

Mickleham Parish Council

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Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held at 7:30pm on 21st October 2020

Venue	Held Remotely via Zoom
Chair	David Ireland (DI)
Councillors	Jane Brown (JB), David Ottridge (DO), Graham Clark (GC), Andrew McNaughton (AM)
Clerk	Trevor Haylett
Attending	County Councillor Hazel Watson (HW), District Councillor Elsie Rosam, Stuart Ansell (SA, Box Hill School) and various members of the public
Item No.	
1	(935) Apologies for Absence - None
2	(936) Declarations of interest/requests for dispensation - None
3	Report from Box Hill School (937) Stuart Ansell, the School's Chief Operating Officer, updated the meeting after a Year 9 pupil had tested positive for Covid-19 just a few days after a teacher had also returned a positive test. Both suffered only mild symptoms. The School were guided through the protocols by Public Health England and a Track & Trace process produced a list of those children who had been in close contact with the pupil and who had to self-isolate during the half-term holiday. The same went for those people who had been in close contact with the teacher. SA further explained that the School only tested when someone was exhibiting symptoms but they were risk-averse and mild symptoms would result in a test.
4	To discuss a report into the Old London Road Assessment and Proposal of Measures Against Traffic and Improper Parking DI explained that this special meeting had been called to consider the parking and traffic problems in Mickleham that had escalated in late May and succeeding months through the huge invasion of visitors to Box Hill after the first Lockdown restrictions were eased. This was in addition to the difficulties caused by improper parking when extended sections of Old London Road became single lane traffic resulting in congestion and gridlock. Mickleham resident Nikolai Belousov had produced a report listing the worst of the problems and possible solutions and Councillors used it as valuable starting point to their discussions. After gauging public opinion, the idea was to draw up a number of parking controls to be delivered to Surrey County Council with the request that they be taken on board. Andrew McNaughton led the meeting through a number of areas of concern starting with the entrance to Mickleham off the A24 and continuing along Old London Road through the village, to Fredley and the Zig Zag Road. There was a consensus that three areas in particular were most in need of parking restrictions:

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Location 1: Junction with A24 and Old London Road, Mickleham by Box Hill School

- **Problem:** A traffic bottleneck is created both in the early morning and again in mid-afternoon as Box Hill School pupils arrive and depart. Currently cars are allowed to park on the left handside of the road (as you head into the village from the main road) almost all the way from the junction to Dell Close. As cars turn left out of the School to join the A24, traffic coming into the village from the A24 is unable to pass because of the parked cars, resulting in gridlock.
- **Solution:** Double yellow lines already exist at the start of the stretch between the junction and Dell Close. Extending those double yellow lines all the way to the entrance of Dell Close would allow for much freer movement of traffic coming into the village and avoid the backing up of traffic on the A24 which currently presents a highway hazard.

Location 2: Driveway access to Mickleham Hall

- **Problem:** The entrance to Mickleham Hall, and the houses that feed off the entrance, is situated close to a left hand bend so visibility isn't brilliant in any case. The proximity of the church and the Running Horses Pub means that cars often park close to the entrance of the Hall, impairing vision and access.
- **Solution:** The Parish Council suggested that a white 'H bar' line be painted to mark the entrance to Mickleham Hall so residents are granted a little bit more space on either side as they exit the entrance.

Location 3: Access into Fredley Park

- **Problem:** On the most popular days, visitors to Box Hill used anywhere and everywhere to park their vehicles. This created problems for residents of Fredley Park who were unable to exit the driveway onto Old London Road safely in their vehicles. The problem is exacerbated because currently cars are able to park in the entrance to Fredley and at such an angle that visibility for those leaving Fredley is blocked. Parking on the summit of the hill also causes problems for people driving through this section towards the Burford Bridge Hotel.
- **Solution:** Installing double yellow lines from the entrance to Fredley to the start of the metal railings near the flint wall (on the right as you exit the driveway) would make it significantly safer for residents exiting Fredley,

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	<p>giving them sight of vehicles approaching the village from the Burford Bridge end. Doing the same on the other side of the entrance would mean both aspects were covered and leave sufficient clearance for residents trying to access Old London Road.</p> <p>Other areas that came under consideration were the possibility of double yellow lines from the entrance to Dell Close all the way to St Michael's Church; double yellow lines from the Running Horses pub to the Church Lychgate; creating dedicated parking spaces for the properties immediately beyond the Running Horses. These were either considered unsuitable or unworkable.</p> <p>An extended discussion centred on the difficulties for visitors to the King William IV pub finding a parking place with landlord Eamonn and Anne Storey fearing that the problem was only going to get worse. There was a suggestion that the Village Hall car park could be used but Mary Banfield, from the Village Hall committee, said it was used every day and encouraging the general public to park there would penalise hirers of the Hall.</p> <p>It was mentioned that there used to be a car park situated just past the bridge on the northbound side of the A24 and Graham Clark agreed to circulate a map pinpointing the location. It had apparently closed because of the risk of attracting traveller incursions.</p> <p>Hazel Watson outlined the procedure for submitting the proposals. The exercise was titled 'The Mole Valley Parking Review' but would be considered by the County Council as the highways authority. She warned that it could be 18 months to two years before any change could be implemented.</p> <p>DI also made reference to the issues of traffic speed and noise (particularly motorcycle noise in the middle of the night) and the efforts being made in other forums to tackle them. HW congratulated the Parish Council for driving the campaign against speed and noise and said it had been picked up across the district by other parishes who were suffering in a similar fashion. DI repeated the request for residents to keep a diary of instances of either speed or noise so the Police could be informed.</p>
13	<p>Other Matters</p> <p>(920) DI updated on the progress of the bus shelter and said it had been ordered and should be installed this side of Christmas</p>

The meeting closed at 8:44 pm