

ARTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting
held on 14th November 2011 at St Francis Church, Littleton.

Councillors present:

Mr R Musson (Chairman) (a)	Mrs C Longstaff (a)
Mr G Smith (Vice Chairman) (*)	Mr S Kitson (*)
Mr M More Molyneux (a)	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), James Palmer (GBC councillor), Simon Gimson (SCC councillor), PC Nick Sharpe and PCSO Fiona Fyfe.

1. Apologies

- Apologies were received from Cllr More-Molyneux, Cllr Musson and Neil Ward (GBC councillor).

2. Disclosure of interest:

- Cllr Smith declared an interest in the planning application for Long Meadow under Item 9.

3. Minutes:

- The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 12th September 2011 were signed as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

- Cllr Smith reported that Cllr Musson has been in touch with Mrs Lynn Hawkins, the vice-chairman of the Police Authority, who has said that she hopes that the wall opposite Tree Tops kennels in the Old Portsmouth Road will be repaired before Christmas.
- Another letter has been sent to GBC expressing the parish council's concern about the apparent increase in retail activity at both Artington Business Park and Quadrum Park.
- Honey Brothers' illuminated sign. The clerk has responded to the planning application expressing the concerns of the council.
- The parish clerk is now registered with the Information Commissioner as the data controller for the parish council.

5. Report from GBC councillor, James Palmer

- *Encroachment onto common land at St Catherine's Hill*

GBC have held a meeting with St Catherine's Hill residents about possible solutions to the problem of encroachment onto the common. The two options are:

- To transfer the land to residents and de-register the land as common. This would involve a cost to the residents of around £3000 per household;
 - To remove the fences and hedges and return the land to open common at no cost to the residents.
- *Gypsy and traveller sites*

GBC is considering the provision of a site in Shalford near to Gosden House School as well as two other sites in Ash and Effingham. There is a legal obligation on the council to provide sufficient sites.

- *Quadrum Park and Artington Business Park*

Cllr Palmer was given a copy of the APC letter of 14 November sent to GBC Planning expressing continuing concerns regarding the use of these sites for retail sales. It was noted that signs have appeared on the A3100 advertising retail sales on the site.

6. **Report from SCC councillor, Simon Gimson**

- *Land at Furze Lane and New Pond Road*

SCC is considering further enforcement action to clear the land of deposited waste on both sides of Furze Road. It was noted that there appears to be fresh deposits of rubble at the site.

- *Pavement clearance, Old Portsmouth Road*

The cost of clearing the pavement is now being assessed and Cllr Gimson is considering if it is possible to pay for the work out of his councillor's personal allocation. **Action: Simon Gimson**

- *Location of grit bins on highway land*

APC would like to purchase a third grit bin to replace the one that was removed from the lower end of Sandy Lane at the busy junction with the A3100. There is adequate space to site one there.

However, parish councils are refused permission to place grit bins that are not supplied by SCC onto highway land. Cllr Gimson acknowledged that this is a problem for all parish councils in the county who frequently have difficulty in finding suitable sites for their bins. He said that he would take up the matter with the highways department. **Action: Simon Gimson**

. Cllr Smith thanked Cllr Gimson for his support and also that of Gary Curtis (Community Highways Officer) - see Item 12.

7. **Financial matters**

- *Cheques written since last meeting*

£35.00 Information Commissioner: registration under the Data Protection Act.

- *Clerk's expenses*

Councillors agreed the clerk's expenses of £85.48 for the period 1st April – 31st September 2011.

- *Budget estimates for 2012/13*

The clerk presented the estimates to the council. The precept for 2012/13 will be set at the next meeting of the council in January 2012.

- *Surrey Hills Society*

It was resolved to renew the subscription to the Surrey Hills Society at £15 *per annum*.

8. **Police matters:**

- There were no police representatives present at the meeting.

9. **Planning matters:**

- *Planning application ref: 11/T/00242. Reduction of willow tree and removal of dead eucalyptus tree at Long Meadow, Littleton.*

Councillors made no comment.

- *Planning application ref: 11/P/01991. Installation of a dish antenna at Argiva Transmitting Station, New Pond Road.*

Councillors made no comment

10. **Loseley related activities**

Cllr More Molyneux was absent from the meeting but he sent a report:

- *Orange Court Farm*

The pond has been built and the heat source pumps have been installed. Dancey's Barn has been let to a green energy company who will be moving in early next year. The houses will be complete by the end of the year and the tithe barn will be finished during the early months of 2012. Cllr More Molyneux apologised for the disruption caused by the road works and asked that any queries about the works at Orange Court be addressed to him. The electricity is due to go off in Littleton on the 24th November between 8am and 3.30pm. He is not yet sure of which properties it will affect but the contractors should be in touch beforehand.

- *Craft Fair*

There will be a craft fair in South Avenue on 18th, 19th and 20th November but it is not anticipated that this will inconvenience the residents of Littleton.

- Loseley have advised that the warehouse buildings mentioned on the 'Barn Conversions and Warehouse Buildings to Let' notice boards at the junction of Stakescorner Road and B3000 and on the A3100 are at Mellersh Farm.

11. **Parish facilities**

The clerk reported that the parish council has purchased two grit bins that have been installed at the entrance to Mount Browne in Sandy Lane and at the hairpin bend at Littleton Cross. They were supplied by GBC and will be maintained by the parish council. The council expressed their appreciation for Phil Gorton's efforts in seeing this through not least in identifying and clearing the chosen sites.

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

- *Community Speed Watch*

Cllr Smith reported that there has been no CSW exercise since the last one on 23rd August.

- *Highway problems*

The clerk reported that he and Cllr Musson had recently met with the Community Highways Officer, Gary Curtis, to view and discuss the various highway problems that require attention in the parish. It is anticipated that the problems that were identified would be repaired in the near future.

- *Roadside verges*

The clerk was asked if he would follow up the enquiry made earlier in the year when the highway authority was asked if it would not cut roadside verges in the spring. **Action: Clerk**

13. **Standing Orders**

The standing orders for the council were reviewed and approved.

14. **Diamond Jubilee celebration June 2012**

Councillors discussed the possible ways in which the jubilee could be celebrated as a community event.

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

The next meeting of Artington Parish Council will be held on Monday 9th January 2012 at St Francis church in Littleton, starting at 7.00pm.