

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUSBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
AT CLOCK BARN HALL, HAMBLEDON ROAD, GODALMING GU8 4AY
ON TUESDAY 10TH APRIL 2018 at 5.30pm**

The meeting opened at 5.30pm

Present:

John Graves , Chairman
Philippa English
Hilary Westwood
Maxine Long
Dr Alison Martin

Richard Seaborne WBC Councillor

Michael Dennett , Parish Clerk

1. Public Debate

No members of the public were present.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 27th February 2018 were considered. It was agreed to add the following to item 14 Councillors reports:

“ Cllr Martin stated that the Christmas trail at Winkworth Arboretum was so poor as to cause many complaints from paying visitors. **Cllr Martin to follow up.**”

The addendum was initialed and the minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

4. Disclosure of pecuniary and personal interests in any agenda items

John Graves declared an interest in the BT payphone and the rental thereof at the Hydestile crossroads.

John Graves also declared an interest in the agenda item relating to creating a conservation area at the Hydestile crossroads.

5. Finance report

The Clerk updated the meeting on the cash position. The Council have £19171 in the bank which includes the 2018/19 precept of £14250 received on 3rd April 2018.

A bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2018 was explained by the Clerk, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Copies of the cash book and bank statements were available for inspection

BT Payphone box at Hydestile Crossroads

It was agreed that the Council should continue to rent the BT telephone box and payphone at the Hydestile Crossroads for another year, cost £360 for the year. Proposed by Cllr Martin and seconded by Cllr Westwood.

The following invoices were approved and cheques signed during the meeting:

Clerk's salary March 18 chq 362 £312
Clerk's expenses March chq 363 £43.59
Venue Hire Clockbarn Hall chq 364 £36
BT payphone rental chq 365 £360
Surrey ALC Ltd subscription chq 366 £282.30
Maxwell & Co PAYE services chq 367 £144.00
Harry Stebbing Workshop noticeboard chq 368 £1182.60

All vouchers were available for inspection and Councillors' queries were resolved.

6. Planning Applications

Skogholm, Hascombe Road, Godalming, Surrey
WA/2018/0388

The following comments were approved at the meeting with alterations to the last two sentences subsequent to the meeting:

This application is the culmination of a type of planning law evasion which is sadly only too easy to achieve behind the high gates and hedges of a property such as Skogholm.

Seemingly all you have to do is get planning permission for a garage/store, build a small cottage instead, wait four years and hey presto.....you can claim it is all completely legal.

Busbridge Parish Council is quite certain that the other residents of Hascombe Road would be most unhappy if all planning law was repealed leading to a free for all of infill building. The housing density on the road would double and it would soon cease to be a sought after place to live.

It is most unfortunate that the owners of Skogholm appear to be able to rely on the time limit for enforcement action to circumvent and make a mockery of planning law.

Whilst not shown on any of the plans submitted, the so called garage in question is stated to be connected by "a porch" to the annexe already built. If combined and since there are already two double gates providing access to

the road the annexe and garage could easily become a more substantial separate property in their own right.

The two, relatively new sets of double entrance gates immediately next to each other also beg the question; did these have planning permission? The parish council is confident that if we had received such a planning application we would at least queried the need for two sets of gates immediately adjacent to each other.

We ask that WBC checks their records about the gates and if necessary takes appropriate enforcement action. Furthermore, if WBC is unable to prevent the application for lawfulness that at least it takes steps to prevent the garage/dwelling being split off and sold as a separate property.

7. Changes to the procedures for submitting the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, (AGAR)

The Clerk informed the meeting about changes in the submission of the Annual Return, now called the AGAR. For small parishes, such as Busbridge where both income and expenditure are below £25000 for the year, we can submit a Certificate of Exemption. This means that the parish council will not be required to submit its AGAR to the external auditor. Instead, the internal audit report, the AGAR and bank reconciliation will be posted on the council's website and noticeboards.

It was agreed that the Certificate of Exemption should be signed and submitted to the external auditor, proposed by Cllr Long and seconded by Cllr Graves.

8. Hydestile Crossroads Conservation Area : update

The Chair reported that the majority of residents were in favour of establishing a conservation area at the Hydestile Crossroads and the work will go ahead.

9. Tuesley Farm update

Concern was expressed over the number of polytunnels, erected this year. It was also noted that this year's polytunnel siting protocol is not visible on the WAB website.

10. Future shape of Busbridge Parish Council: pre warning letter to electors and time scale.

Discussion delayed to next meeting

11. Promoting BPC via a newsletter

After a discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Martin should produce a draft newsletter. Other Councillors to contribute news items as requested.

12. Planning roadshow : Questions to Elizabeth Sims

It was agreed to invite Elizabeth Sims to the next parish council meeting to answer planning questions from Councillors. The Clerk to arrange and submit questions prior to meeting.

13. Councillors' reports

Alison Martin : Winkworth Arboretum
Nothing to report

Philippa English : Footpaths

Philippa English reported that footpath 163 was repaired and was open to walkers but not horses. Philippa is following this up with the British Horse Society access team in an attempt to ensure that this footpath is not downgraded from a bridleway to a footpath.

New Road to Clockbarn Lane footpath; this new footpath has gained approval but is subject to a possible appeal by the landowner.

Maxine Long : Cheshire Home

The Summer fete is on 5th June at 2pm and any volunteers would be most welcome.

Joint Burial Committee :

Cllr Long attended the JBC meeting on 22nd March and noted there was an audit report containing minor points

Minutes of all JBC meetings are sent to the Clerk and reviewed on receipt.

Leithfield Park

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had made contact with the Residents Group at Leithfield Park and the parish council had been invited to a residents' meeting on Thursday 12th April. The Council to be represented by the Chair and Cllr Westwood.

14. Date of next meeting

Thursday 24th May 2018 at 5.30pm to include the Annual Meeting

Meeting closed at 6.50 pm