

## WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

**DRAFT Minutes** of the **Ordinary Parish Meeting** held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2022 at 7.30pm held at Wanborough Village Hall.

**Meeting started 7:30pm**

**Those present:** James Henry (JH, chairman), Jean Pereira (JP), Matt Harrison (MH), Martin Bramley (MB), Oscar de Chazal (OC), Matt Furniss (MF), Kim Sweeting (KS, clerk)

**Apologies:** Tony Rooth (TR)

**In attendance:** Richard Souchard (re agenda item 6) and members of the public.

A member of the public asked about a planning issue and the chairman directed that this should be raised under agenda item number 4.

### 1. Minutes

James Henry opened by thanking everyone for attending and apologising that the meeting had been postponed by one week.

Minutes of the previous meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and approved by all. The minutes were signed accordingly by the chairman.

### 2. Matters arising

JH raised with MF the white road markings missing on Wanborough Hill and Westwood Lane along to Christmas Pie. MF asked if WPC wanted the central line back or just the outside markings. MF stated that when a middle marker is in place people tend to drive faster. The Council agreed to have only the outer markings replaced, except on tight corners (where middle marker also needed).

OC raised that the Wanborough signage had come down. MF had seen this and will address.

JH asked for clarity when a private home has a hedge/hedgerow overhanging onto public footpaths, whose responsibility is it to prune back the hedge? MF confirmed that it is primarily the homeowner, WPC should encourage neighbours to raise it with that homeowner. Should that approach fail, GBC can be contacted and will arrange for pruning.

### 3. Update from SCC & GBC representatives

MF informed the council that SCC Highways Improvements Budget was increasing from £30,000 £50,000 for pavement and small road patching. He would appreciate being made aware of any areas to be prioritised for the new financial year. MF shared that he has a new Community allocation budget and would be interested in any local community events that needed support; for example, any plans for The Big Lunch. KS explained that WPC, Wanborough Barn Committee and The Village Hall Committee were collaborating to host a Big Lunch in line with the national plan to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, to be held at the Great Barn. MF stated that WPC should get in contact with him on the details and he would be willing to support.

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MF announced that the rumble strips requested by WPC will be delivered in the new financial year post April 2022. MH mentioned the road damage at the Farnham turnaround on the Hogs Back, MF confirmed he would report it.

MH then raised the current state of litter along the Hogs Back. JH asked whether volunteers could litter pick beside such a major road. MF clarified that volunteer litter-picking was not illegal, but he would not recommend it. SCC schedule periodic litter-picking with vegetation pruning. It was stated that people are just throwing rubbish out of car windows. MF suggested if you see that happen, it would be helpful if you could take note of a number plate and report them on the GBC website. MH described some litter-picking procedures used elsewhere that prevented lane closures. MF agreed to review the Hogs Back litter issue.

#### **4. Planning and enforcement updates**

##### **- Feedback from GBC enforcement meeting with parish council reps**

OC reported that, on behalf of WPC, he had attended a GBC Planning Enforcement meeting on 6/1/2022 chaired by Ian Doyle. The objective of the meeting, which was attended by approximately twelve local parish councils, to summarise GBC's enforcement powers and address some of the concerns felt by parish councils. OC reported how he had raised WPC's concerns over the Fields, specifically raising the disappointing lack of action since various formal enforcement notices had been served. OC had made a case for making an example of some non-compliant landowners, to encourage others to comply with the enforcement actions required. GBC had been non-committal, but stated that GBC risked paying for any clear up if GBC were unable to extract the costs incurred from the landowner. OC had stated that GBC need to be seen to punish people for the breaking the law.

##### **- Status of recent applications**

WPC welcomed GBC's recent decision to refuse planning application 21/P/02376 to install an electricity supply to Plot 4 in Wanborough Fields; it was noted that many objections had been submitted by local residents.

JH stated that he hoped that the consistent stance of GBC over the last two years, regarding multiple refusals of planning applications and appeals, in respect of the whole AONB / AGLV area of Wanborough Fields, was now better understood by both existing and potential owners of the various plots. JH asked local residents to share these facts with any interested parties and suggest they undertake appropriate due diligence when considering a future planning application on this land.

OC notified WPC of the trees recently planted in the AONB Fields Orchard Plot.

KS stated that there were no new outstanding applications awaiting comment.

##### **- Status of ongoing enforcement actions**

OC then outlined the position on each of the plots in the lower field. In response to a question from a member of the public, OC confirmed that WPC had already recommended to GBC that it would

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save GBC time and money in the longer term, if in the event of non-compliance by landowners, they were to action one or more of the legal enforcement notices themselves (for site clearance).

Following communication from several local residents OC had reported several recent skip fires in Wanborough Fields to GBC and followed up with a call to the Environmental Health Organisation (EHO). MF recommended that if such skip burning continues it should be reported to SCC (rather than GBC); especially if it is commercial rubbish.

- **New issue re GBC planning procedures**

A local resident raised their concern re GBC's handling of application 20/P/01970 for a Certificate of Lawfulness for an existing use or development to establish whether the mixed use of the land as a caravan and camp site and for the flying of aircraft, including model aeroplanes, micro-lights, paramotors and paragliders started more than ten years from the date of this application. Homestead Farm, West Flexford Lane, Wanborough, GU3 2JW. The application was approved by GBC in Nov 2021.

It was noted that the original application (Nov 2020) was for caravans and paramotors but had been changed in July 2021 to remove the paramotors, thus significantly changing the nature of the application. The local resident pointed out that this late change to the application took place after all interested parties had submitted their comments. As far as WPC was aware, neither local residents nor WPC had been notified about the change to the application. It was noted that if members of the public had been made aware by GBC of the change to the application, many local residents would have changed the emphasis and content of their submitted comments to focus on the amended content of the application.

After some discussion, it was unanimously agreed that WPC should raise the issue directly with GBC Planning department to ask whether GBC's proper processes and procedures had been followed in this case. OC agreed to email GBC.

**5. Proposed WPC response to Surrey Hills AONB boundary review.**

JH thanked OC for preparing an excellent document in respect of this consultation process. Every member of the Council applauded the level of research and hours it must have taken OC to produce the paper. OC provided a brief verbal recap of WPC's main recommendations. WPC's response was approved and submitted on 27/1/2022. KS confirmed that a copy of WPC's submission was now available on the WPC website. OC clarified that we should not expect a formal decision by DEFRA before August 2023.

OC reported that on 11/3/2022, he and Mary Frayne had arranged a visit to Wanborough Fields (and hamlet) for six local MPs to discuss the AONB review and see the area for themselves. OC described the outline plan for an initial the discussion in the Great Barn and then take a walk up to the Fields. Local press representatives were also expected to be there. MF suggested inviting Ian Doyle (GBC) to attend the MP's visit. OC confirmed he would invite him

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## **6. Farnborough Airport Post implementation review.**

The chairman invited Richard Souhard (RS) to address the meeting. RS provided a verbal summary of the increased flight activity at Farnborough Airport. The airport was now under the ownership of the private equity arm of Macquarie Bank and since a CAA consultation process in 2014 the airport's capacity had been significantly increased to 50,000 flights per annum, to include both small private planes and commercial jets of up to 18 tonnes (equivalent of an A320). Given the last two years of Covid restrictions, current usage was approximately 20,000 flights per annum, but RS thought that usage would rise quickly in 2022. RS distributed copies of the revised designated take-off and landing flight paths; assuming normal prevailing wind conditions RS understood that 20% of departures and 80% of landings would fly directly over Wanborough Parish and other neighbouring parishes at relatively low heights, despite the AONB designation of much of the land beneath. RS estimated that this activity would average 70 flights per day, or 5 per hour; with perhaps 10 an hour in peak morning and evening periods. RS noted that Farnborough Airport only controlled the airspace in a three-mile radius, with the CAA responsible for the main flight paths. RS was very concerned that local residents were not included in the 2014 consultation process and were receiving no direct or indirect benefit from the increased flight / business activity. RS stated that some form of "post implementation review" was now being undertaken by the CAA and/or Farnborough Airport, although it was unclear who could participate in the review.

JH thanked RS for all his helpful background information. It was agreed that WPC should (i) write to our local MP, Angela Richardson; (ii) if possible, raise the topic during the visit of local MPs in March 2022; and (iii) highlight the whole issue on the WPC website, including copies of the current flightpaths now used by the CAA and the airport.

## **7. Traffic and road matters**

No other issues arising.

## **8. Finances and cheques**

JH thanked everyone for their support in approving WPC's precept request for 2022-23. WPC applied FOR a precept £5300. Part of the larger precept received in 2021-22 was earmarked for delayed costs to be incurred in 2022. Therefore, the amount requested is lower for the coming financial year.

### Payments made since last meeting.

WPC has paid the annual subscriptions to re-join the SLCC at £98 and the SALC/NALC at £110. In addition, as previously approved by councillors, £56 had been paid in respect of a "Spicer plaque" to be attached to the new bench outside the Great Barn. JH asked for councillors approval to contribute £200 to the Puttenham & Wanborough Community group (in Feb 2022); this was unanimously agreed.

OC noted that there may be some modest expenditure required in respect of the forthcoming MPs visit in March; this was approved by all.

## **9. Consultations**

None

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#### **10. Date of next meetings**

The next meeting dates were agreed as being:

- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.30pm

#### **11. Any other business**

The Big Lunch, as previously mentioned above.

JP mentioned the need for an additional representative for the Puttenham & Wanborough Community group management committee. Any volunteers were asked to contact JP.

The meeting was then closed by the chairman at 20:43

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