



Minutes of the Meeting of Bramley Parish Council
Held at Bramley Village Hall on 15th September 2022, starting at 6:00pm

PARTICIPANTS

Mr P Leung, Messrs T Coleman, R Seaborne, P Molineux, M Byham, and T Hughes. The Assistant Clerk was also present as well as Borough Councillor d'Arcy. There was 1 member of the public in attendance.

ACTION

069/22 To receive apologies for absence

- a. Apologies for absence were received from Mr B Stern, Mrs F Stern, Mr T Hughes, Mrs A Burrows and the Clerk.

070/22 Declarations of interest

- a. None.

071/22 Minutes of the meeting 21st July 2022

- a. Minutes of the meeting of 21st July 2022 were agreed by the meeting as a true record. These were signed by the Chairman.

072/22 Matters arising from minutes of the meeting of 21st July 2022

- a. None.

073/22 Bramley Neighbourhood Police update

- a. No report was received from the Neighbourhood Police team and the Assistant Clerk reported that this week the Clerk has received an email from Safer Neighbourhood Team Sergeant stating that they will no longer be providing the monthly crime statistics going forward.
The officer states that reviewing, collating and sharing all of the reported incidents in the way they have been is a very time-consuming task, with officers having to manually review every occurrence and call they receive, and there is no quick method to do this. With that in mind, with the limited resources available, all officers have been asked to divert their attentions to where they need to be. Should there be any incidents of note and of significant public impact, the team will convey any relevant information to the Parish Council.
In response Councillor Seaborne requested that the police could attend the council meetings more often.
Councillor Molineux will also speak to the Chief Constable.

Clerk
Mr
Molineux

074/22 Correspondence

- a. Members noted the Correspondence report circulated by the Clerk.
- b. For item 16 – Members noted that location is not clear. Fisher Rowe Close does not go anywhere near the Downs Link.
Post meeting note from the Clerk: she incorrectly recorded the details of the resident, who lives on Old Rectory Close, not Fisher Rowe Close. To be discussed at October Parish Council meeting.
- c. Item 17 – Councillor Seaborne doesn't believe that the Parish Council did support the previous application. Members did not object to the application submitted in February 2014, but that was after some discussion. Not objecting is not the same as supporting.

075/22 Waverley and Surrey County Councillors update

- a. Councillor d'Arcy stated that the Council offices will be closed on Monday 19th September and bin collections will be moved forward a day.



- b. Waverley and Guildford joint management team have appointed various new officers. Mr Seaborne reported that there will be a meeting of full council on 26th September to discuss and potentially approve the next set of appointments for the joint leadership team being created by Guildford and Waverley Councils. This will cover the heads of service and should be the final tier to be combined.
- c. Councillor Seaborne stated that formal hearings for Waverley Local Plan Part 2 took place in July and concluded with a one-day session on 6th September where some outstanding items were discussed. The Inspector required some further modifications from Waverley which they undertook to deliver over the next few weeks. These modifications then require a further period of public consultation, probably lasting six weeks. Thereafter, if no further significant changes are made the inspector will generate a final report and issue his opinion on the plan in early 2023.
- d. Mr Seaborne reported that the proposed Central Godalming Regeneration Project was supposed to have been the subject of several public drop-in sessions and a public meeting in Godalming. However, the Queen's death has resulted in these being deferred. There is a good deal of controversy around aspects of the plans, particularly proposals to build housing on a large part of the Crown Court car park, and to maintain the number of parking spaces in the town by building a multi-storey car park on the site of the Council office car park.

076/22 **Committee Actions**

a. Planning Review Committee

- i. The list of current planning applications and draft comments from Mr Molineux were reviewed by Members.
Members agreed the draft comments from Mr Molineux. The Clerk will submit Members' comments to Waverley Borough Council.
- ii. Review of Planning report
Members noted the Planning report circulated by the Clerk.
- iii. Councillor Seaborne stated that an appeal hearing was held at Waverley in September to consider the application for a traveller and gypsy site at Lydia Park, just to the north of the access track and drainage ditch that forms the current northern boundary of the Lydia Park site. Councillor Coleman and Councillor Seaborne attended. Councillor Seaborne thought Waverley put up a reasonably strong defence of their refusal of the application. The Inspector's judgement is awaited.
- iv. Councillor Seaborne also stated that the application for drainage engineering works just to the south of Grafham Church, ostensibly to allow better conditions for horse grazing, has attracted a large number of objections both from residents and interested organisations. The Parish Council didn't object but he wonders if Members should consider all the residents' objections and assess if there are grounds for modifying the Council's position. Reasons for objection include the adequacy of the ecological assessment particularly relating to badgers and bats, and traffic safety at the entrance during the construction phase. Based on these objections he has requested that the application be brought to the Eastern Planning Committee if the council is minded to approve it.

b. Library Committee

- i. A report from the Library Operations team was received by the Clerk.
 - From September 6th the library extended its opening hours to fulfil the requirements of MOU. In addition to closing at 12.30pm instead of noon, opening at 2.00 instead of 2.30pm, we will be open on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Tea and coffee will be offered for sale once again. The Ops team has prepared a leaflet to promote the changes and facilities available

Clerk

Members



at Bramley Library. Volunteers have already started to sign up to cover the new morning shifts.

- Rhymetime is moving to Friday afternoon at 2.30 at the request of the current leader.
- On September 24th the library is hosting a party marking the success of this year's Summer Reading Challenge. More than 25 children enrolled this year and minimum 12 completed with Bramley Library. These figures are considerably lower than pre COVID challenges.
- Our previous MOU with Surrey Libraries has expired, and the Clerk and the Ops Team have been working with the Library service on a renewal of the document which includes the revised opening hours and will run to the end of March 2025. The document has been agreed by all parties and is ready to be signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

Clerk

c. Village Hall Management Committee

- i. Members noted the report circulated by Mr Coleman.

d. Resilience Committee

- i. Mr Hughes reported that regarding the Emergency Plan the what3words survey and walk around has been completed, the document updated with the what3words and all telephone numbers checked and updated. He plans to share the final documents in the coming weeks.

Mr Hughes

e. Highways Committee

- i. The Clerk received a report from Mrs Stern, as follows:
 - Community Speedwatch: the group comprises 10 trained volunteers (11 including Mrs Stern). They have run four sessions at the A281 site just south of Chestnut Way. Notable slowing of traffic once high vis jackets donned and Speedwatch signs displayed. As a result, the volunteers have logged around a dozen speeding drivers so far.

077/22 **Parish updates and actions**

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

- i. The Assistant Clerk reported that the Clerk has ordered a closed top bin to replace the 2 bins at Bramley Pavilion, to be funded by the Village Hall charity. Waverley Borough Council has acknowledged the order and will confirm when the bins are planned to be replaced. Current high levels of workload are high within Waverley and the contractors.

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

- i. Nothing to report.

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

- i. Wall at Rhens Place

Following discussion at the July Parish Council meeting, the Clerk contacted the Surrey Association of Local Councils requesting legal advice on the damage to the wall at Rhens Place. Their legal adviser responded to state that it would be the owner of the tree that damaged the wall who is responsible for the repairs. The Clerk forwarded this advice to Members, who asked her to draft a letter to Bernard Brace Accountants outlining the Council's position regarding the wall damage and the ownership. This letter was drafted by the Clerk, agreed by Members and sent to Mr Brace. No response has been received to date.



Mrs Stern has contacted the Clerk to notify her that the Bramley/Rhens Twinning Group, whilst carrying out some works at Rhens Place to tidy the area up, removed some ivy from the wall in question. She stated that she hoped the Rhens group sought permission from the Residents Association to do this and asked if they notified the Parish Council before doing this work. The Assistant Clerk reported that the Clerk was made aware of the refurbishment work to the bench and the trimming of the vines, but was not aware that the group would be clearing the ivy.

d. Grounds and Downs Link

- i. The Assistant Clerk reported that she has published the survey for the Eastwood Road play area regeneration project and advertised it through Bramley Update and on Facebook. The survey will run until 21st October.

SurveyMonkey has revised its pricing policy and it was not suitable to sign up for the free service as the results could not be downloaded. After discussion with the Clerk, the Assistant Clerk subscribed to the monthly service at a cost of £99 per month.

The Assistant Clerk reported that she has received 104 responses to the survey so far and now the survey has been shared by Bramley Infant School, St Catherine's School, Wonersh and Shamley Green School and Tillingbourne School with their parents she is hopeful for a good response.

- ii. The Assistant Clerk has received a quote of approx. £6000 from Nick Skinner to replace the existing wooden posts with concrete posts, as opposed to £2278 for the bund/ditch. This was in response to a request for concrete posts from two residents living on Gosden Common.

Members agreed that the Assistant Clerk should make a survey to canvas local opinion in particular Gosden Common residents, Bramley Cricket Club and Bramley Fete Committee.

Assistant
Clerk

e. Rural Parish (including Thorncombe Street, Birtley Green, Grafham and south)

- i. Nothing to report.

Public Session

Jane Austin, Chair of the Bramley Village Fete Committee, was in attendance to discuss her plans to set up a Bramley Helping Hand Fund to support local residents with the cost-of-living crisis. The Fete Committee set aside £1,000 in the summer for the fund. The fund is intended to support residents who are struggling financially and potentially provide warm spaces. It was discussed as to how this fund could work alongside the Henry Smith Charity and how the Councillors could be involved. Jane is arranging a ticketed fund raising and information gathering lunch on 15th October. It was agreed that the Assistant Clerk would send out a special Bramley Update about the lunch and post details on Facebook.

Assistant
Clerk

078/22 **Finance**

- a. Payments listed at Appendix B (circulated)

Members agreed payments between 15th July and 8th September 2022, to the value of £13,246.84. The Assistant Clerk asked Members to note that £6,110 of this amount was the second and final instalment for the fireworks for the annual fireworks display. £5,091 has been reimbursed to the Parish Council by the Bramley Bonfire committee. The listing was signed by the Chairman and returned to the Assistant Clerk.

- b. The Assistant Clerk reported that the Clerk has received the notice of conclusion of Audit for the 2021/22 financial year from the external auditor. On the basis of their review of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, the information prepared and submitted by the Clerk is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to their attention that give cause for concern.



The notice of conclusion of the audit and certificate have been published on the Parish Council website as required by the regulations.

Members would like to congratulate the Clerk for keeping an excellent set of books.

- c. The Assistant Clerk reported that the Clerk has received a letter of engagement from Mike Platten, internal auditor, to carry out the internal audit of the Parish Council accounts for the 2022/23 financial year, at a cost of £405 plus travel from Farnham at 45p per mile. This was agreed by Members. Clerk to action.

Clerk

079/22 Points of information and any other matters

- a. Mr Leung received a request from a Bramley resident to establish a Youth Club in the village. Bramley Parish Council has discussed the formation of a youth club multiple times and are supportive of the concept and the youth club using Parish Council assets, but they need to know who is going to run it and how they intend to fund it.

The last initiative was in mid-2012. Quite a lot of effort was put in and only three people turned up to a public meeting in the school hall. Mr Seaborne suggested that at this time, with only 8 months to go to the next elections and a potential significant change in council composition, any leadership on this comes from the community. This was agreed by Members. Mr Leung / the Clerk to respond to the resident.

Mr Leung / Clerk

- b. Members suggested that current energy costs should be review by the Council in view of current price rises. This will be discussed at the October meeting.
- c. The Councillors agreed the Council Meetings should be held at 6.00pm in the meeting room going forward. Clerk to update website calendar and noticeboards.
- d. Members congratulated the Clerk on her excellent response to the sad news of Her Majesty the Queen’s death, especially for arranging for the flag to fly at half mast outside the library so quickly. Mr Leung was also congratulated for his delivery of the Proclamation.

Clerk

The meeting closed at 18.56.

Agreed and signed Chairman, 20th October 2022