

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EFFINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT 8pm ON TUESDAY 29 JUNE 2010
AT KING GEORGE V HALL, BROWN'S LANE, EFFINGHAM**

PRESENT

Cllr Pindar in the Chair
Cllrs Crouch, Driscoll, Hogger, Jones, Nicholls and Symes
3 local government electors

PC Steve Hill and PCSO Culross attended before the formal opening of the meeting, to discuss the trial of new arrangements proposed by the Parish Council intended to save effort and time. PC Hill felt this was a very positive initiative. There are about 175 people on the effinghamnews community e-mail and it might help raise numbers here too. Voting for particular issues that the community wished the police teams to concentrate on is important, because this enables PC Hill to secure additional resources centrally. Without evidence of local demand this was very difficult.

He agreed that younger and older sectors of the community might need communication in different ways (eg Facebook). Cllr Jones described his feeling that reporting issues to the PCSO was useless because it had to be reported centrally. PC Hill explained that the two lines did different things and both were important: logging the information officially but directly from the source person, and feeding it into the local team knowledge. Cllr Jones also described the feeling of frustration that events elsewhere would always be more important.

There was more discussion about balloting. E-mail balloting was very useful because the votes could be verified and counted electronically. Cllr Jones and others had questions and concerns about ballot boxes, for example vandalism. It was agreed that both systems would probably be needed.

This topic was also on the Agenda for further formal discussion by the Parish Council later on. PC Hill was thanked for his efforts and attendance which were much appreciated. It was agreed to form a small committee and take this further forward.

PCSO Culross's information on recent Effingham crime statistics is under 'Reports' below.

83.10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Clark (overseas); Cllr Lightfoot (overseas), Cllr Wetenhall (business); Cllr Barker

84.10 REGISTER OF INTERESTS AND DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

No changes to the Register or interests affecting items on this Agenda declared.

85.10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 18 MAY 2010

70.10, Representatives appointed to liaise with outside organisations

Cllr Hogger pointed out she was not present and had not suggested she might know who might make a suitable contact with St Lawrence Primary School!

With this correction the Minutes were agreed to be a true record and signed.

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

66.10 Dates of future meetings

It was agreed to change Monday 3 January 2011 to Tuesday 4 January to avoid the Bank Holiday.

87.10 PLANNING MATTERS

New applications

10/P/00799 Rydons Mead, Lower Farm Road

Erection of detached garage with store over following demolition of existing garage. No comment.

10/P/00805 Charon, Lower Farm Road

Two storey side extension, first floor rear extension and conservatory, following demolition of existing conservatory. It was agreed to comment that the extension created a very sprawling floor area.

SM

10/P/00823 Inglehurst, Outdowns

Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed side and rear extensions. No comment.

10/P/00842 Spinney Stables, Outdowns

Use of land for a private gypsy caravan site. Cllr Hogger provided an update on the uncertain state of policy given recent Government abandonment of regional spatial planning. However work done in connection with this had indicated an unmet need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches. It therefore seemed to be the case that permission for immediate need could still be given. Cllr Hogger did not comment at all on the specifics of this particular planning application. It was noted that SCC Highways had objected on grounds of the dangerous junction of Outdowns and Guildford Road.

It was agreed that the Parish Council strongly objects to the application. It is a Green Belt site and it was felt that no information had been supplied to suggest exceptional circumstances for intrusion, or that the applicant's need for this as a dwelling place had changed since the application which failed at appeal. The site lines for the exit could not be improved without risk to trees which are under TPO. It was agreed to forward the comment to East Horsley Parish Council since this site is on the boundary.

SM

10/P/00942 6 Manor Gardens

Two storey side extension. No comment.

10/P/00957 5 Church Cottages, Church St

Full and Listed Building Consent for infill of rear porch. No comment.

10/P/01030 Runfold, 37 Woodlands Road

Consultation from Mole Valley District Council for erection of single storey rear extensions, following demolition of existing conservatory. Raise roof ridge height and insert rooflights to create rooms in roof space. No comment.

Land at Chasemore Farm, Bookham Road, Downside, Cobham

The translocation of inert waste including soils from the Cobham Motorway Service Area to an area of some 28.3 hectares at Chasemore Farm for construction of earth mounds and associated landscape, restoration and reinstatement works; two temporary access arrangements, protection works at Railway Bridge; and improvements to Bookham Road to facilitate the proposed works with reinstatement to the satisfaction of the County Highway Authority.

It was agreed to comment that the risk to the flood plain should be considered, and the situation if all the earth could not be taken at the receptor site; also to object that the proposed exits onto Bookham Road should return to permanent barriers, not just lockable gates.

SM

10/P/01094 Leewood Farm, Effingham Common Road

Certificate of Lawful Use or Development for an existing use for demolition business comprising Use Class B8 (storage and distribution) with elements of B2 (industrial / light industrial) and B1 (business) and sui generis.

A resident spoke in connection with this. It was accepted that light use had been taking place for years, but that the type and scale of use had escalated significantly in the last two years. Heavy lorries had not regularly used the site before that.

It was agreed to comment that the area as marked on the plan appears to be different from the area affected by the stated activities; also that the 7.5 tonne weight limit for the road applied; also that the evidence in the sworn statement contradicted that given to the recent Traffic Commissioner's Public Inquiry. The Clerk will circulate a draft comment before submission.

SM

Cllr Nicholls commented on the difficult situation regarding availability of commercial /

business premises.

10/P/01091 Meadow Platt, Ranmore Common

Revision to 07/P/01263 approved on 26/8/07 to allow raising of roof height, alterations to the porch roof, insertion of two additional roof lights to west elevation, 3 roof lights to south elevation and a feature brick chimney.

It was agreed to comment as on the original application that that the work would potentially be noticeable from BW131 which goes past this property.

SM

10/P/01124 Kerri, Forest Lane, East Horsley

Four detached 3 bedroom bungalows with detached garages and creation of new access off Forest Lane, following partial demolition of existing house.

There was concern about the prospect of over-intensive development in this location.

However the application had only just arrived and it was agreed to find out more specific information about the setting before finalising a view. The Clerk will draft a comment for circulation before submission.

SM

Results / progress on previous planning applications

2009/1230 MSA, Cobham

Approval for method statement, relating to use of Horsley Road for access by construction vehicles during the early construction phase

10/P/00306 The Vineries, Lower Road

Approved

10/P/00562 Greenboughs, Heath View

Withdrawn

10/P/00784 Wiltshire House, Effingham Hill

Withdrawn

10/P00419 The Coolins, Manor House Lane

Refused. The Officer had recommended refusal. Cllr Hogger had argued at Planning Committee that the expansion available under permitted development (ie no consent needed) was greater and would have much more impact on the Green Belt than that being sought by this application, but on the casting vote the application was refused so the resident will now build the permitted development option.

Other planning matters

No items for debate.

Reports and correspondence relating to other Planning matters:

10/P/00784 Wiltshire House, Effingham Hill, Effingham

The following comment on Wiltshire House had been submitted since the previous meeting, authorised by Cllrs Symes, Crouch and Wetenhall

'Effingham Parish Council has considered this planning application and wishes to make the following comments.

1. Dimensions

It is recognised that the proposed overall ground floor area has hardly changed from the existing, and that the above-ground extension of total floor area on the existing is roughly 45%. It is noted that this rises to approximately 60% increase on the existing when the proposed basement area is included. It is felt the Planning Officer will need to consider this carefully, especially in the light of consistency of planning decisions for the immediate neighbourhood.

The Parish Council is very concerned about height. The height of the existing building at main roof level is 7m. The existing consent allows 8m. The proposal here is for 9m at main roof level, presenting a much bulkier structure above ground level. This rises even further to 11m when the height of the observation room is included, and then again still further by the re-positioning of the proposed house on higher ground than the existing. A

key consideration relating to this application is its effect on the openness of the Green Belt and the AONB, and care must be taken to check whether this structure will become more visible and intrusive by reason of its greater height and bulk.

2. Design

Owing to its secluded location this draws no comment, with the significant exception of the inclusion of the 'observation room' above main roof level. This feature, which would presumably both make the building more visible within the AONB and also allow the occupants to look at property / people / residences beyond their own boundary, is of concern for reasons of openness of the Green Belt and privacy of nearby properties. For these reasons, and also those above concerned with height/bulk in this location, if all other factors were found to be acceptable, the Parish Council would welcome re-submission of the designs without the observation room.

3. Trees

Clearly the preservation of trees is of the utmost importance for this site. The Parish Council feels that a condition requiring protection of all existing trees, and a requirement to re-plant any that in future fall or have to be felled, would be advisable.'

(As reported above this application had subsequently been withdrawn).

Joint parishes group: planning applications by Gypsies and Travellers

Cllrs Hogger and Nicholls had attended an interesting initial meeting on behalf of EPC. They reported that the meeting had managed to discuss some constructive views. Since then however David Bilbe, the group leader, had written in very strong terms to Carol Humphrey castigating Planning Officers for alleged failures, apparently without the authorisation of the group. It was agreed to write and copy to all that EPC wishes to be in the group and take part in positive discussion but cannot be associated with comments on particular applications.

SM

Joint parishes group

The normal agenda items for the above meeting had included a presentation by Derek Lake on behalf of SCC Highways outlining the extremely constrained circumstances in which they now are. There had been a suggestion of parishes locally joining together to employ a lengthsman, in which Effingham would be interested.

SM

Motorway Service Station

It had been reported that unless work started, the current planning consent lapses in October.

Chasemore Farm

Cllr Barker had referred to a public meeting in July. The Clerk to investigate details.

SM

Ranmore Farm, Hogden Lane

Tim Harrold had sent a copy of CPRE's objection to this Mole Valley application for a much expanded property with a cupola on the roof.

88.10 VILLAGE GREEN SPACES AND AMENITIES

Current GSVA matters

Nomination of Effingham First Responders for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

A first hand-account of an intervention by this group had been circulated. There was unanimous agreement for a very strong letter of support. This must cover all the points needed in a nomination. The Clerk to draft and circulate a comment.

SM

Ballot boxes / comments boxes for community use

Information about PC Steve Hill's suggested designs had been circulated. Discussion covered various concerns including presenting the report at 7.30. Eventually it was decided that more thought and ideas were needed. To be continued.

ALL

Reports and correspondence relating to GSVA matters

Shopping parade

A resident who had wished to remain anonymous had written to the Parish Council criticising the appearance of the parade of shops. Cllr Jones explained that some potholes had just been mended; litter pickers had been there every day for two weeks, and other improvements (bollards, seat, noticeboard area) had recently been made.

89.10 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

Current Highways and Transport matters

No current items for debate

Reports and correspondence relating to Highways matters

HGV Operators Licences, Newmarsh Farm

The Public Inquiry was held on 3 June and results are awaited.

BOAT 137

SCC officers recommended to the Local Committee on 23 June that this be subject to a Traffic Regulation Order banning all vehicles over 7ft width. EPC had supported this proposal – in fact, had wanted more stringent restrictions.

Forest Road bridge

This is due to re-open on 7 July; invitations to the opening celebration had been circulated. Cllr Driscoll had heard that over the bridge the road had had to be narrowed and might possibly have to be controlled by traffic lights.

Sewer runs, Lower Road

A resident had been in contact to ask about the sewer runs and complaining about serious back-ups.

90.10 REPORTS

Police and Community Safety

This is PCSO Culross's report to the audience of councillors and public, presented immediately before the Parish Council meeting.

There will be a Neighbourhood Panel meeting on 6 July with an update on progress with the last neighbourhood targets. Nominations and votes for future issues were collected. PCSO Culross reported 5 crimes for the previous month: two burglaries (1 electronic item and 1 old vehicle); two thefts (lead, and a pedal cycle); one criminal damage to a property. Specific topics raised by members of the audience were: quad biking on Effingham Common, fear of further robberies in East Horsley, a request for police help to press SCC Highways for proper road signage on Effingham Common Road that would enable prosecution to be effective.

Allotments

The meeting for allotment holders had been held on 25 May. The forthcoming rent increase was not mentioned.

Schools

The meeting set up to discuss the footpath across the grounds of the Howard School would take place at 4pm on 8 July. Parish Councillors attending will meet at the Parish Room at 3pm.

EVRT

The AGM will be at 8pm on Tuesday 20 July in the KGV. The Trustees will provide a separate account of their activities to the Parish Council before the next meeting. There had been a couple of constructive meetings with user groups. Charity Commission advice was needed in order to progress the issue of new agreements. Gill Walker and Caroline Irwin had confirmed that they are happy to stay on as Trustees at the end of their initial term of appointment. The workload had been very heavy over the first year of the new Trustee board.

Cllr Pindar reported that, following the last meeting at which it had been reported that the Trustees felt unsupported, he had written to them all assuring them of the Parish Council's continued support. The Parish Council's internal auditor had commented again on the necessity for transparency where public money is concerned, in order to protect everyone. Cllr Hogger pointed out how very urgent discussion about a proposed Service Level Agreement is becoming, and hoped there could be a meeting in July. Cllr Jones said he was waiting on the Parish Council for a draft document and a proposed meeting.

Home Farm Estate

Cllr Tony Rooth and Director Sue Sturgeon were continuing to consider the issue of improving management of HFE following the proposal by residents to set up their own Service Level Agreement or similar to complete basic maintenance functions. They had made a fact-finding visit.

Friends of Effingham Common

There has been another meeting to plan for Commoners Day. The local history group is very energetic and is manning the Parish Council's stall on Village Day, to promote Commoners' Day.

Residents have reported further problems with access to the Public Footpath and the Common in the vicinity of Tyrells Cottage.

Smith's Charity

No further news.

Local Government / Admin matters

Terry Driscoll and Chris Hogger have helped enormously with thinking about the scope of the website and the administration. It is now waiting for the Clerk to provide copy.

The Clerk will be away 5 – 20 August, which includes 4 Parish Room open days: Mondays 9 & 16, Tuesdays 10 & 17.

There have been more computer-working-slow problems. A replacement needs to be investigated.

The internal auditor had visited. His report had been received and would be tabled for the next Agenda.

The Employers' return had been submitted to HMRC

Mark Eller had hung the remaining pictures in the Parish Room.

91.10 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence which had been received since the last meeting was noted:

Colin Gibb / Leukaemia Society	Thanks for donation
Howard of Effingham School	Private view, Arts Dept, 5 July
St Teresa's School	Invitation to Prizegiving, 8 July
Effingham & Little Bookham	Parish magazine, June
Our Lady of Sorrows	Parish magazine, May 2010
East Horsley Parish Council	Agenda and Minutes, meetings of 20 May and 10 June Horsley Directory
GBC	Papers for Council meeting 24 June; Agenda and reports for Planning Committee 8 June and 29 June Through the Looking Glass (GBC Arts report)
Guildford Environmental Forum	Newsletter
SCC Guildford Local Committee	Agenda and reports for meeting of 23 June
Surrey County Council	Agenda & reports for Council meeting of 15 June Community Care Guide
Surrey Police Authority	Policing Surrey newsletter
Nescot	Newsletter
Cherry Trees	Newsletter
Open Space Society	Newsletter
Fullers	Surrey Village of the Year competition
Clerks and Councils Direct	Newsletter
NALC	DIS 734-736

92.10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Current matters

Amendments to Effingham Parish Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

It was agreed that this could be deferred to the next Agenda.

**CEWC
SM**

Risk analysis

The Clerk drew attention to a potential change in her personal circumstances.

Cheques for approval and signature

The following cheques were authorised and signed:

		Authority to pay
King George V Playing Fields	£5750.00	Local Govt Act 1972 s.133
Peter Frost	£199.00	Local Govt Act 1972 s.211
Phone Coop	38.69	Local Govt Act 1972 s.111
BTS	58.16	Local Govt Act 1972 s.111
Surrey Community Action	35.00	Local Govt Act 1972 s.143
SCAPTC	651.01	Local Govt Act 1972 s.143
Inland Revenue:	1167.21	Local Govt Act 1972 s.112
<i>(Employers' NI 3 months</i>	<i>216.39</i>	
<i>Employee's NI 3 months</i>	<i>227.19</i>	
<i>Tax 3 months</i>	<i>723.63)</i>	
SCC LGA Pension scheme:	23.61	Local Govt Act 1972 s.112
<i>(Employer's back contrib.</i>	<i>16.71</i>	
<i>3 months</i>		
<i>Employee's back contrib.</i>	<i>6.90</i>	
<i>3 months</i>		

93.10 PARISH BUSINESS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING

Date of the next meeting: Tuesday 27 July.