



Minutes of the remote* Council meeting (no.231) held on 8th March 2021

Councillors (Cllrs) present:

Celia Rudland (Chair), John Cheetham,
David Lee and John Moffatt

Attending:

District Cllr Jeffrey Gray

In attendance:

Simon Bold (Clerk)

Meeting opened at 7:45pm and closed at 9:05pm

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

NOTED:

- Cllrs Fatima Kamara and Chirag Vadhia had provided their apologies prior to the meeting.
- Jamshid Zack had resigned from the Council since the last meeting (see also item 10).

2. CODE OF MEMBERS' CONDUCT

NOTED:

- Cllr Lee confirmed his additional roles as a Cllr at Tandridge District Council (TDC) and Surrey County Council (SCC).
- No other Cllr declared any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and/or 'Other Interests' in respect of any item on the agenda.
- Cllr Moffatt reminded Cllrs of his particular interest, as a resident of Torwood Lane, in application 2021/132 under item 8a (below).

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

- That the Chair sign the minutes of the meeting of 8th February 2021 as a correct record.

ACTION:

- The Clerk to display the minutes on the Council's notice boards and website.

SB

4. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT ON SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

County Cllr Lee provided a brief summary of activity which included confirmation that the Local Area Committee had approved expenditure for a pedestrian crossing point on the Godstone Road between the centre of Whyteleafe and Whyteleafe South Railway Station - the design phase was scheduled to commence in financial year 2022/23.

5. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

District Cllr Gray reported on various subjects including the TDC Community Services Committee. At the Committee's next meeting, the future use of some TDC managed tennis courts were scheduled to be discussed.

ACTION:

- The Clerk to write to TDC seeking a consultation with the Village Council and others before any final decision is taken in respect of the tennis courts at Whyteleafe Recreation Ground.

SB

6. BUSINESS PLAN

The Clerk advised that TDC had indicated a willingness to jointly fund the refurbishment of the trim trail in Whyteleafe Recreation Ground.

RESOLVED:

- To commit £5,000 of Community Infrastructure Levy funds and £5,000 from

earmarked reserves (ref: 'Recreation Spaces') towards the improvement of the trim trail at Whyteleafe Recreation Ground, Whyteleafe

ACTION:

- The Clerk to arrange the transfer of funds to TDC.

SB

NOTED:

- The Clerk confirmed that TDC intended to install new roadside litter bins throughout the centre of Whyteleafe by the end of March 2021. The second phase of replacement bins – in the north and south of Whyteleafe and funded by the Village Council - was due to be implemented by the end of April.
- The Clerk advised that ground water levels had dropped slightly as a consequence of both drier weather and the start of water flowing along the Caterham Bourne through Whyteleafe. The Environment Agency would continue to monitor the situation and keep other agencies and authorities updated.
- The Clerk confirmed that an 'outreach' letter had been sent to a small number of local organisations in Whyteleafe with the aim of establishing a network of community groups. Cllrs felt that there was also a benefit in reaching-out to local community groups and charitable organisations based outside of Whyteleafe as many provided support and services to residents in Whyteleafe.

7. TRANSPORT AND SURREY HIGHWAYS

ACTIONS:

- Cllrs Moffatt and Rudland to review the contractual arrangements that exist between other Parishes and a local farmer to see if these could be utilised by the Village Council for the gritting of some roads in Whyteleafe (should the need arise). If viable, Cllrs to then consider, at a future meeting, whether or not to make a financial contribution, in conjunction with other Parish Councils, towards the purchase of a tractor-mounted gritter.
In the meantime, Cllrs to nominate roads in Whyteleafe that might benefit from gritting in the event of sudden heavy snow or prolonged spells of laying snow/ice.
- Cllrs to report any pot-holes on local roads directly to SCC using the County Council website.

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8. PLANNING

a) RESOLVED:

- See Appendix 2 – Planning Application Cases.

ACTION:

- The Clerk to advise TDC of the Council's resolutions in respect of Appendix 2.

SB

b) NOTED:

- TDC had refused planning application 2020/1434 Edgehill, Succombs Hill at its Planning Committee meeting of 4th March. Many local residents and the Village Council had objected – it was also noticed that TDC's previous refusal in respect of the same site 2019/1455 had gone to appeal.
- TDC's refusal in respect of 2019/1988 38 Court Farm Road had gone to appeal.
- That the developer in respect of 2020/752, 2020/1485 and 2020/2015 Torwood Farm, Torwood Lane had appealed all of TDC's decisions to refuse development.

9. CATERHAM, CHALDON AND WHYTELEAFE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Moffatt confirmed that a publicity campaign to promote the Neighbourhood Plan referendum, scheduled for 6 May 2021, had been organised by members of the Plan's Steering Group. Cllrs agreed to help publicise the referendum and the Clerk confirmed that funds were available, if required, from the Council's budget.

10. CASUAL VACANCY

The Clerk set out the statutory position with respect to the resignation of a Cllr within

six months of a full election.

RESOLVED:

- Not to attempt to co-opt a new Cllr as there was no statutory requirement with only two months before a full election.

ACTION:

- The Clerk to advise TDC of this decision.

SB

11. OUTSIDE BODIES AND EVENTS (PUBLIC)

AGREED:

- Not to schedule any litter picks until the government announces the re-introduction of the 'Rule-of-Six' social distancing arrangements (scheduled to be no earlier than 29th March).

NOTED:

- The London Green Belt Council's AGM on 23 March 2021 (via zoom).

12. CLERK'S REPORT

a) No (other) items relating to earlier meetings were raised.

b) NOTED:

- TDC had provided a briefing on a new Members' Code of Conduct. The Clerk advised that if TDC agree new terms that it is highly likely that Parish and Village Councils in Tandridge will be asked to adopt the same Code. He added that, in principle, the National Association of Local Councils would support this course of action.

ACTION:

- Cllrs to monitor messages received from the CCLA (the provider of the Council's Public Sector Deposit Fund) in respect of their response to any future lowering of bank interest rates.

ALL

13. PAYMENTS AND EXPENDITURE

RESOLVED:

- To approve the list of payments (see Appendix 1: Schedule of Payments) circulated prior to the meeting with the addition of £10,000 payable to TDC in respect of the decision to part-fund the refurbishment of the trim trail in Whyteleafe Recreation Ground (see item 6).

ACTION:

- The Clerk to dispense these payments.

SB

14. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

NOTED:

- The next scheduled meeting of the Council to be held on 12th April 2021.

SUB-SECTION 2 - PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960:

None.

Appendix 1: Schedule of Payments

| Chq No. | Payee | Amount £ | Comments |
|----------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---|
| 044 | A Siddall | 60.00 | Community garden maintenance in February 2021. |
| 045 | Simon Bold | ** | Clerk's salary in February 2021 |
| 046 | Simon Bold | 97.62 | Reimbursement of costs incurred in February 2021 |
| 047 | Surrey Pension Fund | 268.16 | Clerk's Pension - employee and employer contributions for February 2021 |
| 048 | Tandridge District Council | 284.40 | Additional street cleaning. |
| 049 | Tandridge District Council | £10,000.00 | Match-funding contribution to trim trail equipment at Whyteleafe Recreation Ground. |
| | TOTAL | £11,689.80 | |

APPENDIX 2: PLANNING APPLICATION CASES

| Application Number | Address | Village Council resolution | PS Type |
|------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|
| 2021/296 | 12 Whyteleafe Hill, Whyteleafe, CR3 0AA | No objection | Householder Developments |
| Proposal | Erection of single storey side and rear extension, porch extension, roof alteration, floor plan redesign and all associated works. | | |
| TDC Decision | Not yet determined | | |
| 2021/261/TPO | Southview, 5 Southview Road, Warlingham, CR6 9FD | No comment | TPO |
| Proposal | Sycamore - T1 - No works required. Sycamore - T2 - Remove all deadwood with diameter > 5cm from crown and conduct an approximate 30% crown reduction (reduce by around 3 metres to leave an approximately 17 metre high tree). Sycamore - T3 - Removal to ground level. Decay in root system. Stem failure foreseeable. Overall risk rating is high. No room to replant due to high volume of trees. Willow - (Not part of Tree Assessment Report). Located in the south, middle of the property in the rear garden - 30% crown reduction (reduce by about 3 metres to leave an approximate 15 metre high tree). | | |
| TDC Decision | Not yet determined | | |
| 2021/132 | Torwood Farm, Torwood Lane, Whyteleafe, CR3 0HD | Objection based on Green Belt land, inappropriate development, harm to landscape and contrary to emerging Neighbourhood Plan. | Dwellings |
| Proposal | Erection of 2 x detached dwellings with hardstanding and landscaping alterations. | | |
| TDC Decision | Not yet determined | | |
| 2021/114 | 164 Godstone Road, Whyteleafe, CR3 0ED | Cllrs raised a concern about the lack of designated on-site parking for a property of multiple occupation (e.g. five adults) | Certificate of Lawfulness |
| Proposal | Change of use from a dwelling/house (class C3) to a house in multiple occupation (Class C4) for five occupants (Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed Use or Development). | | |
| TDC Decision | Not yet determined | | |

| Application Number | Address | Village Council resolution | PS Type |
|-----------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| 2021/111/NH | St Lukes Court, 2 Whyteleafe Hill, Whyteleafe, CR3 0FJ | Cllrs objected due to over-development, harm to the amenity of existing occupants and neighbours, a lack of designated on-site parking and overall height, bulk and overshadowing. | Construction of additional storeys |
| Proposal | Erection of single storey upwards extension over the main roof of an existing block of flats to create 2x2 bedroom flats. (Notification of enlargement of a detached block of flats by construction of additional storeys under Schedule 2 Part 20, Class A). | | |
| TDC Decision | Not yet determined | | |
| 2021/58 | 249 Godstone Road, Whyteleafe, CR3 0EN | Cllrs raised whether car-parking at this location could be changed in order to improve amenity for residents of Bournefield Road. | All other Developments |
| Proposal | Change of use of existing office (B1) to a self-contained 1 bed flat (C3), including alterations to the windows on the front ground floor elevation and a small infill extension to the existing front door. | | |
| TDC Decision | Not yet determined | | |

Notes:

TDC is the Local Planning Authority

*Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus)(Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings)(England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

** Payments relating to salary have been redacted and form part of a confidential record in accordance with Financial Regulation 7.4.