



Minutes of the Meeting of Bramley Parish Council

Held at Bramley Village Hall on 21st March 2024, starting at 18:00

PARTICIPANTS

Messrs P Leung (chairman), B Stern (vice-chairman), T Coleman, M Vivian, F Stern, J Austin. D Ersser, the Clerk, WBC Cllr Michael Goodridge and SCC Cllr Kevin Deanus were also present. Two members of the public attended.

031/24 **To receive apologies for absence**

Councillors Colin Marshall, Nick Gravenell and Troy Saunders sent their apologies.

032/24 **Declarations of interest**

None

033/24 **Minutes of the meeting 15th February, 2024**

Minutes of the meeting of 15th February 2024, were agreed as a true record. These were signed by the chairman.

034/24 **Matters arising from minutes of the meeting of 15th February 2024**

None

035/24 **Correspondence**

Members noted the correspondence report circulated by the Clerk.

036/24 **Waverley and Surrey County Councillors Update**

Waverley Borough Councillor Update from Cllr Goodridge

The WBC budget has been agreed, an increase of 2.99% went through unopposed as did the 7.7% increase in council house rents. An increase of an average of 15% in car parking charges also went through despite opposition. There was also an increase to evening parking charges to £2. Council house charges have been increased as well, although there is an increase in the budget for the most vulnerable.

Cllr Goodridge also stated that problems with Guildford Borough Council have escalated with two strategic directors not working but being paid while the investigation into the housing department is being carried out. This is being funded by GBC and WBC.

Bramley matters

Fuel Leak Update

The work continues at the fuel station with the re-opening date extending to 12 weeks. They are currently waiting for a permit from Thames Water to continue the work, Cllr Austin is chasing Thames Water.

Cllr Austin also stated that Thames Water are working again at Gosden Common to unblock the rising water drain a job they thought they had completed last year.



Surrey County Councillor update from Cllr Deanus

Cllr Deanus advised that all the work has been carried out to install the average speed check cameras in the village, apart from the installation of the pillars on which to mount the cameras due to the problem already advised of cables and pipes being too close to the surface to allow the pillars to be installed deep enough into the ground for safety reasons. The Council are exploring other options but unfortunately this is proving difficult, hence the delay.

Cllr Deanus also asked for other funding requests following the rejection of the funding for a new boiler in the Village Hall due to it not complying with the Council's green policy.

SCC's budget is almost complete there been a 4 million pound overspend which is negligible in the context of an overall budget of 1.4 billion pounds and this will probably be met from reserves.

There was a discussion about recent road works affecting the A281 in the village.

Cllr Deanus explained that last weeks' works lights had been left after completion because the tarmac had to set. The irritating noise from degraded drain in the centre of the village is a BT responsibility apparently. Cllr Deanus advised that SCC can encourage the utilities to work together but they can't be forced to do so.

037/24 Committee actions:

Planning Review Committee

The Singh Concrete appeal was dismissed.

Azalea Birtley Road have reapplied for retrospective planning permission for a 1.8m high fence.

The joint parishes have written to Ms Upton Brown to arrange a meeting to discuss the unauthorised expansions of GTR sites beyond Lydia Park and various other sites in the area. There are multiple applications which are at the appeal stage and which are pending the inspector's inquiry which was hoped to be scheduled for June/July but now looks more likely to be in November.

Cllr F Stern asked for another Councillor to assist her with planning.

Highways committee

Nothing to report further to Cllr Deanus' update on the average speed camera.

Estate Manager Report

Cllr Gravenell met Joe O'Connell from the Bramley Village Society to discuss work that needs doing in the Parish.

Resilience

Cllr C Marshall is currently reviewing the BPC Risk Assessment.

038/24 Parish updates and actions

- a. Pavilion and environs (including Gosden Common, Links Road)



Thames Water working at Gosden Common as reported by Cllr Austin

- b. Station Road and environs (including Hall Road, Eastwood, Barton Road, Linersh Wood)
Eastwood Road Playground – Cllr Marshall and Cllr Austin met to discuss setting up a charity to fundraise for new playground equipment. Cllr Marshall is currently in the process of setting up the charity. Cllr Austin to convene another meeting of interested parties to progress once this is done.

- c. High Street and environs (including Windrush Close, Old Rectory Close, Snowdenham Links Road and Lane)
The reopening of The Wheatsheaf Pub was delayed due to the discovery of asbestos on the property. It is now due to reopen on 22nd March.
Cllr Austin has been assisting The Jolly Farmer in getting legal advice re their claim for loss of business due to the fuel leak in the village.

- d. Grounds and Downs link – Nothing to report

- e. Rural Parish (including Thorncombe Street, Birtley Green, Grafham and South)
There was a very constructive and well attended meeting between the police and local farmers and landowners re rural crime. As a result of local residents reporting suspicious activities in the Parish arrests are up, cars and property have been seized. A great team effort between the police and the local community.

Public Session

A resident from Slade's Farm attended and advised the Councillors that their garden would soon be open to the public as part of the National Garden scheme. He also brought to their attention his planning application which will be submitted in the next 2 weeks. He was advised that Councillors can't comment on applications prior to them being submitted.

A Bramley resident asked 3 questions

1. Did the Councillors know where the local banking hub, referred to in an election flyer, was. Cllr Austin said the closest one in the borough was Haslemere.
2. He asked if the redevelopment of the Stone Barn was going ahead. The Cllrs advised that it had been put on hold due to Covid and was currently rented out for storage.
3. The resident asked why the precept had gone up 23.4% this year and over 100% over the last 5 years. The Cllrs asked him to email the Clerk with his concerns in order that a full explanation could be provided.



- a. Payments listed at Appendix B (circulated) Members agreed payments between 8th February and 11th March 2024, to the value of £4,801.78.
- b. Councillors approved the RFO's request to open a separate bank account for the CIL funds and other earmarked funds.
- c. The Councillors unanimously approved the Financial Regulations circulated by the RFO.

040/24 Points of information and any other matters

The Clerk reminded the Councillors that the Bramley Village Showcase event is on Tuesday 26th March at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Cllr F Stern advised that the client terms of engagement letter has been received from the solicitor re the purchase of the bowling club. It was agreed that the chairman and vice chairman should sign it.

The meeting closed at 19:10

Agreed and signed Chairman, April 18th 2024



The meeting closed at 19:02

Agreed and signed Chairman, March 21st, 2024