

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EFFINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT 8pm ON TUESDAY 28 JULY 2009
AT KING GEORGE V HALL, BROWN'S LANE, EFFINGHAM**

PRESENT

Cllr Pindar, Chairman
Cllrs Clark, Crouch, Driscoll, Hogger, Jones, Nicholls, Symes and Wetenhall (from 8.35).
The Clerk, Cllr Bill Barker and 3 residents

93.09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Lightfoot (away); PCSO Culross

94.09 REGISTER OF INTERESTS AND DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillors present signed to show they had had the opportunity to view the Register of Interests.

Cllr Clark declared a prejudicial interest regarding the planning application for Grove House.

95.09 MINUTES OF THE MEETING 30 JUNE 2009

Correction: The meeting was an ordinary meeting, not an Annual Meeting. The month should be given as May, not April. With these corrections the Minutes were signed as a true record.

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

Presentation by Dr Gosden: Closure of Effingham surgery. There was further discussion of whether the three-month 'trial' of the drop-in service could be considered as properly described as a trial, given that patients will not be notified of its availability until they phone for an appointment. Effingham patients will also not be notified of the closure of the surgery. It was agreed to write to the PCT pointing this out.

SM

97.09 POLICE AND SAFETY

PCSO's report

On behalf of PCSO Culross, Cllr Nicholls reported 4 crimes for the previous month: 1 burglary and 3 criminal damage.

Reports and correspondence: Police and Safety matters

Surrey Police Authority

The Clerk reported that following the County Council elections Cllr Barker is now a member of the Surrey Police Authority. The capping of Surrey Police's budget by the government had been confirmed. Return of the money to the ratepayers would cost almost as much as keeping it. The SPA is continuing to object to this. Cuts will be made and the PCSO network is identified as a probable source.

Anti-social behaviour, BW121

A resident had contacted Cllr Hogger to talk about abusive drinkers congregating on this path and making passers-by feel at risk. There was also an enormous amount of litter and the stile was completely broken. The Clerk will ask the PCSO, GBC and SCC for appropriate action.

SM

98.09 PLANNING MATTERS

New applications

09/P/00518 Grove House, Guildford Road

Conversion of Grove House to 2x1 bed and 5x2 bed apartments. The erection of 6x4 bed town houses with integral garages, 3x2 bed affordable houses and 4x1 bed affordable apartments following demolition of existing school buildings, together with associated landscaping, carparking, bin and cycle storage and the creation of a new access onto Guildford Road following closure of existing access (as amended 22.06.09)

Cllr Clark made a personal statement of his continued objection to the amended plans and then withdrew until the Parish Council had finished its discussion of this item. A neighbour also addressed the Parish Council. It was noted that there was still time to write to the Planning Officer, and that if there were 10 letters of objection against a recommendation of approval, this would go to the Planning Committee.

The Parish Council noted the amendments but felt that these were relatively minor and did not answer the main points on which it had previously objected. It therefore reiterated its strong objection, with particular reference to the increased intensity for the low-cost housing as too high (4 households to 7), the location of these in a single block, the parking at a distance from these homes, the inadequate number of parking spaces in total. The Clerk will write.

SM

09/P/00938 The Vineries, Lower Road (deferred from last month to await further information)

As requested the Planning Officer had asked the applicant for further information but the response did not address issues raised. A resident had contacted the Parish Council with significant concerns about planning and environmental infringements taking place at the Water Lane end of the site. The Parish Council objected to the application and asked that Planning Enforcement be required to do an annual visit of the site. The Clerk will write.

SM

09/P/00933 Orchard End, Lower Farm Road

Two storey side extension incorporating new dormer window to front elevation, following demolition of existing attached double garage, kitchen and utility (amended description). No comment.

09/P/01060 Littledown, Salmons Road

Detached two storey 4 bedroom dwelling with detached double garage following demolition of existing building. The Parish Council noted inconsistencies in the information supplied and inadequate plans. The Clerk will write to the Planning Officer asking for clarification and better drawings.

SM

09/P/01082 Hunters Moon, Orestan Lane

Part single, part two storey rear extension. No comment.

09/P/01095 High Barn Bungalow, High Barn Road

The Parish Council objected on the grounds that this was a further extension, very wide and high, on what was originally a small agricultural cottage on a small site, in the Green Belt. The Clerk to write.

SM

09/P/01009 Rustles, Lower Farm Road

Two storey rear extension. The Parish Council had objected to the previous proposal for this site. At that time, a neighbour had been concerned about whether drawings showed the boundary in the right position and a correction had been made. This appeared to have been forgotten on the present application. It was agreed to comment that any consent, if given, should take account of the decision about the correct position of the boundary. The Clerk to write.

SM

09/T/00099 7 The Crossroads

Reduce sides and top of one Monterey cypress (T1) by 15% (Effingham Conservation Area). The Volunteer Tree Warden had looked at this and supported the proposals. No comment.

09/T/00100 Effingham Golf Club, Guildford Road

Fell one cedar tree (Effingham Conservation Area). Cllr Wetenhall declared a personal interest as a member of the Golf Club. The decision to fell the tree had already been taken, with regret, as it was a landmark tree. It was agreed to write to the Golf Club suggesting they plant another in a more suitable location.

SM

Results / progress on previous applications

09/P/00703 36 Norwood Rd

Approved

09/P/00747	33 Orchard Gardens	Approved
09/P/00780	Sorrel, Lower Farm Rd	Approved
09/P/00823	Banks Cottages, Little Bookham Common	Mix (CLEUD re permitted development, of which EPC was not formally notified)
09/P/00854	24 Leewood Way	Approved

Other Planning matters

Effingham items on the s.106 planning obligations list

The Clerk had circulated the current list. After discussion it became clear that the s106 money arising from the Convent development, about £15k, was not wanted for a skateboard facility at KGV after all, and that KGV had been in contact with GBC about renewing the hard surfaces of the tennis courts. The Clerk to add this and update the list for submission to GBC.

Planning application submitted by Effingham Cricket Club

Effingham Parish Council as Custodian Trustee and landowner formally noted the Cricket Club's submission of a planning application, in accordance with previous discussions.

Consultation from Mole Valley District Council on preparation of its Land Allocation DPD and other documents

This was noted.

Reports and correspondence relating to other Planning matters:

Home Farm Estate

Cllr Hogger informed the Parish Council that the County Court had granted GBC the right to repossess two pieces of land at Chester Road. The family on another piece had been granted two weeks in which to submit evidence for defence, which, if accepted, would be heard on 2 September. The meeting agreed that GBC was moving at last to enforce on issues it should have tackled long since.

Following discussions at the regular Home Farm Estate officers' meeting, the Clerk wrote to ask GBC to note that two pieces of land in the same area were not currently out to licence or tenure of any sort, and the boundaries should be more protected against incursion or adverse possession.

Three Acre Barn

The 3-month planning consent for reinstatement as a barn runs out on 8 August. By this time, large grid-like steel doors should have been used to replace the present ones.

Newmarsh Farm

(EPC has been making complaints about infringements at this site since 1978.)

- (1) As previously agreed, EPC lodged a complaint on the files of each HGV operator based at Newmarsh Farm who had not advertised in local papers. One of these came up for renewal and the Traffic Commissioner invited EPC to submit comments to the review. A letter was sent, text authorised by the Chairman, pointing out the numerous environmental and planning enforcement issues at the site, its context within open countryside and the Rights of Way network.
- (2) New applications for operators' licences continue to be made and GBC invites comments from EPC. A recent one was for a company called Henry Prinze. This is in essence a re-submission under a new name of an application for a company called Fairlight (demolition and waste related activities) which was disallowed because of failure to advertise properly. EPC's comment was that these applications are for a site which has become established by avoidance of due process, which the Traffic Commissioner should take into account.
- (3) Don Henderson of the Joint Communities Group managed to set up a meeting at GBC between members of the Group with Planning, Enforcement and Environmental Health officers in order to better understand how all parties can share information.

HGV Operators licences

The new Leader of SCC, Dr Andrew Povey, has previously been involved in the LORD

Initiative. He has said he intends to give Local Committees more responsibility with respect to HGV licences.

St Teresa's

The Bursar had written with details of the agreement about changes to the access on Critten Lane; also that use of the 53 seater coach will cease as of September. No details of the traffic surveys have been supplied yet.

99.09 VILLAGE GREEN SPACES AND AMENITIES

Current GSV matters

Interviews for new KGV Trustees

The Chairman proposed this item be discussed in committee on the basis that it would be necessary to refer to confidential information about specific individuals, and this was agreed.

Surrey Hills AONB's invitation to become an affiliate parish council

This would cost £15. It was agreed that the village would gain by the support of Surrey Hills AONB. The Clerk to action.

SM

Postponement of Effingham Commoners' Day

Cllr Symes and the Clerk had had to come to the conclusion that there was not enough time remaining to organise this properly, but another meeting could be held to try to identify another date. Parish Councillors reiterated their support for continuing the tradition, and it will be rearranged.

**IS
SM**

Beech Avenue woodlands

The Clerk reported on recent discussions with SCC. Cllr Wetenhall had taken several photographs showing how, after the felling, some stumps had been left very high, and a great deal of the felled wood had just been left on site. Also the planting season had been missed. The SCC officer had agreed to send back the contractors to improve matters, and agreed that fallen wood could be taken out in the autumn during the re-planting. He had also decided to wait for the next planting season which he felt was better for the project as it would give the environment chance to recover, and identify where naturally occurring seedlings were doing well before filling in with the new stock.

However, although the contractors had shortened one very high stump, there had been no further work. It was agreed the Clerk should pursue this, especially the low one at the very edge of the kerb which could be a positive danger to drivers who wouldn't see it.

SM

GBC's consultation on the Special Protection Area

Cllr Symes had circulated some points in response to this for consideration by the Parish Council (he will be making his own response in addition). The Clerk will draft the points into a proposed response.

There was a separate discussion about making sure residents all around the edge of the Common were aware of the opportunity to respond to the consultation. It was agreed a letter should go out from the Parish Council. Cllr Symes will draft it and Cllr Pindar sign it; Cllr Symes, with help from Mrs Page, will deliver it to Effingham residents on Heath View, Heath Way, Orchard Close, Berrington Drive, Effingham Common, Effingham Common Road and Lower Farm Road, ideally by mid August. The Clerk will inform East Horsley Parish Council; also the British Trust for Ornithology, the RSPB and Surrey Wildlife Trust.

100.09 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Green verge at the junction of The Street and Chapel Hill

The wall at the back of this verge needs structural work and the SCC Community Highways Officer had asked for comments about how to improve the state of the greenery. It was agreed that removal of rank growth, grass kept properly mown all the way to the back of the site, and re-shaping of the ragged mounds to the south would be best. The Clerk to write.

Reports and correspondence relating to Highways matters

Bus shelter, Brown's Field

Cllr Nicholls reported that the bus-shelter here is tipping over backwards. This had not been spotted during the recent risk assessment. Cllr Wetenhall will look again.

JW

Trees on Beech Avenue shading residences, The Crossroads

Derek Lake has confirmed that whilst there is recognition of, and every sympathy for, the plight of the residents, there is absolutely no money available for removal of ivy or trimming. Road or lane closure would probably also be necessary for the work to take place (£1000k aprox). If the money can be found by other means, there would probably be no objection. The residents have been told this so that they can decide if they want to get a costing for the work and pursue it under their own steam.

Browns' Field frontage, The Street and Guildford Rd

Howard of Effingham School has been asked to cut the greenery back.

Bus shelter, Effingham Common Road

GBC's estimate for repair at £160 has been agreed.

101.09 REPORTS

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Schools

A reminder to the schools to send reports would be welcome. Mr Essex had not responded to the dates proposed for a visit.

SM

KGV

Village Day had been very successful. The Parish Council's exhibition about Barnes Wallis had been very interesting and great thanks were due to Eddie Crouch and Tony Page. The plane number and crew names of the airman from 617 Squadron who flew over Barnes Wallis's house were now known. £7.50 had been donated and given to the KGV Treasurer.

Home Farm Estate

There was an officers' meeting on 8 July. The Clerk had explained great concern about lack of progress on some issues, and on the protection of GBC land.

Friends of Effingham Common

The AGM has been set for November.

Smith's Charity

Summer vouchers were being distributed.

Local Government / Admin matters

No further developments.

102.09 CORRESPONDENCE

Effingham & Little Bookham	Parish Magazine
East Horsley PC	Agenda and Minutes, meeting of 15 June. Information about proposed public footpath link from Bishopsmead to West Horsley
GBC	Agenda and Reports for Standards and Audit Committee, 21 July Summer Festival programme
Guildford Local Committee	Draft Minutes of meeting of 24 June.

SCC	Agenda and Reports for meeting, 21 July
Surrey Hills AONB	Management Plan 2009-14
Surrey Community Action	Summer newsletter, including news of new Gypsy and Traveller Support Worker Graham Ellwood.
English Rural Housing Asscn	Summer newsletter
DIS	Nos 712 and 713 including of the launch in September of NALC's Councillors Guide to Performance Management
SLCC	Conference programme The Clerk, July issue

103.09 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Current matters

Projects for Concurrent Grant Aid by GBC for 2010-11

There was discussion of what type of projects would be suitable. Cllr Clark volunteered to look on the GBC web-site to see what other projects were submitted.

AC

Revision of the Parish Council's insurance (item brought forward)

There was still no news of the revised details from the insurer. It was agreed that before renewal next March quotations from other insurers should be sought.

SM

Report of the internal auditor

Parish Councillors debated items mentioned by the auditor and it was confirmed that the majority were now in hand. In relation to items 5 & 6 concerning the Parish Council's financial dealings with KGV, there was discussion about whether there was an adequate audit trail for the grant money, and whether (for instance) EPC is subsidising other organisations. It was agreed this issue would have to be taken up with the new Trustees.

Risk reporting

This item was not fully discussed given the lateness of the hour.

Cheques for approval and signature

The following cheques were authorised and signed:

	£	Authority to pay
EDF Electricity	106.60	Local Govt Act 1972 s211
Cornwell (Home Barn Properties) Ltd	270.00	Local Govt Act 1972 s211
Tony Page (reimbursement)	67.40	Local Govt Act 1972 s133
Peter Frost	320.00	Local Govt Act 1972 s211
Inland Revenue (estimate)	1600.00	Local Govt Act 1972 s112
S Morris (reimbursement)	529.64	Local Govt Act 1972 s112

99.09 Interviews for new KGV Trustees

Cllrs Hogger and Pindar (with Roy Donovan, Hon Treasurer of ERRRA) had conducted the interviews. They reported on the procedure they had followed, in which they had tried to be objective on behalf of the village. Separate scoring by each interviewer had come out remarkably unanimous. The panel recommended that Caroline Irwin and Gill Walker be appointed by the Parish Council for one year each (with a possibility of re-appointment for a four year term if they so wished). The Parish Council accepted this recommendation and confirmed the appointments. Cllr Pindar will write to all the interviewees. He will find out if unsuccessful candidates wish to go forward to be considered for co-option.

104.09 PARISH BUSINESS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING

Date of the next meeting: Tuesday 25 August.