



TONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING: Monday 20/05/2024, held at the Old School Hall, Poyle Road, Tongham at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT:

Cllr S Habgood	Cllr M Murray	Cllr L Lowdon	Mr D Evans
Cllr P Buckley	Cllr S Gray	Cllr E Hall	Mr P Bearman
Mr T Boxall			

Clerk: Zedekiah Watyoka

1. Chairman's announcements and apologies for absence: Cllr Barker and Cllr Furniss, who has sent updates via email – Many thanks. Apologies from Cllr L Oakley
2. The minutes from the meeting on 15/04/2024 were approved. Proposed Cllr S Gray, Seconded: Cllr P Buckley. Signed by Cllr S Habgood.
3. Code of conduct: disclosure of interest: None.
4. Matters arising: none which would not be dealt with in the course of the meeting.
5. County and Borough matters: Cllr Furniss sent these via email and have been copied below:

Surrey County Council update for Tongham Parish Council

Seale & Sands Updates

Flooding Update

The Section 19 report which should be complete by the end of this month. However, in short, the amount of water involved on The Street earlier this year was extreme.

In the meantime, the team have identified multiple drainage defects along The Street, without which the volume of water running down The Street would have been less (but still significant). These are being actioned for clearance/repair.

West Ring, the crews were there yesterday and discovered that the main line was heavily rooted with very little water able to get through. They returned today with a root cutter and have managed to restore flow to the system. We think this may resolve the issue but we will keep an eye on it and see if anything else needs to be done.

Poyle Road Pavement

Following requests I have asked the Highways team to look into construction of a new footpath from the recreation ground to Scout Hut, at the cost of £45,000 it has been commissioned and will be delivered this financial year.

AONB Review

The Surrey AONB Review is expected to publish the consultation response in May 2024.

Your Fund Surrey Small Community Projects

Your Fund Surrey Small Community Projects Fund is available for projects worth between £1,000 and £50,000 to support capital community projects. Each Surrey County Councillor has been given £100,000 Small Community Project funding to allocate in their local areas and they can decide which projects that £100,000 is spent on.

Please let me know if there are any local projects that residents would like to support.

Your Councillor Community Fund

Each County Councillor has £5,000 of funding per year to support residents and community organisations to deliver activities that benefit local people in their neighbourhoods. This funding is known as Your Councillor Community Fund (YCCF).

Please let me know if there are any local projects that residents would like to support.

SCC Updates

Surrey Hills is Better by Rail Campaign

I was really pleased to be at the launch of the Surrey Hills Rail to Ramble this morning at Chilworth Station. We have such fantastic countryside in Surrey to be explored and a vibrant rural economy. Promoting access by Rail and Bus as sustainable means to enjoy the countryside demonstrates the ease in which residents can walk on our Rights of Way routes.

The campaign has been launched to encourage visitors to the Surrey Hills National Landscape to travel by rail. The ambition of Rail to Ramble is to create walking routes which give users the very best countryside experiences whilst leaving the car at home. This creates a greener and more accessible National Landscape for all visitors looking for connections to nature.

<https://surreyhills.org/activity/rail-to-ramble/>

<https://surreyhills.org/activity/shalford-to-chilworth/>

With thanks to funding from Great Western Railway's Customer and Community Improvement Fund, the Southeast Communities Rail Partnership and Surrey Hills National Landscape commissioned local artist Diana Croft to create railway posters which champion sustainable travel along the North Downs Line. This railway line connecting Reading to London Gatwick Airport offers a beautiful train

Subject to formal ratification at an extraordinary Full Council meeting on 9 April 2024, Terence is expected to take over as Chief Executive in the summer.

Terence joined Wiltshire Council in 2011, where he was appointed Chief Executive in June 2020. Prior to this he held a number of senior leadership roles including Head of Service for Safeguarding, Associate Director for Children's Services, Executive Director for Children & Families, Leisure & Communities, Corporate Services and HR & Organisational Development, and Chief Executive Officer for People.

Terence began his career as a Registered Mental Nurse (RMN) and then qualified as a social worker, taking up posts in children's services at the London Borough of Lewisham, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, and North Somerset Council.

Fleet of hydrogen powered buses set to launch across parts of Surrey, Sussex and Kent following successful bid for £10 million of government funding

A partnership between Surrey County Council, Metrobus (Go Ahead), West Sussex County Council, Kent County Council and London Gatwick has won a bid for funding to launch a new fleet of 43 hydrogen powered buses.

The Department for Transport has awarded the partnership over £10 million, which combined with £11.6 million from Metrobus (Go Ahead) and almost £3 million from the other partners brings the total for the project to over £24 million.

In addition, Surrey's own bid to support electrification of Compass and White Bus companies was also successful meaning that the first two bus SME in the UK are going electric.

6. Adjournment: Mr Boxall brought to the attention of the council the proposed development behind Manor House Flats. Apparently, this was proposed some years back and GBC has starting consulting with residence. Mr Boxall raised concerns on the need to preserve the flora and fauna mainly the Beech Trees and Bluebells. Cllr Sallie Barker is aware of this and has taken it under observation and she will be discussing this with Cllr Matthew Furniss.

7. Reports from working groups:

a. Finance, Policy and Administration: Cllr Gray.

1. The annual governance statement for 2023/24 and the Accounting Statements 2023/24 were approved at the meeting of the authority and was signed by the Vice Chair Cllr S Habgood and the Parish Clerk Zedekiah Watyoka. This was proposed by Cllr E Hall and seconded by Cllr L Lowdon.
2. The internal audit report for 2023/24 conducted on the 10th of May 2024 was reviewed by the council. This was proposed by Cllr M Murray and seconded by Cllr S Habgood.
3. The financial statement of the month ending April 2024 was reviewed by the council and was signed and approved by Cllr S Habgood.
4. Risk assessment 2023 is still ongoing.
5. The agreement to have councillors receive and send Tongham Parish Council Communications by email using Tongham Parish council emails was signed by all Councillors present.

6. Section 106 monies. The money has so far been used for the ramp at the recreation centre. Quotations for revamping the little playground and the pathway leading to the bonfire are still being finalised and will be discussed in due course.
7. Section 137 regulations and follow ups. The policy of granting monies under section 137 was reviewed by the council to better understand how this money is granted. They were 3 applications submitted for these monies. Two applications were granted, and one was denied as per regulations.
8. Allotment fees and notices. The allotment fees for 2024 have been received mostly. Individuals that have not paid and have not been working on their plots will have their plots taken away as per regulation of the Spoil Road Allotments. A walk about was conducted on the 6th of May and those plots that are not being worked on have been served with a months' notice, failure to comply will result in termination of the lease. A walk about is planned again for the end of June 2024. It was noted that some of the allotments have been troublesome over the years with tenancy being granted but shortly afterwards being terminated because of the neglect that has occurred over years. Mr T Boxman has offered to assist within reason with his equipment where and when possible.

b. **PLANNING:** Cllr Murray.

1. Application Ref: 24/P/00469

Location: Meadow View Park, Hogs Back, Seale, Farnham, GU10 1LA

Proposal: Application for the installation of sunken gas canister
The council agreed that this matter will be best dealt with by GBC.

c. **LIGHTING AND GENERAL PURPOSE:** Cllr Buckley

1. Fireworks: Ongoing.

8. Execution of documents: to consider if necessary passing the following resolution:
"That the Council do seal in the manner prescribed by law, or the clerk or member as appropriate, do sign on behalf of the Council any Order, Deeds or Documents, required to give effect to any of the matters and recommendations contained in the reports as presented to, and approved by, the Council on 20th May 2024".
Proposed: Cllr Murray, Seconded: Cllr Buckley.

Signed: .....
L P Oakley, Chair of meeting, Date: 17 June 2024.