

**MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 16 OCTOBER 2023
AT CAPEL PARISH HALL**

1. PARISH COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Dale, Mr Ball, Mrs Schryver, Mr Salter, Mr Cox, Mr Ashwood, Mrs Watson, Mrs Taylor and the Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE: Surrey County Councillor Helyn Clack, Mr Peter Barclay, Mr Kevin Shopland (part), District Councillors Rosemary Hobbs and Alcia Farrar-Astrop and 36 members of the public.

The Chair addressed the meeting, advising that the matter of the Gatwick Airport Expansion Consultation would be discussed before the Full Parish Council meeting began.

Both Surrey County Councillor Clack and Mr Peter Barclay Chairman of GACC were welcomed to the meeting and thanked for giving up their time to discuss the Gatwick Airport Expansion project.

Surrey County Councillor Helyn Clack is Councillor for Dorking Rural Villages and suggested that these areas would be most affected by any expansion development by Gatwick Airport. The rural area would be affected by the increase in flight take-off noise and pollution. There would also be a significant increase in traffic on the rural roads and lanes. As there is no recommendation for a reduction in night flights, these roads will be used much more at night and furthermore they have no pavements or street lighting. The expansion plan does not include any funding toward the upkeep of rural roads and there should be some process in place if the plan is approved. It was mentioned that business tax would only benefit West Sussex or Crawley but not Surrey.

Surrey County Council Clack urged residents to make their own views known by registering online and submitting their comments.

Peter Barclay, Chairman of GACC, (Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign,) addressed the meeting. Mr Barclay had recently addressed a Capel Parish Council Planning Committee meeting. He explained that GACC seeks to protect and improve the environment in the area affected by Gatwick Airport's operations from noise, congestion, air quality and light pollution.

The current planning application relates to the Northern Runway, which is currently limited to acting as a taxiway, only available when the Main Runway is out of use. The planning application proposes repositioning the centre line of the Northern Runway 12 metres north to allow dual runway operations, aligning with international safety standards.

London Gatwick's application to bring its Northern Runway into routine use, alongside its Main Runway, was accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate on 3 August 2023.

GACC was currently objecting to this decision.

Mr Barclay outlined the benefits being promoted by London Gatwick such as economic and employment growth. GACC argued against these claims, alleging that in the last 20 years, jobs at London Gatwick have decreased whilst the number of passengers has increased. The decrease in employment is largely due to automation.

The increase in passenger numbers would undoubtedly increase the volume of traffic on rural roads, and also increase the number of support vehicles. This would certainly bring significant congestion onto rural roads, increase wear and tear and carbon emissions.

Mr Barclay said that there would also be a need for extra car parking spaces, the expansion of airport terminals and the compulsory purchase of land to accommodate construction vehicles, flood plains and road access.

Members of the public have until 29 October 2023 to make their views on the airport's growth plans known to the Planning Inspectorate.

By doing so, people will be able to provide a summary of their views on the airport's application by submitting a 'Relevant Representation' to become an 'Interested Party'.

The Chair thanks both speakers for their informative speeches and reminded those present that information on how to register views could be found online at

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/gatwick-airport-northern-runway/>

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Parish Councillor Mr McLachlan. District Councillors Lesley Bushnell, Clayton Wellman, Clare Malcomson, Jo Loach. Surrey County Councillor Hazel Watson.

2 TO APPROVE THE ACCURACY OF MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

The minutes were regarded as a true record of the meeting. All Councillors voted in favour of accepting the records and the minutes were signed by the Chair.

3 TO APPROVE THE ACCURACY OF MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING 02 OCTOBER 2023

The minutes were regarded as a true record of the meeting. All Councillors voted in favour of accepting the records and the minutes were signed by the Chair.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Mr Ball confirmed an interest in Agenda Item (12)

5 CLERK'S REPORT:

- Oakford Homes have now had an initial meeting with the Case Officer who currently has no view on likely recommendation. Currently her focus is to ensure that any outstanding comments or requests from statutory consultees are resolved before undertaking her own assessment of the Very Special Circumstances test. The key message is that the application is still at a relatively early stage in the decision-making process.¹
- A meeting has been arranged to meet with The Denton Group, developers of land at Redlands. The meeting is due to take place at midday Wednesday 18 October 2023.
- The owners of McAllisters Estates have asked if the Parish Council would allow them to take down the leylandii growing along the right-hand side of the entrance to the estate. They are in a very poor condition. This area has recently been attracting fly tipping. McAllisters would like to take out the trees and replace with a fence similar to that at the entrance to Rickwood Park.²
- A company has been commissioned to look at the internal condition of the drain outside 2 and 4 The Street. These properties have been flooded in recent years. The Parish Council has agreed to pay for this initial work.
- Mole Valley District Council has contacted BT recommending the removal of the telephone box at The Street, Capel. They are also supporting the Parish Council's intention to adopt the telephone box.³

6 UPDATE BOUNDARY ISSUES ARK COTTAGE, HORSHAM ROAD, BEARE GREEN:

All Councillors were satisfied that a true assessment of the land had been undertaken and are willing to accept the proposal of a one-off payment of £5,000. To complete the agreement, the following conditions must be settled -

- The fence around the land will be removed and replaced with a hedge. The upkeep of this hedge will be the responsibility of owners of Ark Cottage.
- As this is Common Land, an opening must be left in the hedge (gated if necessary) to allow public access.
- No construction is to take place on this land.
- The terms of this agreement must be included on the Land Registry, to ensure that any future purchaser is aware of the conditions.
- All reasonable legal fees relating to this agreement will be paid by owners of Ark Cottage.

¹Mole Valley has now refused this application.

² All Councillors have agreed that the trees can be removed, and a fence installed.

³ An application has been made for Grant funding toward the cost of a defibrillator.

A letter with these terms and conditions will be forwarded to the owners of Ark Cottage for their consideration.

**7. UPDATE PLANNING APPLICATION MO/2023/0988 –
Breakspear Farm, Old Horsham Road, Beare Green.**

Please refer to the information in Clerk's Report (Agenda Item 5(i)).

**8. UPDATE PLANNING APPLICATION MO/2023/0418 –
Hurst, Vicarage Lane, Capel**

Mr Kevin Shopland addressed the meeting, commenting that the application had recently been refused by Mole Valley. A meeting had been held with the Case Officer and the planning application now needed to be redesigned including a reduction in the number of units, changing the access and two properties being repositioned. The developers were now entering into a pre-app situation, and it was hoped the application would be ready to be re-registered by Christmas.

9. UPDATE TEMPLE LANE, CAPEL:

The Parish Council had received communication from Englehart's Solicitor advising that the Parish Council was not the named keeper on the Land Registry information. A copy of the title register for land at Beare Green, Misbrooks Green, Seaman's Green, part of Holmwood Corner and Bennett's Green and land forming roadside strips, Capel, Dorking (Freehold) Title number: SY76777 which provides information of the freehold and approved easements will be re-sent to the solicitor for their consideration. Surrey County Council has also been contacted asking for confirmation of the information they had supplied to Englehart's as there appears to be some ambiguity regarding verges.

10. UPDATE INSTALLATION OF FULL FIBRE BROADBAND IN PARISH HALL:

Mr Ball addressed the Parish Council regarding the installation of full fibre into the Sports Pavilion. The Cricket Club are in favour of this installation, and it would be possible to extend the broadband to the Parish Hall and the Memorial Hall. The cost of the connection would be shared. Once the full fibre connection is installed there will be Wi-Fi links onto the recreation ground for easy access on Capel Show Day.

11. BEARE GREEN PAVILION - FINANCE MATTERS:

Mr Cox and the Clerk met with Chris Anderson and Dot Thorpe to discuss the financial issues around the Beare Green pavilion. Chris represents the football club and Dot the stool ball club.

There is an historic agreement that the Parish Council undertakes repairs to the outside of the pavilion and the clubs the interior. As the pavilion is now in need of re-painting, the Parish Council will cover the cost of the wood preserver and the football club will ask for volunteers to undertake the painting.

The pavilion committee has collected subscriptions from both Clubs with a significant contribution having been received from the COVID grant system. The Parish Council was advised that all finances should be handled by the Parish Council and in May 2023 an amount of £4,651.70 was transferred to the Parish Council's current account. Since May 2023 the PC has paid out a total of £407.62 to EDF Energy.

As the Parish Council is receiving no further financial contributions from either club, it has been suggested that utility costs should be covered by the clubs. Stoolball have agreed to pay the costs for May, June and July and part of August. The football club will pay the remaining months. The Parish Council will advise the clubs when invoices are received, and reimbursements will be made directly into the Parish Council account. In the meantime, the showers and the toilets in the pavilion have been refurbished. The football club asked if the Parish Council would make a contribution to the total cost. The club was advised that they should apply to the Parish Council for a grant. The Grant Application has now been received and the application will be put before the November Finance Committee meeting for consideration.

The Councillors suggested that solar panels might be possible to reduce utility payments. The Clerk will make enquiries as it was advised a grant for their installation might be available.

12. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS:

(a) Finance

Mr Salter addressed the meeting suggesting the budget was currently on track. The Council was in month 7 and just over half the budget had been spent. This was partly due to a reduction in Legal Fees, costs incurred challenging the Mole Valley Local Plan and no Community Projects being approved.

(i) To agree and approve accounts to 16 October 2023:

The request to NS&I to transfer £50,000 into the Business Reserve Account has not yet been actioned. The current account balance on 16 October 2023 was £10,011.02, Business Reserve Account £50,041.71 and NS&I account £50,353.31. The Clerk advised that £1,000 would be transferred from the Business Reserve Account into the Current Account to ensure there were sufficient funds to cover the current invoices and the PWLB direct debit payment of 2,712.54 in early November. Currently there is £3,682.45 VAT to be reclaimed.

(ii) To approve and authorise payments of outstanding invoices:

| Expenditure | | VAT | TOTAL |
|--|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Lindsay Quirk – Hall cleaning | £45.00 | | £45.00 |
| Surrey Sports and Turf Invoice 3344 | £1,554.00 | £310.80 | £1,864.80 |
| The Image Company – Advertising 1 st GACC meeting | £115.00 | £23.00 | £138.00 |
| The Image Company – Advertising 2 nd GACC meeting | £406.00 | £81.20 | £487.20 |
| J Russell Reimbursement postage | £16.00 | | £16.00 |
| EDF Energy – Beare Green pavilion (paid) | £107.46 | £5.65 | £113.11 |
| SES Water Beare Green pavilion | £89.92 | | £89.92 |
| SES Water Bowls Club | £0.57 | | £0.57 |
| SES Water Allotments | £209.12 | | £209.12 |
| J Russell September salary | £2,594.80 | | £2,954.80 |
| HMRC Clerk’s Income Tax | £648.80 | | £648.80 |
| Temple Lane Allotments Grant | £1,600.00 | | £1,600.00 |
| Helpdesq Invoice 14565 | £51.03 | £10.21 | £61.24 |
| BT DD | £20.50 | £4.10 | £24.60 |
| OPUS Energy Gas DD | £17.78 | £0.93 | £18.78 |
| OPUS Energy Electricity DD | £50.88 | £2.56 | £533.55 |
| | £7,526.86 | £438.56 | 7,965.42 |

Although approved, payment to HAGS for playground repairs - **£501.30** continues to be withheld until all spares have been received.

(b) Ward Matters for discussion

Beare Green – (i) Mrs Watson mentioned that Police and Crime Commissioner Lisa Townsend, Chief Constable Tim De Meyer and the local Borough Commander would be hosting a **Policing Your Community** event in Beare Green Village Hall at 6:30pm on 26 October 2023 to discuss policing in the area. (ii) Several rural footpath signs need replacing or repositioning. The Clerk will contact the Surrey County Council Rights of Way Officer at the Countryside Access Team to have this corrected. (iii) The rural gateway sign at Beare Green is obscured and foliage needs to be cut back to rectify this.

Capel – (i) Mrs Schryver mentioned the quote to upgrade the path along Bennetts Green from the pond which is still outstanding. (ii) The speed matrix at the north of the village is not working and there have been reports of cars speeding into the village from this area. The Clerk will contact Surrey County Council Highways to ask if there can be permanent speed restrictions installed. It was suggested that there should be a speed limit of 20mph outside the school. (iii) Mrs Dale asked if Horse and Rider signs could be installed. The Street is often used by equestrians and there are no warning signs in the village.

Coldharbour – Nothing to report.

13 CORRESPONDENCES:

None

14 URGENT MATTERS AT DISCRETION OF CHAIRMAN FOR NOTE OF INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA:

The Councillors were informed that the field at Misbrooks Green had now been topped. Residents were reporting that mobile phone signals were not working as well as previously. It could be the masts are over-burdened. The Clerk will contact mobile phone providers to find out why.

Future Agenda items:

It was suggested that the Police Borough Commander be invited to the November meeting.

Dates of Next Meetings -

Planning Committee: Monday 6 November 2023

Finance Committee: Monday 6 November 2023 immediately after the Planning Committee meeting

Full Parish Council: Monday 20 November 2023 at Beare Green Village Hall