

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EFFINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT 8pm ON MONDAY 4 JANUARY 2010  
AT KING GEORGE V HALL, BROWN'S LANE, EFFINGHAM**

**PRESENT**

Cllr Pindar in the Chair  
Cllrs Clark, Driscoll, Hogger, Jones, Lightfoot, Nicholls, Symes and Wetenhall.  
2 members of the public

**1.10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Crouch, unwell; Cllr Barker, travelling; PCSO Culross, compulsory rest day.

**2.10 REGISTER OF INTERESTS AND DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Cllr Symes declared a personal interest in the planning application for Greenboughs, Heath View, which is close to where he lives.

**3.10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 20 OCTOBER 2009**

*142.09 Planning, Badgers Farm* Cllr Nicholls had declared receipt of a present of whisky from the owners of Badgers Farm. They had also been clients of his business. He will give a provide a list of clients for the Register and give it to the Clerk. **JN**

*151.09 Reports, Home Farm Estate:* Should read 'repossession' rather than 'eviction'.

*153.09 Finance, Draft Precept:* It had been agreed that the overall figure 'should' (not 'could') be increased, providing the Band D increase remained on or below 1%.

**4.10 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (not elsewhere on the Agenda)**

*134.09* It was agreed that the letter submitted by the Clerk to the Borough planning office in respect of Badger's Farm correctly represented the Parish Council's view.

**5.10 POLICE AND SAFETY**

**PCSO's report**

PCSO Culross had reported to Cllr Nicholls that the village had remained very settled over Christmas, which was pleasing. There were no crimes to report.

**Other Police and Safety Matters to report**

Meeting with PC Hill and PCSO Culross

The Parish Council is still keen for a meeting about tackling anti-social behaviour, for instance to find out about quadbikes using the Common and drinking on the footpaths.

'Future of Policing in Surrey' meeting

(Friday 29 January, East Horsley) Cllrs Pindar and Nicholls will attend. Cllr Hogger may book a place separately. **SM  
LH**

**6.10 PLANNING MATTERS**

**New applications**

09/P/01896 Rustlings, Lower Farm Road

Addition of glass roof lantern to garden room (amendment to 09/P/01009, approved 28.08.09, retrospective application for a two storey rear extension, two storey side extension and alteration to existing roof of existing single storey garden room at rear following demolition of existing single garage). It was agreed to comment pointing out that light spillage in this area was unwelcome, and to ask whether, if consent was granted, this could be controlled by condition. **SM**

09/P/01933 Longmorn, Mount Pleasant

Rear conservatory. No comment.

09/P/01930 The Squirrels, Effingham Common

First floor side extension. No comment.

09/P/01978 Land adjacent to 61 Calvert Rd

Erection of three detached houses with rooms in the roof following demolition of existing

bungalow and two mobile homes. Cllr Nicholls declared an interest as he had previously been employed by the applicant. No comment.

09/P/01972 Greenboughs, Heath View

Two storey and single storey extensions to front, side and rear elevations. Cllr Symes had previously declared an interest. It was agreed to object on the grounds that this application represented a very large expansion of the structure for the size of the plot, the building line would be broken affecting the openness of the street view, visually intrusive development such as the height of the chimney or light spillage from the skylights was unwelcome, especially as seen from the public bridleway and the Common; and owing to the slope of the ground, the extension of more non-permeable surfaces could worsen the propensity to flooding for neighbours in this vicinity.

**SM**

09/T/00228 Summerdown Manor, Critten Lane

Front - Beech (T1 & T2) fell, Rear - Oak (T3) fell (Tree Preservation Order P1/201/529 & P1/201/530)

No map of the location of the trees had been supplied, and it seemed that no neighbours had been consulted. The Clerk will ask the volunteer Tree Warden to inspect.

**SM**

**Results / progress on previous applications**

EN/04/00197 Newmarsh Farm  
Appeal against enforcement)

Enforcement notice corrected, varied and upheld. It was agreed to write congratulating Josie Smith and her team.

**SM**

OK 0222657 Richmonds Horse Transport,  
Newmarsh Farm (Renewal of existing licence for a further 5 years)

Referred for Public Inquiry by Traffic Commissioner. The application by existing licence-holder Tim Todd Surfacing to extend their usage will be heard at the same time. Applications for new companies to gain licences at the site are registered but on hold, pending the decision.

09/P/00478 24 Leewood Way

Appeal allowed

09/P/00518 Grove House, Guildford Road

Appeal dismissed. This was warmly welcomed. It was noted that demolition has been started. The Clerk will contact SCC about the fence collapsing beside the former playing field.

**SM**

09/P/01439 Banks Farm, Little Bookham  
Common

Withdrawn

09/P/01542 Upper Leewood Farm

Refused

09/P/01559 Land adj. Hartfield, Orestan  
Lane

Approved

09/P/01617 Coppermill, Effingham Common Rd

Approved

09/P/01625 High Barn Bungalow

Approved

09/P/ Leewood Farmyard  
(Certificate of Lawful Use etc)

Withdrawn; GBC has imposed timescale by which new application must be made. It was agreed the Clerk should request GBC to assess whether the gates need planning consent since their height and solid appearance are so out of keeping

**SM**

with the neighbourhood.

OK 1088453 Leewood Farmyard  
(Application for HGV licence)

Referred for Public Inquiry by Traffic Commissioner. It was agreed the Clerk should ask SCC lawyers to take up the issue of the Traffic Commissioner's position of impunity if a mistake is made, and copy to Cllr Barker.

SM

### **Other planning matters**

#### Planning application for Burial Ground secure implements shed

The Clerk had circulated details of the proposed size, appearance and location. There was discussion about how this fitted requirements. It was agreed the best colour would be brown and a planning application could be submitted.

SM

### **Reports and correspondence relating to other Planning matters:**

#### EN/09/00620 7A Chester Road

GBC's description of the alleged breach reads 'Change of use of land to private gypsy site'. This has been queried since it is GBC land and cannot have become a 'private' gypsy site.

#### 09/P/01755 Long Barn, High Barn Road

Cllr Hogger reported this will go to Planning Committee at the end of January.

#### 09/P/01798 Badgers Farm, High Barn Road

Cllr Hogger confirmed that the condition extending the number of horses which could be kept at livery (from 21 to 30) had been agreed. Cllr Wetenhall explained that, in the financial statement, profits from 36 horses at livery were included, and he felt it was therefore necessary to re-assess whether the case for the financial viability of the business had been made. It was agreed that the Clerk should write asking for confirmation whether the consent affected the business case. *(Cllr Hogger subsequently confirmed that she had kindly passed this message on).*

SM

## **7.10 VILLAGE GREEN SPACES AND AMENITIES**

### **Current GSVA matters**

#### Howard of Effingham School's progress towards Foundation Trust status

A question had been submitted to the Local Committee. SCC's answer appeared to confirm that:

- SCC could be asked to continue to administer the admissions procedure, as now, but this had not been agreed;
- the admissions policy was as of now in the hands of the Governors.

It was agreed that, for the sake of the residents of Effingham, an amicable and constructive meeting was needed with the Governors. Cllr Hogger will try to set this up for herself with Clls Pindar and Lightfoot and the Clerk, and other councillors who wish to come when the date is agreed. Topics suggested for discussion included: what is the new relationship between the school, the Trust Board and SCC; what are the plans for the admissions policy; what plans are there for asset management or disposal; can a system of regular communication be set up with the Board of Governors.

LH

#### SCC's consultation on school admissions policy for children entering school in September 2011

In the absence of any evidence that this will change, it was agreed to comment as before that the existing policy, with the existing fixed catchment area including all of Effingham parish, must stay in place.

SM

#### Guildford Borough Council's consultation on new governance arrangements

It was agreed that it was difficult to see improvements in either option, but that on balance the 'strong leader and cabinet' option is preferred.

SM

## 8.10 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

### Current Highways and Transport matters

#### GBC's bid for funding for a replacement bus-shelter opposite Mount Pleasant

It was agreed that if GBC would continue to own and maintain bus-shelters in perpetuity, they could put up as many as they like. Failing that, it was agreed to ask whether the bid could be swapped to another location, for instance, in front of Red House on Lower Road.

SM

#### SCC's published Notice concerning the speed limit for Dirtham Lane

This includes unmetalled sections of both Dirtham Lane and Orestan Lane, which is not what was wanted. It was agreed to write and object; also to ask that a 'de-restriction' sign is not placed at the junction of the metalled and un-metalled stretches of Dirtham Lane; copy to Cllr Barker.

SM

### Reports and correspondence relating to Highways matters

#### Forest Road bridge closure

East Horsley PC has protested about the wrong and inadequate signage for the Forest Bridge road closure.

#### Traffic lights, A246

It was reported that the lights have completely failed four times in the previous eight weeks, leading to long tailbacks on all feeder roads. It was agreed to ask Highways if the lights now need replacement, allowing the filter light to be installed.

SM

#### Calvert Road

The road surface is seriously damaged. Up to five lorries now park regularly on the roadside. The Clerk will report this to GBC.

SM

#### Annual survey of Rights of Way

Cllr Wetenhall reported that he would get the inspection forms out to councillors by the end of March. Past ones have been filed so it is possible to see what has / has not been done.

JW

#### Public footpaths, KGV Playing Fields

Cllr Nicholls asked whose responsibility was the maintenance of paths which crossed privately owned land (ie the Trust's). The Clerk will find out.

SM

## 9.10 REPORTS

### Allotments

The allotments committee has not yet met to consider rents but will produce a report for the next meeting.

### Schools

Jo Fiuza has left Effingham and it was agreed Cllr Pindar would approach a likely replacement contact.

AP

### EVRT

A candidate for the vacancy with relevant financial skills had been identified – a resident and retired banker. The Cricket Club had installed its new nets. Cllr Jones confirmed that the Trust is preparing a questionnaire for residents about use and development of the Playing Fields. ERRAs road wardens could be asked to collect completed forms or act as drop-off points.

### Home Farm Estate

One of the regular meetings with GBC will be held soon. Cllr Hogger and the Clerk will compile a list of items for the Agenda.

LH  
SM

### Friends of Effingham Common

The question of how Parish Councillors can help on Commoners' Day was raised.

### Smith's Charity

The Christmas vouchers have been given out, with one or two new names on the list, but information about other potential recipients would be welcome.

### Local Government / Admin matters

One of the Parish Council's three green cloths has gone missing. Risk inspection forms were handed out for completion by the next meeting. The EVRT Executive Committee will meet monthly in the Parish Room on the last Monday in the month.

**MJ**  
**ALL**

GBC had forwarded an anonymous complaint submitted through their web-site about the proliferation of advertising banners at the junction of The Street and A246. There was discussion about whether 'double standards' were occurring, with some signs removed but not others. Highways officers will usually only tackle signs on publicly-owned street furniture. Signs on private property might need planning consent. The Clerk was asked to find out who can take inappropriate signage down; also to report the large sign owned by Lachmere, who have refused to take it down.

**SM**

### Forward planning

Cllr Nicholls asked if there could be discussion of future available space for burials. It was agreed the whole concept of forward planning for pro-active, not re-active, policy was needed. Cllr Pindar asked for thoughts on how to make the Chairman's Annual Report better for residents, and a discussion of progress on the Emergency Planning project.

**ALL**  
**SM**

## **10.10 CORRESPONDENCE**

Howard of Effingham School,  
James & Thomas Ltd, Mayor of  
Guildford, BTS Ltd

Christmas cards

Effingham & Little Bookham  
churches

Parish Magazine, December

Methodist Church

The Link

East Horsley Parish Council

Agenda and Minutes, 7 December  
Horsley Directory

GBC

Agenda and reports for Planning Committee, 18  
December

Cherry Trees

Winter newsletter

CPRE

Fieldwork, December 09

English Rural Housing Fed'n

Annual Report 2009 and Newsletter, Winter 09

SLCC

The Clerk, Dec. 2009

NALC

DIS 723 &724

## **11.10 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **Current matters**

#### Village precept for 2010-11

It was confirmed that subject to the limit clarified above, approx £200 should be added to the General Admin allocation, and approx £200 to the Staff allocation. Cllr Driscoll asked for a statement of the income from the Burial Ground and the Allotments. There was further discussion about the allocation to EVRT which was confirmed at £23k. Parish Councillors agreed that they viewed this as a difficult year for EVRT and wished to show support, but this should not be seen as a guaranteed level of funding for the future or a precedent. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council is looking forward to working with the Trustees to achieve the best possible agreement (eg Service Level Agreement).

#### Changes to the terms for Concurrent Grant Aid funding from GBC

These were noted.

**Cheques for approval and signature**

The following cheques were authorised and signed:

		<b>Authority to pay</b>
Phone Coop	34.45	Local Govt Act 1972 s111
BTS	56.93	Local Govt Act 1972 s111
AXA Sun Life plc	2544.21	Local Govt Act 1972 s112
Inland Revenue	1201.44	Local Govt Act 1972 s112

**12.10 PARISH BUSINESS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Date of the next meeting: Tuesday 26 January 2010.

Discussion of future available space for burials

Suggestions for the Chairman's Annual Report

Progress on the Emergency Planning project

Cllrs Driscoll and Hogger gave apologies for the next meeting.