

**Woldingham Parish Council**  
**Draft minutes to be approved at the next meeting.**

**MINUTES of a Meeting held in Arthur Herbert Room on Wednesday 27 September 2023.**

**Present:** Councillors Alex Foulds, Irinia Hoble-Aldersley, Peter Holbrook, Peter Hutchinson, Leanna McEwan, Daniel Mann, Carole North, Deborah Sherry (Chairman)

Karen Newman – Parish Clerk

Richard Biggs – Top Aid to East Surrey MP and Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, Claire Coutinho - joined the meeting. He had been asked 5 questions to prepare for the meeting, to address our MP's views.

**1. Claire's thoughts on proposed next steps on ULEZ.**

ULEZ – Richard advised that a survey will be going out to residents affected by ULEZ (north of patch) to find out how it is affecting them, and Cllr North asked to be updated as to when the survey will be going out. Richard mentioned that those residents bordering London boroughs are more affected and advised that the Government had looked at lots of legal options to stop ULEZ going ahead but unfortunately none were available. Richard advised that the mayor elections are in May 2024 and encouraged people who can vote in the election to vote Conservative as they will scrap ULEZ if they are elected.

**2. Claire's priorities as Secretary of State, implications for East Surrey and how District and Parish Councils can support Claire in her brief (particularly on Net Zero).**

Claire's official title is 'Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero' and she works closely with the Prime Minister.

Working with the PM and working in the first instance on Energy Security. He noted that the UK has cut emissions by half since 1990 and rest of G7 only by 8%; ¼ of UK electricity now comes from offshore wind, in 2010 was less than 1percent. The UK is building the first nuclear power plant since the 90s. Moving away from reliance on oil and gas, and we do sell a lot of our North Sea crude abroad as you need the right oil in the right quantities. Last week Claire was in Paris with HM the King and Pres Macron working on energy security. And she is still doing visits and surgeries in East Surrey.

*Richard will get back to us on her views on how to support hyper local solutions.*

### **3.Claire's views on softening of some net zero targets (electric cars, boilers etc and target date changes)**

Can't deliver net zero by 2050 without everyone's support. If telling someone in 250k house they need an 8.5k heat source pump in next 5 years, it won't work. Don't want to hit hardest those who can least afford it. We will keep 2050 date as our target but ease transition to electric cars, in line with other euro countries, and increase subsidies to deliver better heating (likely to 7k).

### **4.Claire's view on the planning reforms in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill?**

Supportive of new infrastructure level, replaces community infra and s 106.

Richard advised that Claire is supportive of the new infrastructure community levy.

*Will it be redistributed to Parish Councils? Richard to follow up and revert.*

*Local design codes. How will local design codes work? Richard can't answer. Will revert if he can.*

Richard further noted that there is a delay on biodiversity net gain element of the bill. But it will go forward.

### **5.Claire's views on the proposed extension to the AONB and is she supportive of the AONB generally?**

Richard advised that Claire is supportive all AONB extensions. Richard was asked why her views on the Quarry proposal seemed at odds with that. He answered that she did not get involved in planning.

Other topics raised with Richard on behalf of Claire:

### **6. Thanks for support for Ukrainian refugees – they are finding it hard to find new places – are guarantees for grants, deposits etc. possible?**

*Richard noted it should be a local issue and he could check if there was any subsidy available in Tandridge.*

Cllr Mann thanked Claire for all her help with regards to the Ukrainians but advised that more help is needed regarding accommodation.

The Chairman thanked Richard for attending the meeting – the discussion ended at 8.29pm.

September meeting opened at 8.30pm.

### **1. Apologies: Cllr Holmes and Terri Waghorn, Planning Assistant**

## 2. **Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI):**

None

### **Declarations of Bias Interest:**

Cllr Sherry – CIC

Cllr North – member of Tandridge District Council

Cllr Mann – Woldingham School

3. **Minutes:** The Draft Minutes of the meeting of 26 July 2023 had been circulated to all Councillors and placed on Woldingham.com and Facebook.

4. **Matters arising from the Minutes:** - will be covered during the meeting.

**Planning:** The Chairman advised that an application had been received from Surrey County Council to vary the Quarry minerals license and build housing and the response deadline is 30 days from receipt of notice, in other words 21 October.

The Chairman advised that the Woldingham Association has asked if the Parish Council would share the cost 50/50 with regards to hiring a traffic consultant and receiving planning advice with regards to the variation of the mineral license. The Chairman advised that it was likely to be approximately £2,000 for each consultant (per entity) for the initial work but that it could go somewhat higher. She asked that the Parish Council vote on setting a budget to empower a working party to engage the necessary work. It was agreed that the proposed Crescent work would be delayed until the next fiscal year and along with the legal and profession budget of £3,000 a vote was taken and carried to support a budget of up to £7,000.

The Chairman advised that the leader of TDC, Catherine Sayer contacted her on behalf of Oxted Parish Council and asked whether the Woldingham Parish Council would be happy to do a joint response with Oxted PC. The Parish Council agreed that they were happy to do a joint response but asked the Chairman to contact Oxted Parish Council to ask them to share 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the cost of consultants.

A working party was set up consisting of Cllrs Hoble-Aldersley, Holbrook, Sherry and Mann and a date will be arranged as soon as possible to hold the first meeting. The Chairman advised that on the application it states that the National Trust is on board and will manage the land; the National Trust apparently has grave concerns and objected to the 2014 application for fewer houses and will make their position known shortly. There are a number of other statements in the application that need investigation as they may not quite represent the actual situation.

The Chairman advised that she would contact Michael Thurgood for an update as she had asked him to look into precedents regarding jurisdiction to determine housing for this type of application.

Below are the Councillors responsible for planning:

Cllrs Holmes and Holbrook – October  
Cllrs Foulds and Hutchinson – November  
Cllrs Mann and Hoble-Aldersley - December

**b. Infringements:**

Cllr North advised that she had been asked to provide a list of the current infringements to the new Head of Planning, Helen Murch. These currently include: Woldingham School (built form and tree felling in the AONB that is not the subject of a planning app); Woldingham School Car Park; construction on Camp Road and construction on Hilltop Walk. This information will inform the priorities on the enforcement 'list'

Forest Ridge was discussed as an outstanding issue. It was noted that Terri Waghorn had once again written to TDC enforcement to raise the uncompleted works. TDC noted that they could not force the applicant to start the planned works (building the retaining wall), so there was no enforcement matter at this time.

Cllr North advised that herself, Chairman Sherry and WA Chairman David Shelley are giving Helen a tour of the ward on the 11 October.

The Parish Council agreed that they would review what applications would go on the Planning List to call into TDC Planning Committee at each monthly meeting.

The following was agreed to go onto the list:  
The Warren: 2022/1666, and 2021/8  
Woldingham School (adventure area): 2022/659  
Ravello: 2023/271  
Woodrising (walls and gates): 2023/1023

**6.Finance:**

- a. **Payments:** The payments as listed in *Appendix B* were circulated to all Councillors before the meeting. The Parish Council voted to agree that all payments were authorised and should be signed off as approved.
- b. **AGAR** – The Clerk advised that the AGAR form had been completed and returned with no outstanding issues. The forms had been placed on Woldingham.com.

**7.Miscellaneous Matters:**

**a. Chalk Pit Quarry Application:-**

Covered above.

**b. Woldingham Connections:**

The Chairman confirmed that this will take place on Saturday 30 September 12-6pm at the Village Club and urged all Councillors to share with any WhatsApp groups they belong too. Cllr North advised that she would contact all the exhibitors by email to confirm the set up details. A record number of posters had been put up along with ad boards on the roads.

- c. **Donation of land in Haliloo Valley Road**  
Deferred to the October meeting.
- d. **TDC Consultation re Dogs in the District.** The Chairman advised that Cllr North's article had come out in the Woldingham magazine two weeks ago and was shared by a resident on numerous social media sites. District Councillor North noted that 55 people had contacted her against the idea and 3 thought it was a good idea. The Chairman advised that Jackie Wren had contacted Cllr North and thanked her for highlighting that the minutes produced were, in her words, 'ambiguous'.

The Chairman advised that Cllr Wren had also contacted her and advised that the article written by Cllr North was incorrect. Cllr Wren asked The Chairman to listen to the minutes and recording posted on the TDC website. The Chairman advised that she had read the minutes and listened to and transcribed the recording and confirmed that the article Cllr North wrote was correct.

Cllr Wren issued a statement and advised the consultation for requiring all dogs on leads in all open spaces will not be proposed, but a more limited proposal will go to consultation. The Chairman thanked Cllr North for her article and Cllr North thanked the community for getting so involved.

- e. **D Day 6/6/24** – deferred to the October meeting.
- f. **Chairman's vote at SALC Conference** – The Chairman advised that the Council needs to vote on giving her permission to vote on behalf of the Parish Council at the SALC conference on the 19 October. The Parish Council voted and carried that the Chairman can vote on behalf of the Parish Council.
- g. **Yellow Lines in Church Road** - The Chairman advised that a resident had raised the fading yellow lines on Church Road on Facebook. The Chairman contacted Cllr Becky Rush and asked her to put on the list. Cllr Rush responded and advised that Church Road has been placed on the list but will take approximately 6 months.
- h. **Footpath 40** – the Chairman advised that the Parish Council has been chasing since February for the drain to be cleaned. Cllr Rush had once again got the drain clearing added to the maintenance list, timeline for works as yet unknown. The Chairman will contact Cllr Rush to obtain a timeline for this to happen.
- i. **Grant Applications** – The Clerk advised that application form is on the website and all applications need to be received by the 21 November.
- j. **AONB Rural Consultation** – The Chairman had circulated the Parish Council's response by email and taken comments and amendments from all. The Parish Council voted to ratify the response sent.

## **8.Woldingham Neighbourhood Plan:**

- a. **CCTV in Church Road** – Cllr Holbrook advised that he had met with 3 companies and will circulate the quotes to all Councillors so that they can put together a specification. Once that has been received Cllr Holbrook will go

back to all three with the preferred specifications so all three can quote for the same set-up.

b. **Security and Safety – Interaction with Surrey Police:** nothing to report. The Chair will reach out to Surrey Police to get an update on the latest stats and issues. The Chair also noted that she will reach out to the new Police Commissioner and invite her to attend the January meeting.

c. **Crescent works** – this work is deferred until further notice.

## **9.Reports:**

### **District Council Report.**

District Councillor nothing to report.

**Other: The** Chairman advised that herself and Cllr North were invited to visit Biggin Hill and advised that a new consultation for an instrumented approach that would take Biggin Hill air traffic south of Woldingham was taking place as the CAA refused the last proposal for an instrumented approach. Cllr Holbrook and McEwan will look at the consultation and email around to all Councillors.

## **10. Meetings to attend:**

Chairman and Cllr Hoble-Aldersley – 19/10 SALC AGM Conference

## **11. Correspondence:**

The Chairman advised that during the recent TPO process a complaint had been received regarding the conduct of one of the Parish Councillors. The resident was sent the link to Tandridge complaint procedure. To date no correspondence has been received from Tandridge.

**12. Any Other Business:** The Chairman advised that the next election would take place in May 2024 and asked Councillors to advise the Clerk if they are planning to stand for re-election.

The Chairman mentioned that a newsletter needs to go out sooner rather than later and Cllr North will pull together a list of proposed articles and circulate to all Councillors.

Cllr Mann reminded the Parish Council that they need to consider the consultation for 20mph through part or all the Village. The Clerk will put on October's agenda, but it was agreed that residents need to be consulted on the decision.

Speedwatch to go on the October agenda.

## **13. Articles for Magazine: by 4/8/23 September issue:**

Carols in the Crescent – 9 December 6pm - Chairman

Elections – Chairman

AONB rural consultation: Chairman

Review of Woldingham Village Connections and Pictures – Cllr McEwan

Litterpick – Cllr Foulds

Speedwatch – Cllr Foulds (if anything this month)  
Biggin Hill Consultation – Cllrs Holbrook and McEwan

Meeting closed at 10.15pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 25  
October 2023 in the Arthur Herbert Room, Village Hall at 7.30pm.

**WOLDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL - APPENDIX B****August/September 2023****Expenses paid during the month – Treasurers Account (cleared bank account)**

Karen Newman	£18.09
Gardencraft	£140.00
Nick Dance re Bug Hill	£96.00
Alexander Johnston	£1,782.00
Karen Newman Wages/Expenses - August	£915.23
Terri Waghorn Wages/Expenses - August	£218.80
HMRC	£63.76
Gardencraft Slines Oak Island	£80.00
DM Payroll Services	£66.00
BWP Creative Limit (Hosting)	£216.00
Julie Cornish Website	£121.50
Karen Newman Wages/Expenses – Sept	£898.43
Terri Waghorn Wages/Expenses – Sept	£219.00
Karen Newman zoom	£15.59
Karen Newman Printer cartridges and paper	£96.68
PKF Littlejohn – external auditor	£252.00
HMRC	£63.08
Village Hall June meeting hire	£22.50
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>£5,284.66</b>

**Expenses authorised for Payment in June meeting (now cleared bank account)**

J Cornish re May Website Updates	£67.50
Karen Newman Zoom/Stamps	£21.59
<b>Total</b>	<b>£89.09</b>

**Expenses to be authorised for Payment****(payments will show on the following month's Appendix B as have not cleared bank account)****Total to be authorised for payment** £0.00**Transfers from business to Current**

31/7/23 £5,000.00

**Transfers from Current to business**

None

**Expenses paid during the month – Business Account**

None

**Expenses to be authorised by cheque**

None

**Receipts since last meeting to Treasurers Account**

None

**Receipts since last meeting to Business Account**

9/8 Interest	£50.62
11/9 Interest	£60.86

**Treasurers Accounts (Current)**

<b>Balance as at 27 July 2023</b>	<b>£736.77</b>
Payments made during the Month	£5,284.66
Authorised Payments (made at previous PC Meeting)	£89.09
Transfer from Business Account	£5,000.00
Transfer to Business Account	£0.00
Monies received	£0.00
<b>Balance as of 27 September 2023</b>	<b>£363.02</b>

**Gold Account (Deposit)**

<b>Balance as at 27 July 2023</b>	<b>£70,094.70</b>
Transfer to Treasurers	£0.00
Transfer from Treasurers	£0.00
Interest (Aug/Sept)	£111.48
Monies received	£0.00
<b>Balance as of 27 September 2023</b>	<b>£65,206.18</b>

**S137 Expenditure (net) - 1539 residents at £9.93 = £15,282.27***Expenditure 2023/2024*