

Churt Parish Council

Clerk to the Council

Mrs Dawn Barrow

Minutes of the meeting of Churt Parish Council held on Wednesday 14 February 2024 at 7.30 pm.

Present

Churt Councillors: Lisa Martin, Julian Spence, Stephen Wright, Myra Johnson,
Stephen Morgan, Mike Shorthose, Dominic Raeside

Surrey County Council: 0
Waverley Borough Council: 0
Clerk to the Council: Dawn Barrow
Members of the Public: Richard Nobbs, Greg Stafford (Conservative candidate)

24/16 Chairman's Welcome

Cllr Martin welcomed all to the meeting and invited the guests to speak.

Richard Nobbs mentioned the delay in looking at the Farnborough Airport planning application. The statutory deadline will not be met. Hearing clashes with Rushmoor elections so now likely to be May. Some of the matters noted in our letter have been picked up by Rushmoor. Motion at the recent WBC meeting to formally oppose the application.

Cllr Johnson proposed a motion to formally thank Colin Shearn who recently lost his court case and had to pay hefty solicitor's costs. He now has a 2 year ASBO against him which will interfere with his ability to comment on the Farnborough Airport proposals.

Greg Stafford stated he was attending the meeting to listen in but had objected to both consultations ref Farnborough. He will continue to fight against Farnborough Airport extension plans if he gets elected. He hears a lot about the poor state of the roads and has raised this with the head of SCC.

24/17 Apologies for absence

Cllrs Harrison, S Shorthose (CPC), Harmer (SCC) and Munro (WBC). Cllr Raeside apologised for missing January's meeting.

24/18 Disclosure of Pecuniary and other Interests

Cllr Spence reminded the Parish Council that he sits on the WBC planning subcommittee and as such cannot comment on planning applications relating to Churt.

24/19 Minutes of the meeting of 17 January 2024

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2024 were **AGREED** by all. **Proposed** by Cllr Johnson, **seconded** by Cllr M Shorthose.

24/20 Report of the Clerk to the Council

- 1) George Woods has cut down overhanging branches near zebra crossing and pavement to school
- 2) George Woods has revarnished notice boards 1 Feb
- 3) Inconsiderate parking reported to our local PCSO
- 4) Clerk wrote to Gigaclear re missing spur of Parkhurst Fields
- 5) Online planning courses booked for Cllrs Johnson and Wright
- 6) Defib now looked after by British Heart Foundation 0300 330 3322

Cllr Wright mentioned how useful the online planning course he attended was.

24/21 Report from the Environment Committee (JS)

Cllr Spence mentioned the Big Bird Watch carried out in January. 9 million birds were identified over a 2 day period. Blue tits are the most common bird in our area. Surrey was the county with the most birds identified.

Cllrs Spence and Johnson to attend the SALC biodiversity workshop. Cllr Johnson mentioned the flood in Old Kiln Lane which had been reported to SCC They came out very quickly to try and identify the problem but it does lie in a dip.

24/22 Village centre (MS)

Cllr M Shorthose questioned what actually made up the village centre portfolio? Are we looking at strategic village issues? He mentioned he is happy to take on looking at where the village might be in 5/10 years' time. March agenda item.

24/09 Roads and Transport including road safety, 20 MPH survey and RoW (LM/MJ)

Cllr Martin reported a fantastic response to the 20MPH survey with 109 respondees. 75% of these supported a 20mph zone or 20mph area. Quite a spread in terms of area favoured. Quinnettes to Old Kiln Lane most popular. There were a further 60 anecdotal comments. Some wanted Jumps Road included whereas others saw mending the potholes as the most important issue. Mixed response regarding including local lanes.

Cllr Spence asked what were the stand out comments? Safety near the school and zebra crossing most often mentioned.

Cllr Martin **proposed** we respond to Thomas Lankaster supporting a 20MPH zone and attaching our survey. **Seconded** by Cllr Johnson, **all in agreement**. Survey also to be sent to SCC Vision Zero and to Jeremy Hunt MP.

RoWIP survey wants public and parish council specific responses. David Madgwick has input information regarding footpaths.

A few questions from the survey:

- 1) Should we have a public RoW officer? Not required as we have a roads and transport sub- committee covering such matters.
- 2) What costs are paid annually on maintenance? Clerk to provide costs ref Wicket Wood and scouts provide help in kind.
- 3) We should further promote our 10 Walks around Churt information.

Cllr Wright remarked that Hampshire have far more signs on their footpaths.

Cllr Martin said it is of vital importance we consider disability under Sec 5 of the survey and also to look at future 'linking' of footpaths. Connectivity an important issue. Also should there be a 20MPH zone where traffic meets a footpath? eg Jumps Road.

Bridleway 29 in Wicket Wood severely eroded as are Bridleways 40 near Borrowstone and 42 off Crosswater Lane. Fallen trees need to be removed from Bridleways 36 and 38. There are metal spokes sticking out of the ground on Bridleway 32. Neil Baker's report mentions upgrading some bridleways to cycleways but has no costings applied. Cllr Spence suggested we include a copy of the report in our RoW response but indicate that the CPC has not yet discussed and evaluated the report.

We will look at the various proposals again at the March meeting and note our support or otherwise before advising Thomas Lankaster.

24/24 Crime and Disorder

There has been a further theft of heavy machinery from Lindsey Clarks.

24/25 Financial Matters

24/25.1 Payments for authorisation - January 2024

January's accounts were **proposed** by Cllr M Shorthose, **Seconded** by Cllr Spence and **agreed** by all.

24/25.2 Budget Update and Income report - January 2024

Noted.

24/25.3 To note individual monthly costs in excess of £500

- 1) 19 Jan 2024- HMRC- £2604.38 Employer's tax and NI
- 2) 26 Jan 2024 - Clifton Ingram Solicitors - £974.40, fees relating to The Cottage
- 3) 26 Jan 2024 - Dawn Barrow - £1496.20, Clerk's Jan salary

24/25.4 £8000 transferred internally from deposit to current account 23 Jan.

24/26 -To note and comment on current planning applications

Report circulated in advance of meeting by Cllr Johnson.

Cllr Johnson mentioned very few applications this last month.

No objection to WA/2024/00092, Borrow House swimming pool but comments should request submission of the climate change and sustainability check list and some Biodiversity Net Gain to offset the additional carbon emissions. In a dark skies area.

Decisions: WA/2023/02363 Ashby House, Star Hill, originally their planning consent included a condition to demolish a utility room, WBC have now agreed to grant retention of the utility room.

WA/2023/01326 Old Vicarage, Old Kiln Lane, Certificate of Lawfulness application withdrawn by applicants.

Cllr Johnson attended the Future of Planning course via SALC.

24/27 Farnborough

See Minute 24/16 above.

Cllr Johnson **proposed** a vote of thanks to Colin Shearn for his immense support to Churt in understanding and responding to Farnborough Airport flightpath changes and the expansion planning application, as well as other environmental issues. **Seconded** by Cllr Spence and **agreed** by all. Clerk to send a formal letter of thanks.

24/28 Gigaclear (MJ)

Cllr Johnson has canvassed Hale House Close and Old Kiln Close and Cllr Morgan has canvassed Redhearn Fields. How can we extend service to include these areas and the pavilion which are all part of Churt's settlement area.?

Gigaclear have costed out 3 options. Option 3 most favourable but relies on wayleaves from Mark Allen, the Johnsons and the Charity Commission. Some pruning of hedgerows will be required if using existing infrastructure. Cllr Johnson **proposed** that approval be given to sanction the Option 3 network proposal and authority for the Parish Clerk to sign the necessary wayleave/easement documents relating to the areas within the Churt Recreation Ground Trust deeds, subject to appropriate scrutiny of documents prior to signature and advice being given to the Charity Commission. The motion was **seconded** by Cllr Martin, **all in favour bar abstention**

from Cllr Raeside. He asked if the church and Redhearn Green are included? Currently not due to cost but the church is covered by The Vicarage and Stables being in scope..

Cllr M Shorthose commented that Gigaclear are providing those who already have connectivity with better connectivity. When phone lines were originally installed everyone had to be linked.

This is now not the case especially in rural areas.

Cllr Wright said that East Hants were using their Infrastructure Fund to put in fibre optic cabling.

Cllr M Shorthose will look into how we can deal with the gaps in provision.

24/29 Triennial tree survey

Clerk will get 3 to 4 quotes and Cllr Raeside will then take forward.

24/30 Website update

Require new photos and bios from Cllrs M Shorthose, Harrison and Wright.

Cllr Morgan has asked councillors what they think of our website compared to others.

Other matters

Cllr M Shorthose to take on Economic Development Survey from WBC, large document already sent to councillors. Includes matters such as infrastructure and connectivity. Current lack of treatment of roads, housing and education.

Response due by 8 March, councillors to send responses to Cllr M Shorthose and he will collate. Churt started a 5 year plan/vision statement in 2020 but it got shelved.

There being no other business the meeting of the Churt Parish Council closed at 9.05pm . There then followed a meeting of the Churt Recreation Ground Trust (See separate Minutes).

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Signed:

Date:

Chairman

The next meetings of the Churt Parish Council and Churt Recreation Ground Trust will be held on **Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 7.30pm in the Churt pavilion.**