

Mickleham Parish Council

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Draft Minutes of 11th January 2017 Meeting

Venue	Ranmore Room
Chair	David Ireland (DI)
Councillors	Jane Brown (JB), Judith Kinloch (JK), David Ottridge (DO), Graham Clark (GC), Andrew McNaughton (AM), Will Dennis (WD)
Clerk	Trevor Haylett
Attending	Angela Ireland, Alison Wood, Mary Flint, Fiona Taylor
No.	Item
1	<p>Opening Formalities</p> <p>(524) Apologies – Duncan Irvine, Mole Valley District Councillor (525) Declaration of Interest – None (526) The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2016 were approved and signed. Proposed by DO, seconded by AM.</p>
2	<p>Matters arising from the Minutes</p> <p>(527) DI said that the contractors had repaired some but not all of the damage to the Recreation Field incurred when the footpath was resurfaced. It was hoped the work would be completed in the next few days. (528) JB had spoken to Simon Taylor (ST) about the bench in the Recreation Field that needed repairs. ST will provide the Parish Council with a quote for the work. (529) WD had used the email list to ask for volunteers who could commit time or donate equipment to the 'community resilience plan' aimed at dealing with an emergency such as flooding or a major road incident. It had yielded a surprisingly high number of responses and the next step was to collate all the details and arrive at two or three individuals who would be the go-to people in the event of an emergency.</p>
3	<p>Open Forum - Broadband</p> <p>(530) DI welcomed Andrew Campling (AC), BT's general manager for London and Southern and Eastern England, to the meeting to inform Councillors about the different options for improving broadband in the village. WD had been negotiating with BT about providing Superfast broadband to Mickleham and had succeeded in reducing the quote to £8339. There was a February 20th deadline to accept the offer but that could be extended; AC said the more pressing deadline was the one affecting vouchers (the Government are giving £350 for those with broadband speeds of less than 2Mb) which is the end of March. There is also a grant of up to £20,000 (but no more than half the cost of a project) which is available to communities where there is a school in the catchment area that has a speed of less than 10Mb. AC explained that a new cabinet would be installed near the Frascati restaurant which would speed up the signal because the exchange is effectively being moved from Leatherhead to Mickleham. He added there was no obligation for a minimum number of customers to take up the service once the cabinet had been installed. AC was thanked for attending the meeting. WD said that in the light of this, he would withdraw his request for the Parish Council</p>

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	<p>to fund the scheme. This was because a) he was satisfied that any contract with BT would not be affected if they were to wait and see how the Surrey County Council funding affected Mickleham and b) because AC did not think it was lawful for the Parish Council to fund it. However it would considerably reduce costs if the PC was a signatory to the contract, providing a conduit for individuals to pay BT. He also said that while waiting for the SCC decision, they should organise the voucher applications so the village was ready to act in the event of the SCC funding coming up short.</p> <p>WD proposed, seconded by GC, that the PC should be a signatory on the BT contract but that the process should be put on hold while awaiting the SCC decision which is expected in February. This was agreed.</p>
4	<p>Finance & Formalities</p> <p>(531) One payment had already been agreed: £115.20 to Hedleys for continuing legal advice on the Playground lease. There was another bill of £2112 from TTS for resurfacing the footpath in the Recreation Field, payment was agreed but was to be withheld until the final piece of repair work had been carried out on the damaged section of grass. The bank reconciliation was agreed.</p> <p>(532) DO presented a draft budget and said that in the light of the PC increasing the precept last year by 50%, he was in favour of it remaining at £6,900 for the coming year. This was proposed by JK, seconded by JB, and agreed.</p>
5	<p>465 Bus</p> <p>(533) DI explained that the future of the 465 bus route was under threat with a suggestion that buses be terminated at Lidl's in Leatherhead and routed back to Kingston without going on to Mickleham and Dorking. This was said to be down to cost reasons and also because of difficulties for the TFL drivers negotiating Old London Road because of parked vehicles.</p> <p>DI said that while MVDC and SCC were mobilising efforts to protest against the proposal, the PC needed to take its own action. AM said that when public bodies went into a consultation process they usually had already decided on a course of action and if there was to be a protest it had to happen now. He added that the service was a well-used facility for Mickleham, particularly the journey to Dorking, while JB said removing it would leave Mickleham in the middle of nowhere.</p> <p>It was agreed to put an article in the parish magazine and to spread the publicity further afield. Residents would be urged to make their own email protest to TFL and to include local MP Paul Beresford, MP Chris Grayling and Duncan Irvine as recipients.</p>
6	<p>Planning</p> <p>(534) No objections were raised following recent planning applications. It was noted that the approval for the change of use of Rose's Stores from commercial to residential had been granted.</p>

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	<p>(535) At the November meeting, Councillors had objected to the change of use but in the light of information that became available after the meeting it was decided the PC would not object to the change of use.</p> <p>(536) GC left the meeting while Councillors considered his application which effectively changes the position of already-approved permission for an extension/annexe while maintaining the same floor area. JK said she was concerned that what had originally been intended as an annexe or extension to the main house had now become almost a second home with a kitchen, bathroom and sitting room. AM said the square footage was no more than what was approved before and the new proposed location made it less visible than the previous one.</p> <p>It was agreed that the PC would neither support nor object to the application but would ask that, if permission was granted, a condition be attached requiring the new building to be restricted to ancillary use.</p> <p>(537) Fiona Taylor was invited by DI to speak at this point of the meeting and she asked what strategy the PC had in place regarding housing in the community. It was agreed to put the subject on the Agenda for the next meeting.</p>
7	<p>Crime Figures</p> <p>(538) The Clerk said he had received the latest crime figures for Mickleham and these would be circulated.</p>
8	<p>Village Shop</p> <p>(539) DI said that the offer remained to turn it into a coffee shop with a shop on the side. This sale was dependent on the buyer in question selling his present property.</p> <p>It was mentioned that quite a lot of objections to the change of use came from the Mickleham Preservation Society, a lobby which claims to represent 80 people in the village. However the people behind it remain unknown and Councillors were asked that if they knew any of the individuals involved to notify the Chairman.</p>
9	<p>Additional Matters/Meetings Attended</p> <p>The Clerk mentioned that the Surrey Countryside and Rural Enterprise 2017 Conference was being held at Leatherhead on 9th March. However JK did not think it was sufficiently relevant to the parish.</p>
	<p>Future Meetings</p> <p>The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 8th March.</p> <p>The others in 2017 are: 10th May *Annual Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting*; 19th July; 13th September; 8th November.</p>

The meeting closed at 21:10pm