

Artington Parish Council

Minutes of the annual parish council meeting held on 19th July 2021 at St Francis Church, Littleton.

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

In attendance: Philip Gorton (clerk).

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

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr S Kitson, Cllr C Taft, Cllr Blow (GBC) and Cllr Furniss (SCC).

2. **Disclosure of interests**

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

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th May 2021 were signed as an accurate record.

4. **Matters arising**

Concern has been expressed by a local resident about the frequency of cycling and running sportive events passing through the parish. Councils have no powers to prevent or influence these events and there is no requirement for organisers to inform the authorities. It was decided that, if anyone learns of such event passing through Artington, the clerk should be informed and he would circulate the news via the APC email list and website.

Cllr Hutson tendered his resignation as chairman of the council due to pressure of work. He will continue as a councillor.

5. **Planning matters**

Recent and current planning applications:

There were no current applications to consider.

Planning enforcement:

Pond Farm

No waste has been brought to the fields since the departure of Mr Podger and much has been taken away. His son continues to keep the grass cut on the fields and the place looks altogether neater than before. No information has been received from the GBC enforcement team since the last meeting.

Treetops

Concern was expressed about the condition of the listed house on the Treetops development site. It was resolved that the council should write to GBC planning enforcement asking an officer to inspect the building. **PG**

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Hutson said that the parish council should move towards adopting a neighbourhood plan as a matter of urgency because it would give it more influence over the nature of any future development, as well as attracting funding. The clerk has recently sought advice from the parish clerk of Compton PC, where a plan is also being considered, and from the chairman of Puttenham PC, which has recently adopted one. It is likely to take three years or more to complete and it would be necessary to engage a professional planning consultant to direct the process. A grant is available to help pay for this. Writing a neighbourhood plan involves a significant amount of work and Puttenham convened a committee of residents to do it.

Councillors resolved to write to all households in the parish to inform them of the council's intention and to seek residents to join a neighbourhood plan committee.

Cllrs Clayton and Wisher are to draft the letter.

FC & JW

6. **Highways**

Drainage at The Ridges.

There has been no news about the progress of the drainage works since the last meeting.

7. **Reports from county and borough councillors**

GBC planning

Cllr Nagaty said that the GBC planning department is under a great deal of pressure and is struggling to keep up with the volume of work.

Ward boundary review

GBC is currently reviewing the ward boundaries and the allocation of councillors to each area. Cllr Nagaty said that the parish council could make comments on the proposals to the Boundary Commission and that he would circulate information to councillors.

Working with Waverley Borough Council

There is an increasing amount of departmental joint working with WBC. Parking services for Waverley, for instance, have been supplied by GBC for some years and the two authorities are working towards amalgamating other departments, including planning.

Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty boundary review

Natural England is currently reviewing the boundaries of the AONB with the intention of extending its area. Cllr Nagaty said that parish councils are to be consulted and advised APC councillors to attend the online meeting on Thursday 29th July for more information about the proposed changes.

8. **Treetops development and the proposed new bus shelter at Artington**

Cllr Hutson said he had found a solicitor to represent the parish council in its dealings with Southern Homes, the owner of the development site. The developer has to provide the shelter as a condition of their planning permission and sales of the completed houses cannot proceed until the shelter is completed. Southern Homes will be paying all associated legal fees. **PH**

9. **Loseley matters**

Cllr More-Molyneux reported the following events:

<i>Garden Show</i>	<i>23-25 July</i>
<i>Military Polo</i>	<i>21 Aug</i>
<i>Dog Show</i>	<i>Early September</i>

He said that the fencing work is continuing with the intention of moving the longhorn cattle to parts of the estate beyond Mellersh Farm.

10. **Surrey Association of Local Councils**

The clerk reminded councillors that the advice and services provided by SALC is available to all councillors, not just the clerk. SALC has recently split its operations from the two Sussex associations, with which it has been associated for many years, and is now established in new offices in Godalming.

11. **Financial matters**

Payments made since the last meeting

None

Annual insurance premium

The clerk is currently seeking quotes for the parish council insurance in an attempt to find a better price than that quoted by the council's usual insurance broker. The council authorised him to accept the best quote and, after email consultation with councillors, to arrange payment.

12. **Other business**

A parish lunch is to be arranged in June 2022 to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee.

**These minutes remain draft until signed at the next APC meeting
on Monday 13th September 2021 starting at 7.00pm at St Francis church, Littleton.**