:

- Bent rails around the Green
- Ways of limiting the spread of ragwort
- The refusal of permission for hot air balloon launches
- The lack of response from owners of benches on the Green in poor condition

It was **RESOLVED: That**

- a) the minor work to the groups of sycamore trees be considered in the budget for 2012/13;**
- b) a quote for the repair of the rails be investigated by Cllr Wood;**
- c) signs requesting walkers to pull a few ragwort plants while visiting the Green be placed at 5 locations on the Green. Plants can be left in situ to rot or left by the signs for collection. Gloves should be recommended;**
- d) the refusal of permission for hot air balloon launches be noted;**
- e) members of the Football Club be reminded by Cllr Wood of the poor condition of a bench overlooking the football pitch which is their responsibility to maintain.**

49/11 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Members received and considered a report from Cllr Powell-Cullingford on the dangers of speeding traffic on Portsmouth Road, particularly near the junction with Send Marsh Road and Kiln Lane. Traffic volume had increased together with the number of large lorries.

In accordance with Standing Order 20 (r) and with the agreement of the meeting, the Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow Surrey County Councillor Bill Barker to speak. He reported that he had carried out Speedwatch on Portsmouth Road and caught drivers traveling at over 50mph. He recommended writing to the Local Committee to ask for enforcement action.

The meeting resumed.

It was **RESOLVED: That a letter be written to the Surrey County Council Local Committee requesting enforcement action against speeding on Portsmouth Road near the junction with Send Marsh Road.**

50/11 ALLOTMENTS GROUP

Members received and considered a report from the Parish Clerk including the continuing problems with the new water supply taps. The plumbers were looking into a better way of securing the taps. (Copy attached to record minutes). Notice had been served on one allotment holder who had not yet paid the rent which was due on 1st April. There is someone on the waiting list who is keen to take on the plot as soon as possible despite it being very overgrown.

It was **RESOLVED: That Elite Building Services be reminded to secure the loose tap.**

51/11 COMMUNICATION GROUP

Members considered the content and date for delivery of the next newsletter to every home in the parish. Suggestions for content included:

- photographs and a short description from the newly elected Councillors
- a request for ideas for the aims and objectives of the new council
- a list of council responsibilities
- secondary school admissions
- welcome to the new head at Ripley C of E Primary School
- Ragwort on the Green
- Congratulations on the re-election of Guildford Borough Councillor John Garrett and his appointment as Deputy Mayor

It was **RESOLVED: That the newsletter be prepared for delivery by the middle of July.**

52/11 FINANCE GROUP

Members considered a new bank mandate with HSBC to authorise all the current council to act as signatories on the Parish Council bank accounts and the appointment of Mrs Alison Jones, Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer for Ripley Parish Council to act as Secretary for the purposes of changing the bank mandate.

It was **RESOLVED: That**

- a) the continuation of the council bank accounts with HSBC plc with all 7 current councillors acting as signatories be approved;**
- b) the appointment of Mrs Alison Jones as Secretary for the purposes of changing the bank mandate be approved.**

53/11 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Members received and noted a summary of receipts and payments tabled at the meeting for the period from 1st May to 31st May 2011. (Copy attached to the record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the summary of receipts and payments tabled at the meeting for the period from 1st May to 31st May 2011 be received and noted.**

54/11 SCHEDULE OF CHEQUES FOR APPROVAL

The following cheques were presented by the Parish Clerk for authorisation and signing:

Cheque number	Payee details	Gross £	VAT
100774	Alliance Trust Savings Ltd - Pension contribution	100.00	
100775	Alison Jones – May Salary		
100776	Ripley Village Hall May & June rent	577.50	
100777	Hire Services (southern) - strimmer part	15.79	2.63
100778	GBC – bus shelter cleaning	66.00	11.00
100779	GBC – car park rent	362.50	
100780	CPRE subscription	29.00	
100781	May –June maintenance	629.08	

Accordingly the above cheques for payment were approved and signed.

55/11 ITEMS TO NOTE FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Standing orders
 Flooding problems
 Street lighting

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Date:

Chairman