

CAPEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2015

PRESENT: Mrs A Schryver (Chairman), Mr S McLachlan, Mr P Garber, Mr C Ball, Mrs P Dale, Mr L Margetts, Mrs L Ford, Mr D Cox and the Clerk

- 1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mr K Salter, Cllr Corinna Osborne-Patterson
- 2 **IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllr Mary Huggins, 10 members of the public including Julia Horrox, Dineka Van Den Vogerd, Colleen Watkins, Norman Gill. PCs Claire Stubbs and Sue Gargini (item 7)
- 3 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** Mr McLachlan – LHAG.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

There were several members of the public present who wished to put questions about speeding. An email and two petitions had been handed in. Julia Horrox spoke about the measures introduced by other villages to reduce speed, in particular Warnham's new 20mph speed limit where stickers are placed on wheelie bins to help enforce it. Dineka Van Den Vogerd said that rather than reduce speed limits those already in place should be enforced and drew attention to problems in Vicarage Lane and Coles Lane. Colleen Watkins agreed that reducing the speed limit might not work but thought maybe a flashing light would help near the school to remind drivers to reduce their speed. Norman Gill said he had not been able to attend the public meeting about the Neighbourhood Development Plan in July and there were no minutes of that meeting on the website. Mr Garber said that all NDP meetings have identified traffic calming and traffic management issues as a concern and this will be on the agendas of future meetings. Two newsletters had been produced following the various meetings and the most recent newsletter was handed to Mr Gill. The newsletters cover all topics raised at the village meetings and give details of further public meetings in October and November. The latest newsletter will be available in village shops and the Parish magazine and may be emailed to anyone who provides their email address.

- 4 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 July 2015 were agreed, adopted and signed by the Chairman.
- 5 **MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THIS AGENDA:** None.
- 6 **SPEEDING IN THE PARISH:** The Chairman said there was a lot of concern about speeding and the petitions had well over 100 signatures. Residents wanted a way forward and it was important to discuss what was possible. Several useful ideas had been put forward and these would be progressed. Mr Margetts said it would be important to combine science with aesthetics so that signage looked acceptable and persuaded people to drive more carefully in hazardous areas. The Chairman said that funding would probably not be available for expensive solutions like chicanes and speed bumps, but new road markings, pinch points, placing speed limit signs in more effective locations etc would be looked at. It was also suggested that a Speedwatch scheme might be introduced and if 5 volunteers can be found to run the scheme, equipment and training would be provided. Cllr Huggins said

she had been in contact with the Police and Christopher Cannon of the Road Safety and Traffic Management Team and Inspector Richard Hamlin from the Mole Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team were happy to address the next meeting of the Parish Council, or Neighbourhood Plan public meetings. It was suggested that they be invited to address the public meetings on 27th October at 7.30pm at Capel Village Hall and 29th October at Beare Green Village Hall at 7.30pm. After further discussion of the various ideas put forward it was suggested that contact be made with the Parish Councils in Newdigate, Ockley and Warnham for background information on how they organised and achieved the speed calming projects in their respective villages. Mr Garber said that Waitrose have a funding scheme for community projects and it was agreed that this be followed up by the Clerk once costs for implementation of a particular traffic calming scheme have been finalised.

7 POLICE MATTERS: PCs Sue Gargini and Claire Stubbs gave the latest crime figures. There has been a small rise in thefts, mainly making off without paying for petrol, and a small increase in burglaries from non-dwellings. It was suggested that more frequent and visible policing was necessary in all areas. If any resident needs help with improving the security of their property the Police are happy to come and give advice on an individual basis.

8 MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE: The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 7 September 2015 were agreed, adopted and signed.

9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS: To consider any planning applications received between 7 September and 21 September, there being only one during the period:

Application Ref: MO/2015/1461/PNJ Date: 7 Sept 2015

Case Officer: Mr David Webb

Ward: Beare Green PSH/Area: Capel

Applicant: Mr E Burley

Location: Burleys Corner, Moorhurst Lane, Beare Green, Dorking, Surrey RH5 4LJ

Proposal: Prior notification for conversion of offices (Use Class B1) into 1 No. dwelling (Use Class C3)

Councillors expressed some sympathy for this application but its operation and untidiness of the area should not be seen as a precedent for granting planning permission in this rural location. The change of use to a dwelling would be contrary to planning policy and it would set an unacceptable precedent for the future of this site if planning permission were to be granted. It was therefore recommended that the application be refused.

10 BROOK COTTAGE UPDATE: Mr Garber said he had received the design and access and planning statement and would be going through it to put his comments on it, after which it will be circulated to everyone. There is a public consultation and exhibition of the planning application, which will be lodged with MVDC shortly, on Saturday 31 October at Capel Village Hall from 10.30 to 12.30. Notice of this date is being placed in the October issues of Capel & Beare Green magazine and on noticeboards in the area.

11 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN: Further leaflets and information about the progress of the Neighbourhood Development Plan will be distributed shortly, by email, in village shops and noticeboards. There will be public meetings on Tuesday 27 October at 7.30 in Capel Village Hall, and on Thursday 29 October in Beare Green Village Hall at 7.30. The Coldharbour meeting will be held at the John Venus Hall on Wednesday 11 November at 7.30pm.

12 REFUGEES: The Diocese had approached Capel's Vicar asking if the Parish could do anything to help with the refugee crisis. After discussion of various suggestions it was agreed that information could be placed on the Parish Council's website letting the community know how they can help with donations or any other support. CALAID operate a collection point at the Christian Centre in Dorking currently. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you have any helpful suggestions to go on the website.

13 YOUTH HALL/PARISH HALL & OFFICE: The Report prepared by the Chairman and the Clerk confirming all details previously discussed during previous meetings was Agreed and Adopted unanimously. The loan application form and all accompanying papers were signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

14 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Finance:

(a) The minutes of the Finance Committee on 14 September 2015, including the document outlining reasons for differences in expenditure and budgeted items, were adopted and signed.

(b) The accounts detailing receipts and expenditure for August/September were adopted and signed.

Ward Matters:

(i) **Beare Green:** The first session of Heartstart training is booked to take place on Saturday 26 September at 2pm. Advance bookings need to be made with Cllr M Watson. First aid training sessions (including Heartstart) are being organised at Capel Village Hall and at John Venus Hall in Coldharbour. Mr Cox said the resurfacing of Newdigate Road was very good, although it had encouraged speeding after 10pm, but unfortunately the bridge had not been done. Mr Ball said the culprits were known and had been reported to the police. There was a discussion about a lorry which had been parked in the car park for some time taking the place of 4 cars, the owner of the business was known and would be contacted by the Chairman.

(ii) **Capel:** A request had been received to use the old Bowls Club building for storage of Show display and exhibition equipment. As the building is not currently in use, it was agreed that the building may be used for temporary storage of Show equipment. Mrs Dale said the bridleway at the brickworks had been closed off by Ben Turner at the request of someone from Surrey CC but it does not correspond with what should have been done according to the notice. They seem to have shut the wrong part. Apparently the brickworks had asked for it to be shut off as they had problems with children getting into the quarry. Mr Garber said that was not a proper reason and he would deal with the matter.

(iii) **Coldharbour:** Mr McLachlan and Mr Garber will be attending a meeting at SCC on 23 September to remind them that the East Surrey Water objection is still outstanding and other matters. Mr McLachlan reported several improvements to the area around the Plough. The telephone box will be renovated and used to house a defibrillator.

(iv) **Parish and Highways Maintenance:** The Clerk said that MVDC had indicated at a meeting the previous week that the Parish should not be spending money on employing its own contractors to cut verges which presented a danger to drivers and

pedestrians because the rural cut should all be done by their regular contractors. The Parish has therefore been asked to write to MVDC with a list of expenditure so far and also to let them know all the areas which should have been cut but have been missed.

- 15 CORRESPONDENCE:** The Chairman asked Councillors to please let the Clerk know if they would be responding to the emailed correspondence sent to them from time to time. There was a brief discussion about several emails received recently. It was agreed that Mrs Ford and Mr Cox be the delegates to the SSALC AGM and Joint SCC Conference on 15 October. The Clerk was asked to write to SSALC to ask if questions may be submitted in advance. A very helpful and positive reply had been received from the Department for Communities and Local Government in reply to Mr Garber's letter raising several queries on the planning application process and it was suggested that copies be sent to neighbouring parishes.
- 16 URGENT MATTERS:** There were no urgent matters at the discretion of the Chairman for note or inclusion on a future agenda.

The next meeting of the Full Parish Council is on Monday 19 October 2015. The next meeting of the Planning Committee is on Monday 5 October. Both meetings start at 7.30pm and will be held in the Chapel Committee Room.