

# Artington Parish Council

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
at St Francis church, Littleton.

**Councillors present:** Cllr B Beabey (Chair), Cllr F Clayton, Cllr H Farrant, Cllr S Kitson and  
Cllr A More-Molyneux.

**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 J Wisher, Cllr C Houston (GBC), Cllr D Williams (GBC) and Cllr M Furniss (SCC).

2. **Disclosure of interests**

Cllr More-Molyneux declared an interest in anything to do with the Loseley estate.

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 were signed as an accurate record.

4. **Matters arising**

The new bus shelter

The £10,000 payment from Southern Homes for the licence to erect a shelter on APC land has been received. APC is not responsible for the new shelter; it is understood that SCC is to maintain it. The real time screens have not yet been installed.

Posts at The Ridges

Wooden reflector posts have been installed between the carriageway and the footpath.

Drainage in Stakescorner Road

In January, Matt Furniss arranged for a new, large culvert to be installed under the road by Stakescorner Cottage as a last-minute addition to the recent resurfacing works. This was done to protect the cottage from flooding at times of heavy rain.

New noticeboards

The clerk has taken delivery of the three boards and has finished varnishing and painting them. When the weather improves, he will call on those who have volunteered to help install them.

Braboeuf Manor/University of Law development

Cllr Beabey has contacted the GBC ward councillors for an update of progress. There are local concerns that the original proposals for the development, as presented to the public last year, are significantly different from those in the planning application. He will send a copy of the developer's *Autumn Update* booklet to the councillors to pass to the case officer who has not seen it.

5. **Planning matters**

*Unit 6, Home Farm, Loseley. Change of use to pet crematorium.*

*Ref: 24/P/00138*

This application has been withdrawn.

*Unit 8, Quadrum Park, Old Portsmouth Rd. Change of use.*

*Ref: 24/P/00291*

*Shooting Star Chase, Old Portsmouth Rd. Prefab storage unit.*

*Ref: 24/P/00234*

The council made no comments on these two applications.

6. **Highways**

Cllr Matt Furniss (SCC) was absent but sent a report:

\* The resurfacing of Stakescorner Road was completed successfully.

\* He is investigating the continuing problems with drains at The Ridges.

- \* There is a further problem with drainage in Stakescorner Road and a Highways team will investigate a blocked culvert between Stakescorner Cottage and New Pond Road.
- \* The proposed 20mph speed limit through Littleton will be in place this year.
- \* The proposed 30mph limit for Stakescorner Road has to go to consultation before a date of implementation can be fixed.
- \* He will look into the delayed installation of reflector posts in Stakescorner Road and report to APC.

7. **Reports from Guildford Borough councillors**

GBC Budget and medium-term financial plan

The council's budget and MTFP was passed by full council on 7th February. A funding gap of £2m remains but councillors are confident this will be closed. One in five councils across England predict they will go bankrupt over the next two years. There is confidence that GBC finances are now in a safer position than in May last year.

Local Plan Review/Update

On 21st February full council agreed that an update to the Local Plan: Strategies and Sites (2019) (LPSS) is necessary. GBC will now look in greater detail at the evidence including the housing, retail and commercial needs of the borough. The first phase of the process will consider the budget, timetable and scope of work required to carry out a Local Plan update. It is anticipated that this phase will be completed before the end of the year when more clarity on the Government's approach to planning reform is expected.

University of Law Application

The GBC case officer is very aware of the large number of objections received to this application. She is meeting with planning colleagues this coming week and will be able to give an update to share with APC, especially when it might come to the planning committee.

Planning application for extra storage at Shooting Star Chase

This is an application to make room for more beds inside the hospice and move storage to a new storage facility. The application shows three parking spaces would be removed.

GBC councillors' Drop-In surgery

The next opportunity to meet our local GBC councillors will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> April between noon and 1.00pm at St Mary's church, Shalford.

8. **Loseley matters**

The house and gardens are still closed to the public. Work on the new farm shop at Mellersh is underway with a planned opening date of spring 2025 whilst the farmhouse is undergoing repairs. Planning permission has been granted for new houses on estate land at Binscombe.

9. **Renewal of Surrey Hills Society subscription**

Councillors resolved to renew the parish council's annual subscription to the SHS.

10. **Financial matters**

Payment since last meeting:

Cleveland Joinery - balance of cost of three notice boards:	£1330.80
Clerk's reimbursements Sep 2023 – Mar 2024	£143.38
Surrey Hills Society subscription	£30.00

Reimbursement of VAT

The clerk has recently put in a claim to HMRC for a £504 reimbursement of VAT that has been paid by the council over the last two years.

Internal audit of APC accounts

The clerk reported that David Hunt of Compton will once again audit APC's accounts in April. He has done this since 2006 at no cost to the council.

11. **Other business**

- \* The council discussed plans for the Annual Parish Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May, including the venue and possible speakers.
- \* The council responded to a survey on the SCC rights of way policy.

**These minutes remain draft until signed at the next APC meeting  
on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 starting at 7.00pm at St Francis church, Littleton.**