

**MINUTES OF THE 119TH ANNUAL MEETING FOR THE PARISH OF EFFINGHAM
KING GEORGE V HALL, BROWN'S LANE
8.00PM, TUESDAY 22 APRIL 2014**

- Present** Cllr Arnold Pindar, Chairman, Effingham Parish Council in the Chair
24 registered electors
Clerk
- Apologies** D.Kind – ERRRA
M.Bray – Smith's Charity
- Minutes** The Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting were approved as a true record and signed
- Matters Arising** There were no matters arising
- Chairman's Report 2013-14** The Chairman thanked Parish Councillors for their hard work over the course of an exceptionally busy year and welcomed Cllr Dr David Martland to the Parish Council. The previous Clerk, Sue Morris, was thanked for ensuring such a seamless handover to the new Clerk. The Chairman gave reports on significant issues over the year

Parish Council Precept

The Parish Council will receive £55,450 in precept from Guildford Borough Council for 2014-15.

Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Local Plan & Greenbelt Review

The last year has seen GBC commence its Local Plan and Greenbelt Review processes, as well as the neighbouring District of Mole Valley (MVDC) also undertaking a Greenbelt Review. These processes have implications on many sites in Effingham and the Parish Council has been heavily involved in the consultations, inputting views and data and liaising closely with GBC, MVDC and Bookham Vanguard to ensure the village's views are heard. Cllr Pindar, Chair, and Cllr Symes, Vice Chair, were recently invited to meet the Leader of GBC Council to discuss village issues and views on the Local Plan.

GBC's draft Local Plan will go to a 12 week consultation in July 2014 and then to the inspectors for assessment as to whether the plan meets Government criteria. It is likely that Effingham's current greenbelt designation which covers the whole village will be inset around our current settlement area ie parts of the village will not be classified as greenbelt. It is also highly likely that there will be some building development in the village over the next 15years. The Parish Council has worked hard during the consultation to ensure views and data to support these views are input to minimise proposals.

Howard of Effingham/Berkeley Homes Initiative

Following the purchase of the land at Effingham Lodge Farm by Berkeley Homes this year, discussions and proposals are in progress between Howard of Effingham and Berkeley Homes to deliver a new school funded by enabling development. The Parish Council have input into the Environmental Impact Assessment screening and scoping requests so far and expect to carry out a full assessment of

any formal application likely to be late summer/early autumn, including the identification of potential uses of Section 106 funding.

The potential size of the proposed development is of concern to many residents as discussed during recent Parish Council meetings and areas such as infrastructure, number of new dwellings, size of the new school are all issues both the Parish Council and residents look forward to receiving information on. A drop in exhibition on 26 April 2014, hosted by Berkeley Homes, will offer the opportunity to see the first indicative proposals and all residents were encouraged to attend.

Village Plan – Housing Requirements Survey

The timetable for Effingham's Village Plan, launched at the last Annual Parish Meeting, has been delayed by the start of the Local Plan and Greenbelt Review processes and the need for the Parish Council to input into these consultations. However the Parish Council is pleased to have completed a Housing requirement Survey which was distributed to every household in the village and generated over 600 completed surveys. The survey was lengthy and covered information on household profiling, village services and future housing requirements. The Parish Council would like to thank all those involved in the survey; those who helped deliver and collect the forms, those who have analysed the data and, of course, those who completed the forms. A draft summary report has been prepared and this will be available shortly, with thanks to Cllrs Hogger and Moss for their work on this report. The Chairman gave an overview of some of the key findings.

This data is vital for the Parish Council to plan for the future and is also helpful in providing strong data evidence in consultation responses to processes like the Local Plan.

Lengthsman Initiative

Surrey County Council (SCC) Highways funding for 2013-14 has allowed £3,500 of additional ground and tree works to be carried out in the village including hedge cutting, scrub clearance, footpath resurfacing and tree works. The Parish Council thank SCC Cllr Barker for accessing the £15,000 of funding and East Horsley parish Council for administering the scheme on behalf of six parishes.

flooding

The flooding issue by the electricity sub-station on Orestan Lane has been addressed by a team from Surrey Highways, Cllrs Lightfoot and Martland, SCC Cllr Barker and local residents and the Chairman thanked all those involved for their work on this long standing issue. Flooding on the spring line along Lower Road caused problems for pupils walking to school in the spring and this issue has been improved with the footpath resurfacing under the lengthsman initiative.

Critten Lane

The road surface of Critten Lane has been in a very poor condition for some time and it is hoped that resurfacing will be scheduled shortly by SCC.

Community Fund

The Chairman gave an overview of the Community Fund and the eligibility and criteria under which applications can be made. Local voluntary and community groups were encouraged to apply.

Commoners' Day

This is to take place on Sunday 28 September this year and all residents are invited.

Report of the Trustees, Henry Smith Charity Effingham

Terry Driscoll gave a report of the activities of the Henry Smith Charity Effingham. The trust receives an annual grant from the main Henry Smith Charity and the account currently stands at over £5,000. The charity is keen for eligible individuals to apply for grants and encouraged all residents to promote the charity so that awareness of the funding is increased. Applications are completely confidential and further information is available through the Parish Room.

Vote of Thanks

The Chairman ended his report by thanking all Parish Councillors for all they have achieved during this demanding year. An invitation was issued to anybody interested in becoming a Parish Councillor to discuss this with the Chairman or any other Parish Councillor. The Parish Council currently has one vacancy for a Councillor. The Chairman also thanked the many village residents and organisations who contribute to making the village what it is today.

A local resident proposed a vote of thanks to the Parish Council and the Clerk for both the quality and quantity of work completed by the Parish Council over the last year.