

Woldingham Parish Council

MINUTES of a Meeting held at Woldingham Village Hall, Woldingham on 30 April 2009 at 7.30pm.

Present: Greg Meekings (Chairman) Andrew Barton
Frank Myers Alistair Pirie
Nigel Cohen Rodney Fuller
Sally Marks Bobby Johnson

1. Apologies: Cllr Fuller

2. Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2009 had been circulated and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to the following amendment:

“The Council have assessed its significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these”.

3. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Barton - Craigmyle Glebe, resident of Church Road
Cllr Meekings - Owner of the domain Woldingham.com
Cllr Marks - Member of another authority
Cllr Johnson - Company Secretary Woldingham Magazine
Cllr Pirie - Park View Road Residents/Good Neighbour Transport Scheme

4. Matters arising:

The following points arose in discussion of the Action List:

Slines Oak island: Cllr Howe advised that there had been three expressions of interest in both the Island and the Footpath. Mr Packington had drawn a specification and a meeting has been arranged with SCC the following week. Cllr Howe advised that the most expensive item will be the traffic management whilst the works are being carried out. Cllr Howe showed the Council an example of the brick that will be used for the work.

Barrier and information board at view point: The company has been contacted and asked to fix the padlock fitting. The information board has been delayed until the end of May.

Footpath along Northdown Road: Cllr Howe advised that three expressions of interest had been received.

Maintenance: Cllr Cohen advised he will contact Mr Packington.

Hanging Baskets: Cllr Cohen advised that he had spoken to all Crescent residents and all but 1 were happy for the Council to go ahead with the hanging baskets.

5. Planning Matters:

- a. A copy of Appendix A was circulated to all members before the meeting and was ratified by the Council.
- b. **Infringements:** Cllr Pirie advised that the TDC website was continuing to have problems and the Council agreed that if the site was not up and running within a week a letter would be sent. Cllr Pirie will draft letter. Cllr Pirie advised that he was following up the situation at Knights and will contact the planning officer re Forest Ridge as a completion order was mentioned as the site hasn't changed for months.

Cllr Johnson advised that a mast has gone up at the end of the Station Car Park and no planning permission was needed as this was under permitted development and is for communications use only.

6. Finance:

- a. **Payments:** The payments as Appendix B were signed and approved.

7. Highways & Rights of Way:

Highways Monitoring and Reporting:

Cllr Fuller submitted a report in his absence. Thanks were given to all the residents in Slines Oak Road who had cut back their hedges and advised that SCC had cut back the hedge of Orchard House but some work was still needed.

A survey of the hedges and verges need to be carried out in Lunghurst Road.

Letters have been sent to Woodland Trust re overgrowth in Gangers and Woldingham Golf Course re their hedge on the east side of Northdowns Road.

Marden school are chasing their contractor to cut the playing field hedge.

Cllr Marks advised that she had been in touch with Highways re the Ridge and dip in the road near Slines House and is questioning whether the surface is adequate.

Cllr Marks confirmed that she has put forward Northdowns Road for resurfacing. Cllr Marks confirmed that she had reported the potholes at The Ridge and in Southdowns Road.

The Community Gang will be coming to Woldingham on the 25 May and will carry out undercutting on Woldingham Road which will help pedestrians and also cleaning out the gullies near Glebe Cottage.

8. Reports:

Cllr Meyers submitted a report from the Council's visit to Biggin Hill Airport on the 28 April.

Summary of points arising from the meeting at Biggin Hill Airport on 28th April, 2009

**Present: G Meekings, F Myers, A Pirie (WPC)
P Lonergan (Airport Managing Director), Air Traffic Controller**

The managing director confirmed that WPC had not been granted a seat on the Consultative Committee. From his account, it appeared that some members imagined that WPC membership would lead to membership for every parish council in the region. It was also claimed that WPC membership was prevented by the constitution of the Committee, which was said to restrict PC membership to those within 2 miles of the airport. WPC representatives asked for a copy of this constitution and of the membership list.

A flightpath diagram was provided. PC members relayed the continuing concern of Woldingham residents about low flying. The managing director confirmed that precise records of flights (times, flightpaths, heights, etc) are kept at the airport as well as at the national centre. PC members asked that such data be used in responses to residents, whose perceptions of height were not necessarily 'educated'. PC members commented that Woldingham residents were perceiving deviations from the landing flightpath, which did not show a route across the village. Some aircraft might be joining the landing path later than the flightpath diagram showed.

The managing director explained a key point for Woldingham about the takeoff pattern. Aircraft making a southbound take-off must make a 270 degree right turn as soon as they reach appropriate height and speed in order to fly eastwards over the airport to leave its airspace. Smaller aircraft can achieve this without coming near Woldingham, but the airport managing director acknowledged that jets, and in particular the larger 40 ton executive jets, need more space for this manoeuvre and do fly over Woldingham on the turn, albeit at the regulation 1200 feet above the ground. It was claimed that pilots want to get to this height as quickly as possible for general safety reasons and have no interest in flying low near buildings

or masts.

Trends in airport traffic were discussed. Aircraft movements are significantly reduced on forecast because of the economic downturn. A further increase had been expected beyond the 30% increase of 2008. In fact, traffic has reduced to 2006 levels.

The managing director confirmed that the MET has not abandoned its proposal to have night refuelling by MET helicopters at Biggin Hill. However, he added that extensions of night flying would be of no commercial interest to the airport. Where it was permitted at other airports, traffic volumes were very low and costs were high.

A 76 bedroom hotel is planned within the airport perimeter. The hotel is intended primarily for aircrew but will be open to the public. A 100 bedroom hotel was previously refused on appeal. A new planning application will be made soon to Bromley Council.

The new hangar building was visited. It appears to be months from completion. This hangar is designed for the maintenance of aircraft based in the Middle East. Inevitably it will increase airport traffic but the aircraft types using the airport will be unaffected.

A helicopter company offering flights over London is no longer based at the airport.

Action points

- Consider our response to the refusal of a place on the Consultative Committee, having found out more about the grounds for this refusal.
- Consider our response to a possible consultation by Bromley Council on the hotel application, with special reference to whether it might lead to additional unwelcome overflying of Woldingham. (Tandridge District Council has agreed to consult the PC before responding to consultations from Bromley Council concerning the airport.)
- Look out for any developments concerning the MET refuelling proposal.
- Press for responses to complaints that give precise details of the flights in question, rather than being offered bland assurances.

9. Miscellaneous Matters:

- a. **Airports:** Covered above.
- b. **Station Car Parking:** Cllr Barton confirmed that the questionnaire which were inserted into the newsletter are coming in and will be reviewed at the next meeting. Cllr Marks advised that she had received one letter and Cllr Barton advised he had received three telephone calls.
- c. **Annual Parish Meeting:** On going arrangements.
- d. **Newsletter:** The Chairman confirmed that the newsletter had been sent out and thanked the volunteer 'stuffers'.
- e. **Voluntary Transport Scheme Grant** – The Chairman confirmed that he will chase Margaret Norris for a specific amount before the Council can consider the grant application.
- f. **Newcomers Meeting:** A meeting is being arranged by Rosemary Pirie for residents who have moved to the Village within the past two years on 18 June at 7.30pm.
- g. **Litterpick:** Cllr Barton advised that more than 40 Adults turned up and the Council needs to purchase some more Hi Viz vests. Cllr Barton advised that he has been looking into first aid courses but these are very expensive and run over two days. Cllr Marks suggested asking at the APM for volunteers who would be interested in attending a first aid course and help out on a rota basis at events in the Village.

Cllr Marks advised that Halliloo Valley Road should be included in the litter pick and volunteered to do so next time but requested 5 other volunteers to work with her. Cllr Fuller will be asked to provide his tractor to help with the safety.

10. Meetings to attend:

11. Correspondence:

Letter were circulated in the correspondence file. The Parish Council agreed to reinforce the Resolution it took regarding Mr J O'Brien.

12. Any Other Business:

- a) Diary: All Councillors completed diary dates for May 2009.
- b) Cllr Marks asked that a letter be sent to the Amenities Department at TDC regarding the recycling collection as we have received a number of complaints that they are not turning up on their designated day.
- c) Cllr Marks advised that Swine Flu is now on Phase 5 and lots of information is on the Surrey County Council website. Cllr Howe asked if there is an epidemic what could the Council do to help the elderly residents. The Chairman advised that that the Council must be prepared to hold a 'virtual meeting' to get all organisations of the village together.
- d) Cllr Johnson advised that she will be retiring after the APM. The Council thanked Cllr Johnson for all her hard work over the past nine years.

Meeting ended at 9.30pm

2 members of the public present part of the time

WPC Appendix A April 2009 Meeting

Recommendations of planning group:

2009/187 By The Church, Church Road - erection of two storey side and rear extension incorporating single storey porch to rear elevation.

No objection - conditions applied for

2009/280 Summerhayes, Lunghurst Road - erection of two storey extension to existing dining room and master bedroom on the east elevation.
(Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed development.)

No objection

2009/324 Chartwood, Station Road - erection of single storey front extension and single storey rear extension.

No objection

2009/314 The Old Nursery, Lunghurst Road - retention of existing terrace; the blocking up of openings to east elevation; removal of internal stairway and internal walls and fittings in basement; landscaping on north and east elevations.

No objection - conditions applied for

2009/351 Land east of footpath 123 and south of footpath 37, Churhc Road - retention of chalk base to allow for continued storage of manure.

No objection

2009/355 Dukes Hill House, Dukes Hill - demolition of portion of stable block and erection of detached double garage (Certificate of Lawfulness for a Proposed Development)

No objection

Decisions by TDC under delegated powers:

Approve

2008/1384 Meadow Way, Northdown Road - demolition of garage, stables and workshop. Erection of replacement outbuilding to provide double garage, store and workshop.

2008/1755 Woodmead, Park View Road - demolition of double garage. Erection of two storey building to provide garaging.

2008/1610 The White Cottage, Woldingham Road - demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling. Details of access, appearance, layout and scale. (Reserved matters to TA/2004/415R).

2009/59 15 Beulah Walk - erection of single storey side and rear extensions. Insertion of dormer window to front roofslope to allow for habitable loft space. (Certificate of Lawfulness for a Proposed Development)

2009/197 Four Chimneys, Park View Road - erection of single storey extension to enclose existing swimming pool.

2009/107 Dukes Mount, Lunghurst Road - demolition of car port and erection of garage.

2009/201 Farthings, Station Road - erection of two storey rear and first floor extension over existing dwelling.

Refuse

2008/1748 Underhill, Station Road - erection of single storey side extension to each of the east and west elevations and erection of single storey rear extension.

Appeals

APP/M3645/A/08/2087357/WF 40 & 42 Hilltop Walk - demolition of single storey extension. Erection of part 2-storey part single storey rear extension and front porch.
Refused

APPENDIX B WOLDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL APRIL 2009

Gold Account

Balance as at 30 April 2009	£57,543.37
Transfer to Deposit	£4,500.00

Expenses to be paid:

Karen Newman Wages	£456.06	
Less Tax due of 0.68p		- 0.68p = 455.38
General Expenses		£82.50
Village Hall Rent		£15.75
Greg Meekings – Stamps re newsletter	£336	
Cornhill Insurance		£767.53
Colin Packington re land registry copies	£6.00	
Viking Direct		£183.02
Expenses for the month		£1846.18
Balance		£454.78

