

ARTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting
held on Monday 9th July 2012 at St Francis Church, Littleton.

Councillors present:

Mr R Musson (Chairman) (*)	Mrs C Longstaff (a)
Mr G Smith (Vice Chairman) (*)	Mr S Kitson (*)
Mr M More Molyneux (*)	Mr R Bennett (*)
Mrs K Curl (*)	

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

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

In attendance: Phil Gorton (clerk), Simon Gimson (SCC councillor), Inspector Bob Jenkin and PCSO Paul Hyde of Surrey Police.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Longstaff, Cllr Ward (GBC), Cllr Palmer (GBC), PC Matt Taylor and PCSO Fiona Fyfe.

2. Disclosure of interest:

Cllr More Molyneux declared an interest with regard to any matters relating to the Loseley estate.

3. Minutes:

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 14th March 2012 were signed as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

The councillors thanked all those involved with the successful Diamond Jubilee party, particularly Jacqui Stanford who was the principal organiser of the event.

5. Police matters:

Inspector Bob Jenkin of Surrey Police told councillors that Surrey Police are aware of the Mount Browne traffic problems that affect residents and are seeking to alleviate them. He noted, particularly:

- Mount Browne is not secure and unauthorised people often wander onto the site. New signs are to be erected to make clear the route of the right of way that runs across the estate.
- Overspill parking occurs in surrounding roads. Bollards are to be placed in Sandy Lane by SCC Highways to discourage parking in places where the lane is narrow. Use of a temporary car park on part of the sports field near The Ridges has gone some way to overcome the problem of off-site parking. A larger, permanent car park would remove parked cars from surrounding roads if planning permission could be gained for such a project.
- Members of staff are to be reminded of their responsibilities towards local residents.

Cllrs Bennett and Kitson said that there are frequent instances of obstructive and inconsiderate parking by Mount Browne staff in The Ridges. Inspector Jenkin will report all known problems to the responsible officer who would try to find a solution.

PCSO Hyde said that there were no particular crimes to report in the area at the moment although fly-tipping is a continuing problem. He said the GBC environmental health department has recently purchased cameras that can be installed at sites favoured by fly-tippers in an effort to identify the perpetrators.

Cllr Musson said that, despite the parking difficulties, relations between the parish and Mount Browne are good and there is a very positive working relationship with Chris Jackson, the estates manager.

6. Financial matters

The clerk reported that the Annual Return has been sent to the external auditor.

The councillors resolved to renew the parish council insurance policy with Came & Co. It was agreed that the three-year contract that provides a fixed price and lower premium should be taken up.

7. **Report from Simon Gimson, Surrey County councillor**

- A new community highways officer is to start work in September. Cllr Gimson will be asking parish councils in his area for a list of urgent work.
- The Pond Farm waste enforcement case is now in the hands of the Planning Inspectorate who will report in the fullness of time.
- The best way of reporting potholes to the highways department is via the SCC website as there is an undertaking that reported holes will be filled within two working days.
- Seale & Sands, Shackleford and Puttenham parish councils have joined together to approach SCC Highways about common problems. Cllr Gimson suggested that Compton, Artington and Shalford could do the same.
- The railway crossing on the footpath between Old Claypits Wood and Peasmarsh is the responsibility of Network Rail. Cllr Gimson will provide the clerk with the name of the appropriate person to enable the parish council to request a risk assessment of the crossing. **Action: SG**
- There is a growing number of passing places in Stakescorner Road. Cllr Gimson said that there are no SCC resources available to close them off. However, in agreement with the highway authority, the parish council would be able to limit the number of passing places by installing posts by the side of the road.

8. **Loseley related matters**

Cllr More Molyneux reported that the recent RAF Jubilee Concert evening had been a success and that a similar event may take place in future years.

The Garden Show will take place in front of the house from Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd July.

9. **Planning matters**

- *Clearance of woodland in Sandy Lane.*

Cllr Kurl reported that the Forestry Commission inspector had been to the site. The clearance has been done very thoroughly and, consequently, it is not clear what has been removed. No licence had been given for the work and they are not issued retrospectively. The land is not ancient woodland.

- *Planning application: 8 Pew Corner, Change of use.*

The council made no comment on this application.

- *Planning application: Orange Court Farm, change of use.*

This planning application for a change of use has been withdrawn.

- *Rushy Platts Farm*

The councillors were unsure if the ancillary cottage noted in the recent sale particular has planning permission. The clerk is to ask GBC planning department. **Action: Clerk**

11. **Highways and rights of way:**

- *Roadside verges*

The clerk reported that it has been agreed with GBC that the cutting regime can be changed to avoid destroying flowering plants. The precise management plan is yet to be decided upon but it is anticipated that there will be two annual cuts, one early in the year and another in the late summer after the flowers have set seed. **Action: Clerk**

- *Wall on the Old Portsmouth Road*

Work has started to repair the wall.

12. **Other matters**

The councillors expressed their thanks to the Rob Craig, the National Trust lengthsman, for his recent guided walk round the Godalming Navigation.

These minutes remain draft until signed at the next APC meeting.

**The next meeting of Artington Parish Council will be held on
Monday 10th September 2012 at St Francis church in Littleton, starting at 7.00pm.**