

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR THE PARISH OF EFFINGHAM
HELD IN THE KING GEORGE V HALL, BROWNS LANE, EFFINGHAM,
AT 8PM ON TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2006**

- Present Alison Mouser, Chairman of Effingham Parish Council, in the Chair
17 Local government electors including 5 Parish Councillors
- Apologies Parish Councillors Hogger and Wetenhall, and County Councillor Bill Barker, had sent apologies.
- Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19 April 2005 were approved and signed.
- Chairman's Report for 2005-6 This had been circulated through the village (some by post for the first time this year), was presented to the Meeting and approved. A copy is attached to these Minutes. Referring to the Report, Mr Alan Beal objected to precept money being set aside for general maintenance and clearance of verges: Borough and County departments should be forced to undertake the jobs residents paid for. Cllr Mouser explained that this decision had only been taken as a final resort. New Community Gangs, set up since this decision was taken, might prove to do a better job and make it unnecessary.
- Matters raised at the Meeting
- Sports events at King George V Playing Fields
Mr Beal raised the issue of inconsiderate parking by visitors to sports events. Cllr Mouser explained that the Parish Council was aware of this but it was largely a matter for the King George V Committee of Management. The latter had been working very hard to improve matters with the clubs concerned but could not prevent all instances, such as people removing parking signage. It was agreed that Guildford Borough Council parking enforcement officers could be asked to visit.
- Calvert Road
Mr Young asked a series of questions about the Parish Council's attitude to planning policy, Certificates of Lawful Use, enforcement, and housing of gypsy families, as they related to this road. Cllr Mouser explained that the Parish Council was not a planning authority and could not change policy but sought to uphold its fair application to all; the Parish Council does not know the planning constraints on each individual plot; very broadly speaking, relevant planning policies are the Green Belt, Home Farm Estate and small dwelling policies; that this road has a mix of residents and is not designated for gypsies or travellers.
- Footway, Effingham Common Road
Mr Helps asked why the rumoured re-surfacing of the footway had not taken place; a small amount of patching had taken place but significant cracking remained. It was agreed to pursue this again.
- Unreliable electricity supply
Mr Wallis asked whether the Parish Council knew of plans for any improvement of the supply given the increasingly frequent interruptions. Cllr Mouser did not know of any; Cllr Page explained that she was writing to her MP and to the regulatory bodies about it.
- Traffic calming
Mr Beal asked about progress on the proposed closure of Church St to vehicles. Cllr Mouser explained that the Safer Roads group was still working very hard to formulate proposals for the village centre and would put these to residents in due course.
- Cycle paths
Mr Beal spoke in favour of more cycle paths in the village, especially with good signing. Two other residents mentioned concerns over children's safety and increased use by motor vehicles on the proposed cycle route linking East Horsley and Effingham. Cllr Mouser explained that the joint working group were very aware of possible problems and thinking actively about ways to deal with them.
- Horse-riders
Mr Beal asked if anything could be done to prevent the damage to paths caused by horse-riders. Cllr Mouser explained that horses are of course permitted to use bridleways. The Parish Council is currently working with the Police Community Support Officer towards encouraging horse-riders to stay on the paths they can properly use.

Mr Francis Helps proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the meeting closed at 8.52.