

Mickleham Parish Council

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Draft Minutes of 8th March 2017 Meeting

Venue	Ranmore Room
Chair	David Ireland (DI)
Councillors	Jane Brown (JB), David Ottridge (DO), Graham Clark (GC), Andrew McNaughton (AM), Will Dennis (WD)
Clerk	Trevor Haylett
Attending	Mary Flint, Kirsten Johnson, Robin Rowland
No.	Item
1	<p>Opening Formalities</p> <p>(540) Apologies – Judy Kinloch (JK), Duncan Irvine (DIrv), Mole Valley District Councillor (541) Declaration of Interest – None (542) The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2017 were approved and signed. Proposed by AM, seconded by WD.</p> <p>DI explained that the area of the Recreation Ground damaged by the work to resurface the footpath had now been repaired satisfactorily and the account settled. JB reported that Simon Taylor had looked at the work needed to improve the benches and had also removed the noticeboard from the School Lane end of the Recreation Ground . He had quoted a total of £130 for the work.</p>
2	<p>Open Forum – Broadband</p> <p>(543) WD, on behalf of the broadband working group, outlined the latest position following Surrey County Council’s announcement of funding. SCC would cover most but not all the village – most in Norbury would be omitted completely - but it would not happen for two years and there was no indication what the broadband speeds would be.</p> <p>In contrast the Community Funded contract would include all the village with most able to enjoy speeds in excess of 20Mb. The cost was reduced by 50% because of a BT grant that is triggered by having a school in the catchment area.</p> <p>WD said it was ludicrous that the working group had been told that no one in Mickleham qualified for the voucher system (in which the Government would contribute £350 per household with speeds of less than 2Mb) but nevertheless the community programme was better in both geographical scope and timing than SCC’s.</p> <p>With MPC unable to use public funds, donations would be sought for the funding, the money first being paid to the Parish Council who would then pass the money on to BT. It was proposed by GC, seconded by AM, that two Councillors – WD and DO - be nominated to sign the contract with BT, subject to sufficient funds being raised and with such amendments as the two Councillors may in their absolute discretion deem appropriate. Kirsten Johnson and Mary Flint were thanked by the Parish Council for all their efforts so far.</p>
3	Finance & Formalities

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	<p>(544) Approval was granted for the purchase of a laptop and a printer (total cost £335.31) by the Clerk, the cost of which was covered by a £400 grant. There was a payment of £45 (£90 shared with Abinger Parish Council) to SSALC for the Clerk's attendance at a Finance and Meetings seminar and £94 to the Village Hall for hire and deposit for the May meeting. In addition there was a payment of £65.09 reimbursing Richard Roberts-Miller for website expenditure while the Clerk's expenses for a five-month period was £102.45.</p> <p>(545) The bank reconciliation was agreed; there was a balance of £4,129.31.</p>
4	<p>465 Bus</p> <p>(546) The Parish Council had seen the correspondence that had gone back and forth between Transport for London and SCC and also Duncan Irvine's last email in which he had voiced his frustration at the lack of information coming out of the discussions between the two parties.</p> <p>DI said the Parish Council was stuck between a rock and a hard place but it was agreed to contact residents again, urging them to send a protest letter if they had not already done so. AM would draw up a list of important points that households would be recommended to include though WD said people should make their letters as personal as possible.</p> <p>Mention was made of TfL's response to the Parish Council's Freedom of Information request. It revealed that, on the last data collected, the average daily use of the 465 bus between Leatherhead Station and Dorking was 700 between 7am-7pm. The Clerk said he would try and use those figures to generate more publicity for the Parish Council's campaign.</p>
5	<p>Cyclists and the A24 Underpass</p> <p>(547) DIrv had previously raised the matter of encouraging cyclists to use the underpass. This followed residents' concerns about the dangers associated with them crossing the dual carriageway heading from Westhumble Street before negotiating the Burford Bridge roundabout and proceeding on to Mickleham.</p> <p>AM said he couldn't see much value in the move – directing cyclists into the underpass along with pedestrians, motorcyclists, dog walkers etc would cause problems, particularly at weekends. He added that there was more of a safety risk from car drivers trying to overtake cyclists on the approach to the roundabout.</p> <p>DI said that he feared a fatal accident as there had been several near misses at that junction. It was a question of looking at all possible solutions and this was the best one, he said, but it was down to funding and the reality was that nothing would be done in the short term.</p>
6	<p>Planning</p> <p>(548) No objections were raised to recent planning applications and it was proposed that a "no objection" from the Parish Council was lodged with Mole Valley District</p>

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	<p>Council. That was carried with one abstention.</p> <p>(549) Fiona Taylor had asked at the last Parish Council meeting for consideration of a housing strategy and DI suggested that the Annual Parish Meeting in May would be a suitable forum for someone to speak on the subject. AM said the three options were a Neighbourhood Plan, a Village Design Statement or a Housing Needs Survey. The latter was the easiest to put together and the least costly and he recommended that Louise Williams from Surrey Community Action be approached to see if she could come and outline how the project could be set up. It was agreed.</p>
7	<p>Village Shop</p> <p>(550) DI said that the original deal was still on the table but for it to progress the buyer in question had first to sell his own property. He has had three tentative offers and was awaiting a firm offer.</p>
8	<p>Cars parked in Swanworth Lane</p> <p>(551) DI will speak to Boxhill School about the ownership of that part of Swanworth Lane where the cars appeared to have been abandoned, once the outcome of the enquiries made by the MVDC legal department were known. Consideration might need to be given to the future parking of vehicles in that area as it is currently used by customers of the Running Horses as well as local residents.</p>
9	<p>Additional Matters/Meetings Attended</p> <p>(552) JK had sent in a report of the Norbury Park Liaison Committee in which fears were expressed about the success of Surrey Wildlife Trust's restructuring of the countryside management team following budget cuts by Surrey County Council. There will be no ranger or volunteers on site for the moment although the plan is for volunteers to be brought back in June.</p> <p>(553) Mike Giles of the Westhumble Residents Association had suggested that residents of Mickleham might like to join their email list so they could also receive Neighbourhood Watch bulletins and security warnings as well as sharing items of interest such as the 465 bus. The Clerk agreed to email those on the Mickleham list and suggest they might like to join the Westhumble list, on an opt-in basis.</p> <p>(554) JB said a resident had notified her that a tree that was quite prominent in Swanworth Lane, adjacent to one of the parking areas for residents of the flats, had been removed and questioned who had given permission for its removal.</p>
	<p>Future Meetings</p> <p>The date of the next meeting which is the Annual Meeting as well as the Annual Parish Meeting is Wednesday 10th May at Mickleham Village Hall at 7:30pm.</p>

The meeting closed at 21:02pm