

Artington Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 24th May 2022 at St Francis church, Littleton.

Councillors present: Cllr B Beabey (Chair), Cllr, F Clayton, Cllr P Hutson, Cllr S Kitson, Cllr A More-Molyneux, Cllr J Wisher, Cllr Catherine Houston (GBC) and Cllr Dominique Williams (GBC).

In attendance: About thirty parish residents and Philip Gorton (clerk).

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

1. **Apologies for absence**

No apologies were received.

2. **Chairman's annual report**

Drainage problems at The Ridges

This is a continuing problem that has been on the SCC Highways 'to do' list for a long time. It has changed position on the list according to other priorities of SCC but it has never found its way to the top. We still wait for work to be done to solve the problem – it has been promised this year.

Flooding in Stakescorner Road

Heavy rain in November 2021 caused flooding at Stakescorner Cottage because a culvert under the road was too small to take the flow of water. The parish council was informed by SCC that it had put the matter onto its high priority list because the property is at risk of flooding. However, as far as is known, nothing has been done to alleviate the problem.

Reflector posts in Stakescorner Road

The Highway Authority (SCC) is to install wooden reflective posts along the western side of Stakescorner Road between the carriageway and the ditch.

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty consultation

Natural England has been consulting on the possibility of enlarging the Surrey Hills AONB.

The River Wey meadows have never been included in the area, despite their scenic qualities and environmental importance. APC has put forward a case to have them included in the area but NE has still not included the meadows in the AONB. The plan is now open for public comments.

Litter picking mornings

These are occasional events. There has not been one recently but thanks are due to Fiona Clayton for organising them.

Treetops development

Thanks are also due to Peter Hutson for continuing to liaise with the owner and developer of the Treetops site, Southern Homes. They have to provide a new bus shelter on the Guildford bound side of the road as a condition of their planning permission, as well as paying all the associated legal fees. Peter has negotiated a licence fee of £10,000 payable to APC for permission to build the shelter on its land.

Community Speed Watch and parish speed limits

Jennie Wisler continues to be responsible for organising the CSW events, although there has not been one for some time.

In response to an approach by the parish council, the highways authority (SCC) is considering reducing the speed limit through the village to 20mph. A traffic survey was undertaken through the village that showed that the proposal is viable and it will now go to public consultation this summer. If it is adopted, new 20mph speed limit 'gates' would be installed on either side of the road at the southern end of the village.

Consideration is also being given to reducing the speed limit in Stakescorner Road to 30mph.

APC notice boards

Although the boards are approaching the end of their days, they have some life left in them. The clerk is looking for replacements and APC has been promised some grant funding to help pay for their replacements.

Resignation of Clemmie Taft as parish councillor

Clemmie has been a parish councillor for five years. Cllr Beabey thanked her for her contributions to the work of the parish council and to the life of the parish. He also thanked his fellow councillors and the parish clerk for their work.

Neighbourhood Plan

The NP committee continues to work towards adopting a Neighbourhood Plan for Artington parish. The parish has been officially defined as a Neighbourhood Area, with the parish council as the lead on neighbourhood planning, and a committee has been established to work on the plan. It is still the intention of that committee to produce Plan to put to the parish for consultation and the next step is to seek public funding to be used to pay for assistance from an expert consultant.

Caleb Lovejoy Almshouse Charity

APC has the power to nominate four trustees of the CLAC. They are Roger Musson, Angela Godwin, Christine Hetherington and Fr. Neil Roberts. All four are continuing as trustees.

Platinum Jubilee and Coronation Big Lunches

The lunch to celebrate the platinum jubilee of the late Queen was held last summer and, despite the weather, was an enjoyable event. This year, a Big Lunch to celebrate the King's coronation was a joint affair with Compton Parish Council, taking place on the Compton recreation ground. APC contributed £500 towards the cost of staging the lunch.

3. **Braboeuf Manor development**

Four representatives from Elysian Residences joined the meeting to talk about their development plans for the University of Law site. The company specialises in providing accommodation for older people aged 65 or over. They plan to develop the site into apartment units and amenity buildings for an over 65s community, as well as developing the area which is currently the University's car park into apartment blocks to be sold off as private housing (irrespective of age).

They gave a very informative presentation outlining the current position of their plan and its objectives that stimulated a lively discussion and many pertinent questions and suggestions. They intend to have a further public event locally within the next few months when their plans have progressed, confirming such things as the number of units proposed overall; the size and design of the proposed new buildings; the anticipated height of the apartment blocks and other related proposals.