



Minutes of the Meeting of Bramley Parish Council

Held at Bramley Village Hall on 20th June 2024, starting at 18:00

PARTICIPANTS

Messrs P Leung (chairman), B Stern, T Coleman, F Stern, J Austin, M Vivian, N Gravenell. D Ersser, the Clerk, SCC Cllr Kevin Deanus, Chairman of Alfold Parish Council and 3 members of the public were also present.

051/24 **To receive apologies for absence**

Councillors Colin Marshall and Troy Saunders sent their apologies.

052/24 **To elect the Chairman**

Mr Leung was nominated for the position of Chairman by Cllr B Stern and seconded by Cllr N Gravenell—unanimous vote and duly elected. Mr Leung signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

053/24 **Declarations of interest**

None

054/24 **Minutes of the meeting 16th May 2024**

Minutes of the meeting of 16th May 2024, were agreed as a true record. These were signed by the chairman.

055/24 **Matters arising from minutes of the meeting of 16th May 2024**

None

056/24 **Correspondence**

Members noted the correspondence report circulated by the Clerk.

057/24 **Waverley and Surrey County Councillors Update**

Surrey County Council Update from Cllr Deanus

Cllr Deanus stated the speed consultation had finished and had found in favour of 20 mile per hour speed limits where appropriate, ie near schools and where there was local support. The 20 speed limits will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Cllr Deanus also noted that since the average speed check cameras have been operational in Bramley they have recorded a substantial reduction in speed of 5 miles per hour.

Cllr Deanus stated that his nomination for an ITS (Integrated transport Scheme) this year is a crossing along the A281 by Bramley Infant School. All 81 councillors can nominate one scheme and they are scored against each other (normally about 12 schemes are supported).

Waverley Borough Councillor Update from Cllr Austin

Nothing to report.

058/24 **Committee actions:**



Planning Review Committee

The planning report circulated by Cllr F Stern was noted by Councillors.

Cllr F Stern reported that she had attended the Dunsfold public consultation. She noted that an application for the first tranche of 500 houses was expected by the end of the year – there is permission for 1800 houses and Waverley Borough Council have 2600 in their plan. Cllr Stern also noted there are still a lot of unanswered questions including where the water supply will come from and how they will dispose of the foul water.

Highways committee

Thames water and road works update

The road closure of Station Road is now expected to stay in place until the end of next week (28.06.24) as Thames Water are replacing some additional pipes. The 'Do Not Drink' notice is likely to be in place for a minimum of a month after the works are completed to allow for extensive testing of the water.

Whilst the incident was initially escalated to gold standard at Surrey County Council it has now been deescalated to Waverley Borough Council.

The problems with BT Openreach are ongoing as they can't work on their ducting whilst the fuel remains.

On Friday 14th June Thames Water hit a water main resulting in the fuel returning to the stream and the flooding of the Jolly Farmer's cellar, illustrating the ground is still saturated with fuel.

The biggest challenge facing the village currently is to obtain a plan from ASDA and WBC to remediate the rest of the village. ASDA has had a pump and treat system at the fuel station which has treated 125,000 litres of water and removed 100,000 litres of fuel. The extent of the contamination in the rest of the village needs to be assessed and a plan put in place to remediate it. This could take years.

Cllr Austin also noted that Bramley Residents Action Group has been formed to assist in resolving these issues and encouraged residents to join their WhatsApp Group.

Public Session - The floor was opened to allow the public to ask questions.

3 members of the public asked questions regarding the progress of the road work, the testing of the water, the problems with BT Openreach, including the installation of a temporary telecommunications mast, the most concerning is how the relevant authorities are going to deal with the fuel contamination to the ground. One resident stated this is the biggest challenge Bramley has faced in the 45 years he has lived here.

There was also concern regarding the dissemination of information and lack of answers to so many questions.

Cllr Austin answered their specific questions where she was able to do so but stressed that WBC and EPS have not yet published any data on the extent of the pollution. Unfortunately, the problems are ongoing and the situation is constantly changing. Cllrs also pointed residents to Surrey County Council's website, Thames Water's website and the Parish Council's website for the latest information.

Surrey County Cllr Deanus pointed out that only statutory bodies could supply information, in this case it would be Waverley Borough Council.

The Chairman of Alfold Parish Council attended and suggested we work together on the call for sites, the joint Parishes planning applications and the Dunsfold Consultation particularly as there is no plan to deal with the extra



traffic which will ultimately come through Bramley.

Estate Manager Report

The Cllrs reviewed the list of maintenance requests in the village from Bramley Village Society. Cllr Gravenell and the Clerk will obtain quotes for the suggested works and look into securing funding. The works required at the library car park have been referred to Surrey County Council as that is their responsibility. The 2 generators have been removed from Fisher Rowe Close and it was agreed that Cllr Gravenell will get them repaired and then potentially donated to a local organisation.

Cllr F Stern noted that she had contacted the Bowls Club re the transfer of ownership but no further progress has been made as yet.

Resilience

Cllr Coleman referred Cllrs to the Emergency Plan, which states that in an emergency the Parish Council Emergency Co-ordinator should first refer the incident to Waverley Borough Council and then be available to assist the emergency services and utilities as necessary. He pointed out that this has been followed regarding the fuel leak and recommended that all Councillors should read it.

059/24 **Parish updates and actions**

- a. Pavilion and environs (including Gosden Common, Links Road)
Cllrs noted the comments from former Clerk David Morley and former Cllr R Gates regarding the maintenance of the track on Gosden Common following an inquiry from Gosden Common residents. The Clerk will contact the residents to clarify the situation.
- b. Station Road and environs (including Hall Road, Eastwood, Barton Road, Linersh Wood)
Nothing to report.
- c. High Street and environs (including Windrush Close, Old Rectory Close, Snowdenham Links Road and Lane) –
Cllrs discussed the request by the developer of the former Triumph garage to adopt the phone box at Chestnut Way but decided against this.
- d. Grounds and Downs Link
The Clerk received a request from Surrey Countryside Access to install a noticeboard at Bramley Station the Cllrs unanimously agreed to their request.
The Clerk will look into funding for a bench on the Downs Link by Eastwood Road Playground as requested by a resident for parents with dogs.
- e. Rural Parish (including Thorncombe Street, Birtley Green, Grafham and South) –

Clerk & Cllr
Gravenell

Clerk

Clerk

Nothing to report



060/24 Finance

- a. Payments listed at Appendix B (circulated) Members agreed payments between 8th May and 11th June, to the value of £5,896.65.
- b. 2023/24 finance report and annual audit
 - I. A report from the internal auditor was circulated by the RFO and was noted by Members. The RFO was congratulated on the excellent audit result.
 - II. Annual Governance statement circulated to Members by the RFO. By agreeing to this statement, Members acknowledge their responsibility for ensuring a sound internal control system, including arrangements for preparing the Accounting Statements. Members agreed with all comments, and the Chairman and the Clerk signed the information.
 - III. Members approved the accounting statement for the 2023/24 financial year, which the Chairman signed. The Clerk will submit the annual return to the external auditor by the end of June deadline and ensure the required documents are published on the Parish Council website.

RFO

061/24 Points of information and any other matters

- i. The Gazebo and Bramley Fete will be added to the agenda in January 2025 for discussion.

The meeting closed at 19.30

Agreed and signed Chairman, July 18th 2024