

Artington Parish Council

Minutes of the annual parish council meeting held on 4th May 2021 via video conferencing.

Councillors present: Cllr R Bennett, Cllr, F Clayton, Cllr P Hutson (chairman), Cllr S Kitson, Cllr A More Molyneux, Cllr C Taft and Cllr J Wisher.

In attendance: Philip Gorton (clerk), Cllr Chris Blow (GBC), Cllr Matt Furniss (SCC) and one member of the public.

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

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Nagaty (GBC).

2. **Disclosure of interests**

Cllr More-Molyneux declared an interest in all matters relating to the Loseley estate.

3. **Election of chairman and vice-chairman**

Cllr Hutson was elected as chairman and Cllr Taft as vice-chairman.

4. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th March 2021 were signed as an accurate record.

5. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

6. **Planning matters**

Recent and current planning applications:

Orange Grove, Littleton – conversion of ancillary building

ref: 21/P/00507

Whytegates, Sandy Lane – construction of summerhouse

ref: 21/P/00700

Councillors had no objection to these two applications.

The Hollies, Sandy Lane – new access and driveway

ref: 21/P/00681

Councillors considered that the proposed gates are not in keeping with the rural setting and, if the proposed new entrance were to be adopted, the old one should permanently closed. The council is to send a letter of objection to GBC.

PH

Planning enforcement:

Pond Farm

Mr Podger's son appears to be progressing with the task of clearing the fields of unauthorised waste and the place looks far tidier than it has for many years. Cllrs Furniss and Blow had no further news about the farm.

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Hutson said that there will be a significant housing development on the Mount Browne site after the police move out in 2024. He proposed that that the council should create and adopt a neighbourhood plan in order to have influence over what is built there. A plan would be a significant amount of work.

Councillors resolved to write to all households in the parish to inform them of what would be happening at Mount Browne and to enquire if there is anyone who would be prepared to join a group to work on a Neighbourhood Plan.

All councillors

Community Infrastructure Levy

Cllr Blow said that the Community Infrastructure Levy does not yet apply in the GBC area.

7. **Reports from county and borough councillors**
 Cllr Furniss had nothing to report but he said that he had enjoyed working with the parish council over the last four years and he hoped that he would continue to do so after the forthcoming elections.
 Cllr Blow had nothing to report that specifically affected Artington but he drew councillors' attention to the plans for the St Mary's Wharf development that is to be built on the Debenhams site in Guildford.
8. **Highways**
 Cllr Furniss said that he had, with the help of a different funding source, moved the drainage work at The Ridges work up the list and that he hopes that it will be done soon. He said that the delay in doing the work is because priority is given to drainage problems that have led to the flooding of houses.
9. **Treetops development and the proposed new bus shelter at Artington**
 Cllr Hutson said that he has been in touch with a solicitor who can represent the parish council in the matter of the new bus shelter to be provided by Southern Homes, the owner of the development site, as a condition of their planning permission. He will pass the quote for the solicitor's fees to Southern Homes as they will be paying all associated legal fees. **PH**
10. **Loseley matters**
 Cllr More-Molyneux reported that the gardens are now open and that he is hoping that the house will open for visitors at the end of June. Forthcoming events include an Antiques and Salvage Show in July. It is hoped that weddings will start again in June. The farm shop at Mellersh Farm is continuing to do well.
11. **Litter pick**
 Cllr Clayton is to organise a litter picking event on Saturday 29th May. The clerk will ask for volunteers via his email list and the parish website **FC & PG**
12. **Community Speed Watch**
 Cllr Wisher said that she would monitor the level of traffic through Littleton and organise some CSW events if necessary. She will also contact the organiser of the rat-run surveys to find out if he wishes to restart them. Concerns were expressed at Cllr Furniss's news that traffic is to be diverted via Littleton to avoid the temporary traffic lights at Peasmarsh. He will try to have the diversion plans changed to send traffic via Guildford **JW**
13. **"Gravel Series" cycle events**
 The Save Surrey Countryside organisation has written to parish councils asking if they have been informed by the organisers of a forthcoming cycling event on Saturday 21 July, an event of which they do not approve for a variety of reasons. The clerk has not received any such notification. In view of the recent SCC briefing note about such events, the councillors resolved not to comment.
14. **Financial matters**
SALC subscription
 The payment of the annual subscription to Surrey Association of Local Councils was ratified by councillors.
Payments made since the last meeting:
Surrey Association of Local Councils, annual subscription: £92.80
Clerk's expenses: £90.29
Certificate of exemption was approved.
Annual Governance and Accountability Return:
 The AGAR was presented to the council and:
The Annual Governance Statement 2020-21 was approved and is to be signed by the chairman.
The Accounting Statements 2020-21 were approved and are to be signed by the chairman.
 Councillors expressed thanks to David Hunt of Compton who carried out the internal audit of the accounts at no cost to the parish council.

**These minutes remain draft until signed at the next APC meeting
 on Monday 12th July 2021 starting at 7.00pm at St Francis church, Littleton.**