

Mickleham Parish Council

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Draft Minutes of 9th November 2016 Meeting

Date & Time:	Wednesday 9 th November 2016 at 7:30pm
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 – from 7:45pm)
Clerk:	Trevor Haylett
Attending:	Duncan Irvine (Dirv), Mole Valley District Councillor; Alison Wood (AW)

No.	Item
1	<p>Opening Formalities</p> <p>(502) Apologies - None</p> <p>(503) Declaration of Interest – None</p> <p>(504) The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2016 were approved and signed. Proposed by DO, seconded by GC.</p>
2	<p>Matters arising from the Minutes</p> <p>(505) Alison Vernon from Boxhill School had emailed, in response to a question at the September meeting, to say that the lights at the back of the school fronting Swanworth Lane were left on at night for security reasons because the cameras required decent coverage. In addition, concerns expressed about the speed of the minibuses travelling along Old London Road had been passed on to the transport manager who had in turn spoken to the drivers.</p> <p>(506) GC reported that the playground contractors (Bury Hill) have passed on the quote to repair the damage to the gate and post leading to the Recreation Ground to their transport people (Colliers) who are putting it through their insurers (NFU). JB expressed concern that it was all taking much longer than it should have done and GC explained that the work was more involved than first thought.</p>
3	<p>Finance & Formalities</p> <p>(507) One payment had already been agreed: £500 - Hedleys (For Searches to do with the Playground Lease). DO presented three more at the meeting: £78 – SSALC (Chairman’s Networking Day); £360 - King’s Landscapes (September mowing); £86.40 – Hedleys (Playground Lease). There was an additional payment of £24 – SSALC (AGM attendance). All were agreed.</p> <p>(508) The bank reconciliation was agreed – the current bank balance was £10,069.88.</p> <p>(509) GC formally proposed, and AM seconded, the appointment of Mark Mulberry as Internal Auditor. This was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>(510) The Annual Return, including the External Auditor’s certificate and issue arising, were approved and accepted. The issue regarding the Minutes was addressed at the last meeting.</p> <p>(511) Clerk’s additional employment – The Clerk explained that he had been offered an additional part-time employment with the charity looking after the Almshouses in Dorking and according to the terms of his contract he was obliged to seek the approval of the Parish Council. This was agreed.</p>

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	<p>(512) Councillors considered three quotes for resurfacing the footpath at the Recreation Ground. Jennings Surfacing quoted £2,705 plus vat; Courtney Surfacing quoted £3,730 plus vat while TTS Surfacing came in at £3,360 including vat. It was agreed, DO proposing and WD seconding, to accept the TTS price. DI and GC will meet with the contractor before the work starts and warn them about the power cable which lies underneath the path.</p> <p>(513) It was decided to shelve a suggestion to replace the noticeboards. As for a proposal to replace the two benches at the Recreation Ground, JB said the existing ones were in reasonable order and just needed renovating. It was agreed that she would speak to Simon Taylor and ascertain what work was involved.</p>
4	<p>Open Forum – Ilex Trees Appeal</p> <p>(514) DI invited AW to address the meeting after she wrote to the Parish Council suggesting it might want to reconsider its position on the Ilex Trees application which was going to appeal. Previously the PC said it would neither support nor object to the proposal to build a four-bedroom dwelling on the site but, if passed, it would want to make sure it was carried out exactly in accordance with submitted plans. MVDC had refused the original application on the grounds of the impact on the Mickleham Conservation Area. JK said she felt strongly that the PC should rethink its stance while GC said his concerns were the same as before - he had no problem with building in a conservation area but the detail and the quality of the build were issues he was concerned about. AW left the meeting at this point and JK proposed that in the light of the report of the Historic Environment Officer and Planning Officer that the Parish Council look at the matter again and object to the appeal. DO seconded the motion which was defeated by four votes to two with one abstention.</p>
5	<p>Planning – No objections were raised following recent planning applications apart from the objection to the Village Shop change of use – see Item 9.</p>
6	<p>Crime Figures</p> <p>(515) The Clerk had previously circulated the latest crime figures for Mickleham and these were noted.</p>
7	<p>Broadband</p> <p>(516) WD has had more discussions with BT about providing the village with Superfast broadband during which a cost of £7,000 was mentioned – a considerable reduction on the previous estimate of £26,000. WD has asked if that could be turned into a firm quote but cautioned that if the BT proposal was accepted it would disqualify the village from the Surrey County Council funding. The funding might come through in the next few months and while the situation is far from clear, it is hoped that the persistent efforts of the Parish Council, Sir Paul Beresford MP and others such as Mary Flint have put Mickleham near the top of the SCC's action list. It was agreed that WD should pursue obtaining the BT quote in writing.</p> <p>There was also the question of whether a Parish Council can lawfully fund broadband and DlrV said he would investigate.</p>
8	<p>Children's Recreation Ground</p> <p>(517) DI reported on the official opening of the new playground and expressed thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to everyone who had made the project possible. Efforts to register the title with the Land Registry are continuing and a document which laid out the terms of the UK Power Networks' wayleave over part of the Recreation Ground was being sought.</p> <p>(518) On the subject of sports equipment there for older children, DlrV explained that he intends to produce a flyer in which he will ask residents what sort of equipment they would want. Regarding the insurance implications, DO said the premiums would not be affected for traditional activities but a skateboard ramp, for example, would increase the premium by £275 per year as well as requiring weekly inspections.</p>
9	<p>Village Shop</p> <p>(519) A planning application had been submitted for a change of use from a shop to residential. DI explained that while that was progressing an offer had been made, and provisionally accepted, for the premises by a businessman who intended to run it as a café with a small shop alongside. The development was welcomed by Councillors though GC felt they should still object to the planning application on the</p>

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	grounds that the efforts to sell it as a shop had not yet been exhausted. He proposed that the Parish Council object to the change of use and, seconded by WD, it was passed with one abstention.
10	Telephone Box (520) BT had drawn up a list of 23 public payphones in Mole Valley that they intend to remove through lack of use and one of these was the one sited just by the Frascati restaurant where there had been only 10 calls in the past 12 months. AM said the mobile signal was not great in Mickleham; it depended on where you were at a particular time. Nevertheless Councillors did not feel there was a compelling argument for retaining the payphone so no action will be taken.
11	Flooding and Resilience (521) DI had attended a Chairman's Networking Day at which there was discussion about Parish Councils' management of risk, especially in areas where there were main roads or rivers liable to flooding. It was suggested that PCs should have a 'community resilience plan' in place in the event of an emergency such as flooding or a major road incident. WD said some initial work had begun on drawing up a contact list of who to go to in the event of an emergency and he would pick up on that again and update it.
12	Cycling (522) DlrV said that the cycling document he had produced had been well received by Kevin Nash from the Ride London organisation and he said he was willing to work with DlrV to get the message of more responsible cycling across to participants. (523) DlrV then raised the matter of cyclists using the A24 and the petition to force them to use the cycling paths either side instead. He said he intended to talk to both the local MP Paul Beresford and Chris Grayling, the Epsom and Ewell MP who is the Transport Secretary. WD said some cyclists who had objected to the move had a point: the cycle lane on the west side was mostly ok; the one on the east side was full of roots and not suitable for road bikes. GC said the Parish Council should give support to the move to force cyclists to use the cycle lanes and it was carried.
13	Meetings attended and reports received DI had attended a Chairman's meeting at which planning issues were discussed along with devolution and capacity building. JK had attended the SSALC AGM while DO had represented the Parish Council at a Gatwick Airport Open Day.
14	Future meetings The date of the next meetings are: (Wednesdays) 11 th January 2017; 8 th March; 10 th May *Annual Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting*; 19 th July; 13 th September; 8 th November.

The meeting closed at 21:20pm

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