

Churt Parish Council

Clerk to the Council
Mrs Dawn Barrow

Minutes of the meeting of Churt Parish Council held on Wednesday 16 March 2022 at 7.30 pm.

Present

Churt Councillors: Lisa Martin (Acting Chair), Myra Johnson, Eunice Burch, Julian Spence (co-opted as new councillor, agenda item 22/35)

Surrey County Council: 1 - Cllr Harmer

Waverley Borough Council: 0

Clerk to the Council: Dawn Barrow

Members of the Public: 3 (Michael de Courcy, Gary Russell- Mulberry Homes, Julian Spence)

22/25 Acting Chairman's welcome

Cllr Martin welcomed all to the meeting. The Clerk presented David Crossley's posthumous Freedom of the Parish certificate to Ann Crossley and family.

Cllr Martin invited the guests from Mulberry Homes to give their presentation re Borrow House Farm.

The initial outline planning application was submitted to the planning inspectorate in Aug 2019 in which residential buildings replaced the current commercial ones. The application included 3 new homes plus a large extension to Borrow House Cottage. The developers held a pre application discussion meeting with WBC. The proposed layouts of the 3 dwellings are all different in terms of design and basement space. The revised application now goes into the paddock area which will be a sewage outlet. There is a perceived risk of phosphates leaking into the ground. Cllr Harmer asked if meters are required to ensure the treatment plant is working?

Most objections to the application relate to site access although the site currently has existing lawful use for commercial purposes.

The internal road needs revising as it is currently shown crossing part of Borrow House's land, the developers are aware of this encroachment. No one knows who actually owns the access road. The land either side is in private ownership so there is no ability to widen the access. Cllr Harmer will look into who owns the access road.

Mulberry Homes wish to take down some coniferous trees and replace them. 2 trees need to be taken down at plot 1, apparently not healthy specimens. Mulberry Homes wish to enhance biodiversity at the site.

If the sewage plant fails it will mean tankers need to come onto the site. Awaiting comment from Natural England.

Although the houses are large, apparently there is a 23% reduction in proposed developed land and a 20% reduction in footprint of the buildings. Rooves are green to blend in. 2 plots are sold already, one to an energy consultant.

Cllr Harmer reported that Cabinet has taken away the Borough and District's powers relating to highways. Each member will now be able to allocate a chunk of money and decide what will be done but this must go before full council.

Cllr Harmer believes local committees cracked the problem of the strained relations between Districts and County. Local knowledge is key and local committees served as a safety valve for the public as people were able to ask questions and present petitions.

There is a 5% increase in Council tax. 2% over the last 3 years for adult social care. Proposing 1% increase in general running costs, 1% to support mental health and 3% on adult social care.

John Baker is now in charge of rights of way and Patrick Giles responsible for roads.

Cllr Martin introduced Julian Spence who had shown an interest in becoming a councillor. He was brought up on Frensham, then moved to London for a few years and has lived in Star Hill Drive, Churt since 1998. He was the chief risk officer for an insurance company and stood against David Harmer in the last local election. Keen on walking, cycling and environmental matters.

22/26 Apologies for absence

Apologies were given from Cllrs Petty, Law, Rowe, Shorthose and Raeside (CPC) and Potts (WBC)

22/27 Disclosure of Pecuniary and other Interests

None

22/28 Minutes of the meeting of 23 February 2022

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2022 were **AGREED** by all. **Proposed** by Cllr Johnson, **seconded** by Cllr Burch.

22/29 Report of the Clerk to the Council

- 1) £2000 received as legacy from Victoria Lindsay's Will
- 2) Roger Rowe met Grasstex ref. quote for additional protector on Redhearn Green of £1680.80 + VAT
- 3) Cllr Raeside to fix plaque to Prince Philip bench on Redhearn Green

22/30.1 Community and Environment

22/30.1.1 Report from Environment Working Group (MJ)

The tree safety work has been completed at Wicket Wood with the wood left to serve as a beetle habitat. The trees from SCC have all been planted with help from the school children. Footpaths are currently very muddy but likely to dry out soon. February's Churt News in Nature has been published, March's almost complete. Money left from WBC's Welcome Back Fund to be used to buy 2 benches and owl and bat boxes.

22/30.1.2 Village centre portfolio (RR)

Nothing to report.

22/30.1.3 Crime and Disorder (DR)

Nothing to report.

22/30.2 Roads and Transport

22/30.2.1 Jumps Road Parking and Sculpture Park (KL)

Cllr Law provided a brief report. Important we pick up on the parking issues.

22/30.2.2 Cycling and pedestrian matters (LM)

Positive response from Tom Lankester of WBC. There is a briefing on 24 March. Will this lead to more symbiosis between SCC and WBC?

22/31 Financial Matters

22/31.1 Payments for authorisation - February 2022

Feb accounts **Proposed** by Cllr Burch, **Seconded** by Cllr Johnson and **Agreed** by all. Appendix 2 - Payments for February 2022 - circulated

22/31.2 Budget Update and Income report - February 2022

Noted and agreed.

Appendix 3 - Expenditure v Budget - circulated

22/31.3 Individual monthly costs exceeding £500 for February 2022

NOTE: 8/1/2022 The Surrey Pension Fund - £2675.76 - PC contribution to Clerk's pension Jun to Dec 2021 - payment cancelled as not second authorised in time.

8/2/2022 Churt RGT - £4000 transfer from Lloyds account to CAF bank

8/2/2022 Dawn Barrow £1243.99 Clerk's Jan salary

26/3/2022 Assured Tree Care - £1500, to be reclaimed from WBC

22/32.1 -To note and comment on current planning applications (LM)

Report circulated in advance of meeting by Cllr Martin.

WA/2022/00780 Valley Farm Green Lane, new garage, not visible, neither support nor object

WA/2022/00738 Green Cross Farm, Green Lane, repositioning of building, no comment, ensure they demolish old building 3 months after occupation of new one.

22/33 Communications policy and website content (MJ)

Clerk to approve all requests for comms on website and FB page. Should we now move away from Churt Community FB page as less overlap now post Covid?

22/34 Farnborough PIR.

Colin Shearn put out a communication re the 24 Feb meeting. Now pushing the points we included in our letters to MPs.

22/35 Co-option of Councillor

Cllr Martin will continue as acting chair until May. Expression of interest to become a councillor from Julian Spence. Formally co-opted onto the Council. May's agenda to include portfolio responsibilities. Clerk to register Julian for new councillors' course.

22/36 Plans for Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June.

Clerk updated all. Committee now formed and skeleton plans in place. Jubilee Party in the Park to take place on the Rec Ground 1.30pm onwards on Fri June 3. Reasonable costs to be underwritten from legacy gift.

Other matters

Cllr Martin attended the SALC Chairs' forum. Discussed the levelling up agenda. Clerk to send around report on this from SALC together with the Highways slides from the forum.

Cllr Johnson advised the next meeting of the inter parish climate group will take place at Wonersh.

There will be no parish meeting in April.

There being no other business the meeting of the Churt Parish Council closed at 9.28pm . There then followed a meeting of the Churt Recreation Ground Trust (See separate Minutes).

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Signed:

Date:

Acting Chairman

The next annual meetings of the Churt Parish Council and Churt Recreation Ground Trust will be held on **Wednesday 18 May 2022 at 7.30pm in the Churt pavilion.**