



Minutes of the Meeting of Bramley Parish Council

Held at Bramley Village Hall on 19th September 2024, starting at 18:00

PARTICIPANTS

Messrs P Leung (Chairman), Cllrs B Stern, T Coleman, F Stern, J Austin, C Marshall, M Vivian, N Gravenell. D Ersser, the Clerk, SCC Cllr Kevin Deanus, WBC Cllr Michael Goodridge and 7 members of the public were also present.

072/24 To receive apologies for absence

Councillor Troy Saunders sent his apologies.

073/24 Declarations of interest

None

074/24 Minutes of the meeting 18th July 2024

Minutes of the meeting of 18th July 2024, were agreed as a true record. These were signed by the Chairman.

075/24 Matters arising from minutes of the meeting of 18th July 2024

None

076/24 Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence report circulated by the Clerk.

077/24 Waverley and Surrey County Councillors Update

Waverley Borough Councillor Update from Cllr Goodridge

Cllr Goodridge stated that their Strategic Director Ian Doyle left on 13th September 2024

Cllr Goodridge also reported that there had been a full Council meeting which agreed to send letters to all Band H houses requesting voluntary donations to spend on discretionary items, he expressed concerns regarding the costs involved in setting up a charitable trust to implement this policy. The changes to the winter fuel payments to pensioners were also discussed and 2 letters of objection will be sent to the Chancellor, one from the leader and one from the leader of the opposition.

Cllr Goodridge also stated that a Freedom of Information request to obtain staff costs for the last financial year revealed that they had increased from £19 million pre Covid to over £23 million last year. £4 million was spent on agency and temporary staff.

Surrey County Council Update from Cllr Deanus

Cllr Deanus stated that next year the rural speed review will look at the roads to the west of A281 this will include Munstead, Alfold and Dunsfold – speed data strips will be installed. The review is concerned with 60 mile per hour limits on country roads. The last rural review resulted in around 30-40 limits being changed but he warned it is a long legal process



Cllr Deanus stated that the change in government would almost certainly result in a change in local government structure, which could result in unitary councils or combined councils and elected Mayors. Guidance is expected to be issued in the next 4-6 weeks.

Cllr Deanus also stated that since the introduction of the average speed check cameras in Bramley there has been on average a 5mph reduction in speed which is exceptional.

078/24 **Committee actions:**

Planning Review Committee

Cllr F Stern advised that:

(i) the application to build on the land behind the Bowls Club is going to appeal.

(ii) the Stovolds Hill Inquiry (in respect of multiple applications for traveller hardstands at this location which have gone to appeal) is on 12th November. The joint parishes, Bramley PC, Alfold PC, Hascombe PC and Dunsfold PC will be making representations at the Inquiry.

The Clockhouse Lane Application went to WBC committee, it was supported by the Clockhouse Lane residents but was objected to by BPC as it is in the green belt and ANOB and outside the settlement area. The application was refused.

Cllr F Stern also advised that Paul Hunt has started a consultation to build 14 affordable houses and 12 market houses on the allotment field. This has increased from 12 affordable house since he first contacted the Council a year ago.

Regarding the Waverley Local Plan and the call for sites, Cllr B Stern advised that he had been contacted by WBC Catherine Dove re meeting to discuss the call for sites on 23rd, 24th or 25th October. The list of sites will be sent a week before.

Highways committee – nothing to report

Clerk

Estate Manager Report

Cllr Austin advised that having done some research with the land registry it appears that BPC do not own the land directly in front of Rhens Wall. Cllr F Stern asked the Clerk to contact the management accountant, Bernard Brace and the Freeholder, Croudace, regarding the repair of the wall. Cllr will provide contact details.

Resilience – nothing to report

Cllr Marshall

Library

Cllr Marshall requested that BPC arrange a plaque to commemorate the 10 year anniversary of the community library. The Clerk had a quote of £760 + fitting. Cllrs will decide if BPC or the library cover the cost.

Cllr Marshall requested that the authorisation process for payments should be reviewed. It was agreed that a new limit should be set.

Public Session - The floor was opened to allow the public to ask questions.

A local resident asked why pressure can't be put on developers who have banked land and received planning permission to start building. Cllr F Stern stated that this was beyond the Parish Council's remit. Cllr Austin stated that legally there was nothing to compel them to start developments.



A local resident asked if BPC could review their website as he had found it difficult to find the agenda, another resident disagreed. Cllr Leung agreed to do this.

Gill Longdon from Bramley Business Recovery Group attended to discuss Christmas lights in Bramley High Street. She has received a quote of £9,550 per year for 3 years at which time we would own the lights and therefore only have to cover the costs of having the lights put up and taken down each year. The proposal includes a conical structure over the Jubilee sign at the library and lights down both sides of the High Street, all the businesses are in favour. Cllr Austin said that some of the funding would come from the fete committee and future fund raising events were possible. 6 Cllrs voted in favour with 2 abstentions, the motion was passed.

Local residents said the process for remediating the fuel leak issues was confusing and asked for an explanation of the bodies involved. Cllr Austin stated that WBC were responsible and the chain of command was:

- The main Stakeholders Recovery Group which includes ASDA, WBC, Thames Water, Openreach and the Environment Agency. BPC is not included. They meet every Friday.
- Technical Working Group. BPC is not included
- Business Recovery Group – All Cllrs and businesses can attend.
- The Community Support Group – Cllrs and any members of the public can attend. It was later agreed that the Council would appoint a dedicated Cllr to this group and the Clerk stated the second meeting was provisionally booked for 3.00pm on Wednesday 9th October.

A resident questioned who BRAG are. Cllr Austin stated that they are an independent group of local residents affiliated with BPC who liase with them via the Resilience Team.

A local resident expressed their deep concern at the lack of information being provided re the recent fuel readings and particularly the potential impact on health for residents, especially children drinking low levels of hydrocarbons. Cllr Austin agreed and stated that despite repeated requests ASDA were not providing anyone with any answers. Cllr Austin referred the resident to WBC's [website](#) where all the information is contained. The resident also pointed out that ASDA had promised a residents meeting in September.

Gill Longdon, Bramley Business Recovery Group pointed out that some progress has been made, for example the businesses are starting to claim compensation. The Clerk stated that she has just been contacted by Openreach to arrange the installation of 2 mobile satellite hubs in the village one at the Village Hall and one at the Jolly Farmer, which will both provide Wi-Fi in a 100 metre radius. A local resident attended to express his support for the regeneration of the Eastwood Road Playground.

079/24 **Parish updates and actions**

- a. Pavilion and environs (including Gosden Common, Links Road)
The Clerk advised that the removal of the fallen tree at Gosden Common was the responsibility of BPC and Cllrs agreed to remove the tree but leave the stump. Clerk to arrange.

Clerk



- b. Station Road and environs (including Hall Road, Eastwood, Barton Road, Linersh Wood)

Eastwood Road Playground

Cllr Marshall stated that he has put in an application to set up Bramley Community Spaces Charity, which can fund raise for the playground. Cllr Marshall also requested that some of the Council's CIL funds be used to pay for some playground equipment. Cllr B Stern asked him to put a proposal in writing to the Council.

Cllr Marshall

- c. High Street and environs (including Windrush Close, Old Rectory Close, Snowdenham Links Road and Lane)

Cllr Marshall questioned the slow progress of the transfer of ownership of the Bowls Club. Cllr F Stern stated that despite our solicitor chasing they are not responding. Cllr F Stern to follow up.

- d. Grounds and Downs Link

The Clerk stated that the Community Service have started work on the station area.

- e. Rural Parish (including Thorncombe Street, Birtley Green, Grafham and South) – Nothing to report

080/24 Finance

- a. Payments listed at Appendix B (circulated) Members agreed payments between 11th July and 6th September, to the value of £14,775.62
- b. The Councillors agreed to replace the council noticeboard on the wall by Ampfilon. The Clerk will circulate quotes for wooden and metal options.

The Cllrs agreed unanimously to have the triangular notice board repaired at a cost of £1750.

Clerk

081/24 Points of information and any other matters

- i. Cllrs B Stern and N Gravenell agreed to put out the road closure signs for Bramley Bonfire and Remembrance Sunday. Cllr Gravenell to look into either repairing or replacing the Silent Soldier.
- ii. Road marshals were arranged for Remembrance Sunday.

The meeting closed at 7.32pm

Agreed and signedChairman, October 17th 2024

