## Minutes of Mersham Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021 in the Church room at St John the Baptist Church

Present Gavin Murphy (Chair) Stewart Ross

Melanie Wells

Peter Hawkins Peter Turley

In attendance: Cllr Bartlett and Tracey Block (Clerk)

To be actioned by:

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To receive and approve apologies for absence.  Apologies had been received from Cllrs Fletcher and Stewart.	
To receive declarations of interest (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests). The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared.  Cllr Wells noted a personal interest in the Inland Border facility as a family member works on the site.	
<b>To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b> Minutes of the Meeting of Mersham Parish Council on 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 were approved as a true record and were signed as such.	
To discuss matters arising from previous minutes not covered by the agenda.  The gentleman who was looking at the Church Road site for the War Memorial is to be invited to the next meeting Councillor Ross will invite him to attend.	
Public session: To receive questions and comments from the public on any agenda item.  There were no members of the public in attendance.	
To receive report from Borough Councillor  A detailed report had been circulated; a copy can be found on the website: <a href="http://www.mershampc.org.uk/community/mersham-parish-council-18392/borough-cllr-reports/">http://www.mershampc.org.uk/community/mersham-parish-council-18392/borough-cllr-reports/</a>	
Councillor Bartlett has invited the new minister to attend to the IBF site. Councillor Ross commented that the M20 signage is taking far too long to organise, he had not received an email response from Rachel MacLean MP. Councillor Ross is to resend the email to Trudy Harrison MP and send a copy to Damian Green MP, Councillor Bartlett and Councillor Fletcher. Councillor Fletcher is asked to follow this up with Damian Green in order to ensure there will be a response.	SR GF
To receive an update on Highways Issues (Including the Highways Improvement Plan)  Councillor Turley reported that a video call had taken place with Kelly Garrett from KCC. There had been some frustration that a speed sign could not be authorised because the perfect location could not be found. Some traffic surveys have been commissioned with the intention that the PC could extend the speed limit to beyond Quarry View and the possibility of a 20 mile an hour limit through the village and also 20 mph limit near the school. A follow up meeting is to take place on the 11th November at 10:30 am.	GM/PT
To receive an update regarding the creation of a green buffer zone in Highfield  Councillor Bartlett provided an update to the meeting. There is to be a public consultation later this year regarding plans for Highfield. Repairs to Kingsford St were discussed. The Clerk has contacted Toby Howe but has not yet received a response.	ТВ
To discuss the current situation at the inland Border facility  Councillor Bartlett reported that ABC is to check plants and seeds as of January 2022 at the IBF. There is currently a consultation open regarding this. Foodstuffs are also to be checked on site as of July 2022. Live imports are likely to be checked at the IBF although the decision as to their exact location has not yet been made, the Dover site might be preferable. It was noted that 10s of thousands of puppies are imported each year and they will need checking as puppy farming is a huge business in Europe. It is possible that the checks on breeding stock will take place at the IBF. There is a meeting planned to take place with Kyle Cliffe on the 3rd of November with Sevington with Finberry Parish Council and Mersham Parish Council present. it was suggested that a poll of residents should be taken regarding the improvements to the lighting at the IBF. It was noted that wind socks are now visible on site.	

Councillor Bartlett explained that he felt it might be fortuitous if the houses on Finberry were moved into the Sevington with Finberry Parish. He had spoken to Paul Libreri and the Clerk is to follow up with Paul Libreri in time for the January meeting. The request being that the Finberry homes be in the that parish and the rural homes on Cheeseman's Green Lane be kept in Mersham.			
	te regarding the current situation regarding tan update on the Village Hall following the re	he Village Hall cent committee meeting, a copy of which will be kept	
To discuss the prop	osed street light adoption/removal.		
streetlights appear	to be on roads with no pavement. The Clerk	ford Borough Council was discussed. Some of the auggested that Councillors walk the streets in the dark street lights. The councillors will report back at the	ALI
-	o authorise a response to any application(s) ouncil or any correspondence on planning m	and to note any recent planning decisions by atters.	
A list of Planning Aբ	oplications was circulated as Appendix A with	the agenda, those requiring a response were:	
21/01721/AS	Upper Bilham House, Cheeseman's Green Lane, Mersham	Change of use of agricultural land to provide yard area expansion to afford access, erection of security fencing and gates and provision of new	
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Any Other Business (for information purposes only):	
The lights on the "behind the hedge footpath" are still not working the Clerk is to find out who's ownership these lights are under and whose responsibility they are.	ТВ
Councillor Hawkins mentioned that there is a defibrillator at the school and also one at the Farrier's. The Clerk had investigated placing one in the phone box but another party had already expressed interest in adopting this phone box. BT were looking into this, the Clerk will follow this up.	ТВ
Councillor Turley reported that there is a pinch hazard on the climbing equipment on the JPF, a budget of £200 was approved in order to purchase new wood to cover they pinch hazard.	
It was noted that there were a number of road closures planned in the forthcoming weeks, Highfield Lane/Kingsford Street will be closed by South East Water and The Street and Church Road are closed for patching or resurfacing.	
Determining the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council.	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2022 Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2022 Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	All
The meeting closed at 9.30pm	