



# Mickleham Parish Council

## September 2025 Report

The Mickleham Parish Council met on 10 September. Chaired by Graham Clark, as Will Dennis was on vacation, the following were the main matters discussed.

**Rykas Café / Noise Petition:** Our petition is expected to be considered by Mole Valley District Council in plenary session on 14 October. There have been some really bad evenings through the summer and many complaints on the WhatsApp group. A counter-petition exists, which states, erroneously, that we want to close Rykas. That is not the case. We, however, want acoustic cameras, and we do want enforcement of the law. We would like Rykas to comply with the terms of its lease and to go back to its original opening hours. We do now have a copy of the lease and are reviewing it to see where Rykas may be in breach. We have had some helpful press comment, and some unhelpful abuse directed at our excellent Speedwatch team.

**Norbury Park Tenancies:** Helen Wood has filed a formal complaint with Surrey County Council, and we have had further correspondence with various county councillors. Responses are not helpful, as they persist in delegating all correspondence to Halsey Garton, who continue to evict tenants who have been there for years.

**Playground:** Repairs are currently being carried out to replace the damaged timbers and make good other parts of the equipment. There has been considerable correspondence about this work and the existing 10-year guarantee, which does not expire for a further 18 months. Thanks were expressed to all concerned for their hard work in getting a resolution, particularly Sarah and Adam Parfitt.

**Swanworth Lane:** The Running Horses have agreed to give the conifer hedge a light prune in the autumn followed by more thorough pruning in April to improve the sight lines when exiting from Swanworth Lane.

**Noise Survey:** A noise survey has been conducted to provide evidence in support of the petition re excessive exhaust noise. Thanks were expressed to Andrew MacNaughton for organising the survey and to all who contributed to the crowd funding to finance this piece of work.

**Old London Road Signage:** Surrey County Council have confirmed that they are going to be providing one new no-entry sign on the southbound carriageway of the A24 and replacing the

two missing 'no-entry' markings on the northbound carriageway. Thanks are due to Hazel Watson.

**Swanworth Farm:** Nick Bullen has a stay of execution for one year, but negotiations continue as to the exact terms of that new lease.

**Parish Councils:** Mole Valley District Council is conducting a consultation on this. The options appear to be broadly (1) to stay as we are (2) to merge with Westhumble into a larger parish council (3) to merge with Westhumble and Dorking into a large town council. After deliberation, the Parish Council resolved to pursue Option 1, to stay as we are.

**Unitary Authorities:** The plan seems to have come down to whether or not we have two or three unitary authorities covering the whole of Surrey. Either way, we will be part of a new East Surrey unitary authority.

**Other Business:** A settlement has been agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services for an increase of 3.20% for staff, backdated to 1 April. We are obtaining quotes to install a bench in David Ottridge's memory in the Recreation Ground.

***Please would as many people as possible diarise 14 October and come and support our petition at Mole Valley District Council. Further details will be posted on the village WhatsApp group when we have them.***

**Next Parish Council Meeting:** Wednesday 12 November at 7.30 pm.

[www.micklehamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.micklehamparishcouncil.gov.uk)