

# MICKLEHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## **Draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7:30pm**

**Councillors present:** David Ireland (DI - Chairman), Jane Brown (JB), Judy Kinloch (JK), Graham Clark (GC), Will Dennis (WD), Andrew MacNaughton, (AM), David Ottridge (DO)

**In attendance:** Trevor Haylett (Parish Council Clerk)

**Members of public in attendance:** Angela Ireland, Mary Flint, Kirsten Johnson, Fiona Taylor, Alison Wood, Ian and Jill Wright, Geoff Knight, Jim Evans, Clive Powell

### **Item 1) Formalities**

(APM - 361) Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were agreed, proposed by DO and seconded by JB. They were then signed by DI.

(APM – 362) Apologies had been received from Duncan Irvine, MVDC District Councillor, and Sarah Parfitt.

### **2) Housing Needs Society**

(APM – 363) DI welcomed Louise Williams from Surrey Community Action to the meeting. She had agreed to talk about a Housing Needs Survey for the Parish. FT had suggested at an earlier Parish Council meeting that Mickleham should have a strategy in place to tackle housing need. Louise explained that there were several options available, including a Neighbourhood Plan and Village Design Statement. Whichever route was favoured, a Housing Needs Survey was the starting point and Louise explained how she could help with the organisation and funding.

Such a survey would be designed to draw out the “hidden figures” of need, those people who might otherwise go under the radar – for instance adults still living at home with their parents because of a lack of funds or those living in a three-bedroom council house who needed to downsize. There were particular problems in Surrey caused by different factors including land prices, the loss of traditional cottages, small amounts of council stock in rural areas and also enhanced building costs.

Louise was thanked for her expertise. The discussion will be taken up again at the 19<sup>th</sup> July meeting of the Parish Council.

### **3) Annual Report for 2016-17**

(APM - 364) DI presented his Annual Report, reviewing the past 12 months which he said had been a busy year for the Parish Council. He highlighted the new Children’s Playground and thanked Heather Bourne and Sarah Parfitt and all those who helped them in securing funding and bringing the project to a successful conclusion. He also mentioned that a contract was close to being signed with Open Reach to enable residents to enjoy faster broadband speeds and thanked Mary Flint and her team for their tireless efforts. The future of the 465 bus route had been in doubt but common sense finally prevailed and its future secured for at least the next five years. The report will appear in full in the June edition of the Parish Magazine.

#### 4) Other matters affecting the Parish

**Village Shop** (APM - 365) – Although a buyer had been found, the sale was dependent on him selling his existing property and that had not yet happened. In the meantime Brakspears had shown an interest in buying the shop to enable them to add extra bedrooms to the Running Horse and in return they would offer an area in the pub where items such as newspapers and milk would be sold. In addition a developer had made an offer for the shop which was being considered by the Mickleham Village Shop committee.

**Broadband** (APM – 366) – A contract had been agreed with Open Reach to install superfast broadband across the whole village at a cost of £11,806.50. It was guaranteed to be installed within 12 months but WD said he hoped it would arrive sooner than that. Three thousand pounds had already been donated and a mailshot would be distributed to residents seeking the additional £8,806.50 (just over £100 per household). DI thanked all concerned for getting to this point in what has been lengthy negotiations.

**Canada Day** (APM – 367) - Mickleham’s connections with Canada through Viscount R.B. Bennett has prompted a request that the village take part in celebrations to mark that country’s 150th birthday. Mickleham has been asked to declare July 1<sup>st</sup> as “Viscount R.B Bennett-Canada Day” and to submit items for the Canada 150 Time Capsule. Viscount Bennett was Prime Minister of Canada before retiring to Mickleham where he died in 1947. The meeting enthusiastically approved the request and residents will be asked for suggestions as to how to mark July 1<sup>st</sup>. AM agreed to coordinate contributions for the Time Capsule.

**The Meeting closed at 8:25pm**