

Artington Parish Council

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 8th July 2019 at St Francis Church, Littleton.

Councillors present:

Cllr R Bennett Cllr F Clayton Cllr P Hutson Cllr S Kitson - Chairman
Cllr A More-Molyneux Cllr C Taft Cllr J Wisher

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

In attendance: Philip Gorton (clerk), Cllr Chris Blow and Cllr Ramsey Nagaty (GBC), Cllr Matt Furniss (SCC) and two members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

None.

2. Disclosure of interests

None.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2019 were signed as an accurate record.

4. Co-option of parish councillor

Alexander More-Molyneux was co-opted as a member of the council. He disclosed an interest in all matters relating to the Loseley estate.

5. Matters arising

Fly tipping.

GBC has informed Cllr Clayton that notices warning against fly tipping can be provided free of charge. Cllr Furniss said that parish councils are able to borrow CCTV cameras to record instances of fly tipping and that GBC will prosecute identified offenders if there is sufficient evidence. Cllr Clayton will continue to investigate the possible options. [FC]

6. Planning matters

Current and recent planning applications:

- *20 Littleton Lane, felling of Leylandii within conservation area,* ref: 19/T/00153
- *Brickfields Cottage, erection of extensions* ref: 19/P/01143

The councillors made no comment on the above applications but the occupier of the house next door to 20 Littleton Lane would be informed by AMM about the application to fell the tree. [AMM]

Current planning enforcement cases:

- *Pond Farm*

Cllr Nagaty reported that two caravans had been removed from the smaller piece of land and that some vehicles had been removed from the main site. GBC is in discussions with the trust that owns the land regarding the breaches in planning law. Cllr Furniss said that money had been put aside by the previous GBC administration to prosecute this case and it is now up to the new administration to decide if they wish to continue with it. The council resolved to send a letter to the Director of Planning to ask GBC to pursue the matter. Cllr Hutson is to draft a letter. [PH]

- *Guildway offices sign, Old Portsmouth Road*

The advertising signs have now been removed but the posts are still in place. Cllr Nagaty was asked if the GBC planning enforcement team could press for these to be removed and the removal completed. [RN]

Long term review of Green Belt land in Artington:

Cllr Hutson suggested that APC should keep a continual review of Green Belt land in the parish. However, Cllr Furniss said that the amount of Green Belt land potentially available for building is very limited as most of the parish is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is not, therefore, under threat.

7. Compton Parish Council, Section 113 challenge

Compton PC asked neighbouring parishes for contributions towards the cost of challenging the Guildford Local Plan. Councillors considered the request but resolved not to contribute because the council has insufficient funds.

8. **Report from county and borough councillors**

- Cllr Blow reported that the Hollowfield Cottage planning appeal is still with the inspector.
- Cllr Nagaty referred to the poor air quality in Compton Street and the plans to reduce the vehicle emissions there. Air quality is also being monitored along the Old Portsmouth Road in Artington.
- Cllr Furniss reported that the contractors who rebuilt the New Pond Road railway bridge have corrected the poor quality road surface, that the Recycling Centres are undergoing another review of the services and that he is trying to obtain more money for pavement improvements. He also reported that he has money available in his SCC personal spending allowance that could be made available if the parish has projects that requires help with funding.

9. **Loseley matters**

Cllr More-Molyneux reported that there are two events at Loseley this month:

- Decorative Home and Salvage Show 11th - 14th July
- The Garden Show 26th - 28th July

Work is to start soon on the renovation of the Nag's Stable on the Old Portsmouth Road opposite The Ridges. It will be necessary to have temporary traffic lights in place for a number of weeks.

He also said that he would ask the tenant of the field at The Ridges to remove the trailer parked in the gateway. He is to meet Cllr Bennett on site to discuss work required on the boundary fence and hedge of the Sheiling. [RB, AMM]

10. **Big Lunch report**

Cllr Taft reported that the lunch went very well and that a surplus of around £300 was left after all expenses were paid. It was the view of the organising committee that the bulk of the money should be given to charity and to buy a wreath for the war memorial in November. She acknowledged the support and practical help given by Loseley and Mount Browne. The committee has discussed the possibility of not holding a lunch next year and resuming the event in 2021.

11. **Parish website**

The clerk reported that, while investigating the new website accessibility requirements and looking for a designer who could build a new compliant website for the council, he had concluded that he could make the required adaptations to the existing website himself. He had originally thought that it would be beyond his capabilities but, with help and advice from the web specialists at GBC, he has done most of the necessary work and it would be complete by the deadline of September 2020. It would not be necessary, therefore, to pay someone else to do the work. [PG]

12. **Financial matters**

Payments since last meeting:

- Came and Co. for annual parish council insurance: £338.40

13. **Proposed new bus shelter at Artington**

The site of the shelter is on Surrey Police land. The property consultant working for Police and Crime Commissioner promised to send a draft agreement to formalise this arrangement but it has not yet arrived. Cllr Furniss confirmed that APC would not be responsible for the maintenance of the shelter or the realtime electronic display equipment.

14. **Highways**

Flooding in Sandy Lane

Cllr Hutson reported that, in times of heavy rain, water and debris flows down the lane and into some adjacent properties. Cllr Furniss said that he would ask a highways engineer to make a site visit and suggest solutions to the problem.

Footpath maintenance

Cllr Hutson asked about clearing of footpaths. The best way of drawing the attention of the highway authority to blocked paths is to use the online reporting tool on the SCC website. It was reported that Cllr Bennett had cleared the footpath between Artington and Littleton in time for the Big Lunch.

Drainage at The Ridges

Cllr Furniss reported that he was expecting work to resume on this problem during this summer. He would contact the highways engineer for clarification of timings.

These minutes remain draft until signed at the next APC meeting that will be held in St Francis Church, Littleton, on 9th September 2019 starting at 7.00pm.