

ARTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting
held on Monday 10th September 2012 at St Francis Church, Littleton.

Councillors present:

Mr R Musson (Chairman) (*)	Mrs C Longstaff (*)
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), Simon Gimson (SCC councillor), James Palmer (GBC councillor)

1. Apologies

Received from Cllr More Molyneux, Cllr Ward (GBC), PC Matt Taylor and PCSO Fiona Fyfe.

2. Disclosure of interest:

There were no disclosures of interest.

3. Minutes:

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 9th July 2012 were signed as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

The council expressed their thanks to Rob Craig, lengthsman on the Godalming Navigation, for his interesting bulletins on the website.

5. Police matters:

There were no police representatives present but PCSO Fyfe wrote to say that, although there have been daylight burglaries in the affluent rural areas of Horsley and Effingham, there is nothing to report for the immediate vicinity of Artington.

6. Report from James Palmer, Guildford Borough councillor

- Cllr Palmer has asked GBC for the planning history of Rushy Platts to be investigated and the findings discussed with APC.
- A report into GBC planning enforcement has been completed and is available on the council website. It was found that there was a lack of co-ordination between planners and planning enforcement that delayed investigations. There was also a lack of co-ordination between planning enforcement and the legal section that delayed enforcement action. A new protocol has now been written and there is a new head of planning enforcement. Views on the new arrangements are to be invited from parish councils.
- GBC is shortly to write to the residents of St Catherine's Hill about the common land that has been enclosed opposite their houses.

Report from Simon Gimson, Surrey County councillor

- SCC has recently recruited a new community highways officer, Jason Evans. The unfinished pavement clearance along the Old Portsmouth Road will be brought to his attention.
- Cllr Gimson will provide posts to close some of the passing places that have grown along Stakescorner Road, should the parish council resolve to adopt such a scheme.

7. Financial matters

- The clerk reported that annual audit has been completed by the external auditor.
- There have been three cheques paid since the last meeting:

<i>Annual insurance premium:</i>	£308.72
<i>The Information Commissioner:</i>	£35.00
<i>BDO for the external audit fee:</i>	£60.00

8. **Loseley related matters**
- Cllr More Molyneux was absent but had written to say that there was nothing of note to report.
 - Cllrs Musson and Smith reported that the Loseley estate has invited them to a meeting about the use of the barns at Orange Court Farm.
9. **Planning matters**
- *Planning application: Collage of Law, removal of conifer trees by Pound Cottage.*
The council made no comment on this application.
 - *Pew Corner, hand car wash.*
GBC planning enforcement is still dealing with the APC query about the lawfulness of this use.
 - *Pew Corner, proliferation of signs near the site*
The clerk is to investigate the permission required to erect signs. **Action: Clerk**
 - *Pew Corner, change of name*
The council resolved to write to Mark Groes, the owner of the lease, to suggest that the name of the site be changed officially from Artington Business Park to Pew Corner. **Action: Clerk**
 - *Littleton Conservation Area review.*
GBC has invited two parish councillors and the clerk to take part in a walk around the area to discuss any possible changes that could be made.
11. **Highways and rights of way:**
- *SCC offer to parish and town councils*
The county council has offered to delegate some highway maintenance functions to parish councils and to provide funding to pay for them. The councillors will investigate the implications of this before deciding whether or not to accept the offer.
 - *Railway crossing at Peasmarsh*
The clerk reported that he and Cllr Musson had recently met Network Rail representatives at the crossing when they came to undertake a risk assessment. The council will receive their report in due course but it was noted that the warning signs are badly sited and that the time between a train's warning hoot and its arrival at the crossing was just 12 seconds. It is hoped that the assessment will lead to an increase in this time.
 - *Community Speed Watch*
Cllr Smith reported that there have been no CSW events recently.
 - *Roadside verges*
The clerk has been advised by a Surrey Wildlife Trust ranger that two cuts per year would be best for the maintenance of the roadside flora; one after the spring flowers had seeded and another in the autumn, with sight lines to be kept clear. Following the agreement with GBC earlier this year that a new regime would be adopted, the clerk sent this information to the relevant officer but no response has been received. He will follow up the request if there is no reply soon. **Action: Clerk**
12. **Preliminary review of objectives for 2013/14**
Objectives for the next financial year are to be considered before the next meeting. The SCC offer would have a bearing on the size of the precept if the council resolved to accept it.
13. **Autumn litter pick**
Cllr Curl is to organise a litter pick to take place in the near future. **Action: KC**
14. **Mayor's visit**
The Mayor of Guildford will be invited to visit the parish later this year. **Action: RM**
15. **Other matter**
Cllr Longstaff tendered her resignation because she will shortly be moving from the parish. It was accepted with much regret and she was thanked for all her work for the council over the years.

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

**The next meeting of Artington Parish Council will be held on
Monday 12th November 2012 at St Francis church in Littleton, starting at 7.00pm.**