

ARTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 13th May 2015 at St Francis church, Littleton.

Councillors Present:

Mr R Musson (*)	Mrs J Stanford (a)
Mr G Smith (*)	Mr S Kitson (*)
Mr M More Molyneux (*)	Mr R Bennett (*)
Mrs A Mayer (*)	

(*) denotes present, (a) denotes absent with apology.

APC = Artington Parish Council, GBC = Guildford Borough Council, SCC = Surrey County Council.

In attendance: Phil Gorton (parish clerk), Cllr George Johnson (SCC), Cllr Michael Illman (GBC) and Cllr Mike Parsons (GBC). Seventeen residents attended.

1. Apologies were received from:

Laurence Hodge, Paul & Vicky Good, Teresa West and Rosemary Musson.

2. Chairman's Annual Report

Cllr Musson welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked George and Christine Smith for inviting everyone to gather in their garden before the meeting. He also thanked the councillors who provided the refreshments.

Parish council election

At the recent parish council election, there were seven candidates for the seven vacancies on the parish council. There was, therefore, no poll and all candidates were elected. Cllr Musson introduced the councillors to the meeting.

Cllr Musson outlined the main issues for the parish:

Planning

The parish council has spent much time and effort over the last year responding to the draft local plan. Its response is posted on the parish website. The revised draft plan is awaited and will need to be considered in the year ahead.

Mount Browne

Surrey Police have been discussing the idea of moving from Mount Browne within the next ten years because it is no longer suitable for their purpose. There is a possibility that the area could be removed from the Green Belt and become the site of up to 200 new houses. The parish council will continue to campaign against the removal of Mount Browne from the Green Belt.

New Pond Road railway bridge

The bridge is over 160 years old and now carries over 5 million vehicles a year. It needs replacing and Network Rail originally proposed a like-for-like replacement with no provision for pedestrians or cyclists. The parish council, in conjunction with other local councils and MPs, will continue to work for a more suitable replacement with support from SCC.

Pond Farm

Unconsented waste continues to be deposited at Pond Farm.

The "Green Lung"

The rural parish of Artington is a valuable green space between Guildford and Godalming. The parish council will continue to fight to protect it from unsuitable development.

Cllr Musson acknowledged the important relationship between the parish council and its senior authorities when he reported the recent visit of the Mayor and Mayoress of Guildford to Artington. He thanked the previous GBC councillors, James Palmer and Neil Ward, and current SCC councillor George Johnson for their help and support for the parish.

He also thanked a number of Artington people for their contribution to parish life over the last year:

Cllr Sean Kitson for organising litter-picks; *Cllrs Richard Bennett* and *Sean Kitson* for their work relating to the drainage and parking problems at The Ridges, for liaising with Mount Browne and for keeping the

amenity triangle tidy; *Cllr George Smith* and *Guy Catchpole* for their Community Speed Watch and rat-run exercises; *Cllr Jacqui Stanford* and her team for organising the Big Lunch; *Chloe Dancey* for organising the annual carol service and *Cllr Michael More Molyneux* for the use of St Francis church; *Claire Pace* for her first aid tuition; *Teresa West* for her fruit and vegetable stall; *Liz Lambley* for arranging a video to be made of Tom Parsons reminiscing about growing up in the parish during the Second World War ; *Guy Catchpole* and *Phil Gorton* for their research into the Artington casualties of the Great War and *Chris Jackson* of Surrey Police for his positive responses to the parish council's various problems.

Cllr Musson concluded by reading some entries from the parish council minutes of one hundred years ago. It would seem that some things don't change for, even in 1915, the speed of motor traffic on the parish roads was exercising the minds of the councillors.

3. Report by Cllr George Johnson (SCC)

Pond Farm. Cllr Johnson advised that the occupier of Pond Farm has been summoned to attend the High Court on 3rd July.

New Pond Road railway bridge. Cllr Johnson outlined the various options and their costs that are currently being considered by Surrey Council Council in conjunction with Network Rail.

4. Guildford Borough Councillors

The recently elected councillors for the Shalford Ward, Michael Illman and Mike Parsons, were welcomed and they introduced themselves to the meeting.

5. Loseley House roofing project

Cllr More Molyneux talked about the re-roofing of the house that has involved the replacement of the Victorian slate roof with hand-made clay tiles. The project, which started in the autumn, is now very nearly complete and everyone is very pleased with the result.

6. Questions and comments

Various comments were made from the floor:

Liz Lambley reported there is a significant problem with commercial dog walkers not cleaning up after the charges along the North Downs Way. She asked if notices and/or dog waste bins could be installed in the area. Cllr Johnson offered funding from his personal allocation to combat the problem.

Malcolm Lambley reported that cyclists travelling a dangerous speeds though Piccard's Farm

Chloe Dancey and others commented on the perennial problem of pot holes in Stakescorner Road. The meeting noted that, earlier in the day, An SCC maintenance lorry had become stuck in a pothole in one of the passing places and was unable to move.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

These minutes remain draft until signed at the APC meeting on Wednesday 20th May 2015.

Artington Parish Council meets on the second Monday of alternate months at St Francis church in Littleton. Unusually, however, the next meeting will be on **Wednesday 20th May starting at 6.30pm**. All are welcome to attend.