

HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting held on Monday 25th January 2010

Present:

Cllr. David Preedy (Chairman)
 Cllr. Tessa Bridges
 Cllr. Sarah Connolly
 Cllr. Sharon Knight
 Cllr. Geoffrey Robb
 Clerk - Gill Riggs

Also in attendance were PC Dom Loraine and PCSO Aimee Lucas for items 1-2, and Chris Livett from Headley Court.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr. Peter Denyer

2. SURREY POLICE

PC Dom Loraine gave an update on reported crime for the past two months, which consisted of 1 Theft from Motor Vehicle offence, and 1 Assault which took place in the local public house. The Clerk asked how the Drive Smart initiative was working, and Dom advised that he has written to a number of offenders with warning letters. He urged anyone seeing any driving offence to note the registration number and colour of the vehicle, and report it on 01483 630370.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 30th November was proposed by Cllr. Knight and seconded by Cllr. Bridges.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

5. PROJECTS

Bio-digester - Cllr. Preedy reported that this project has now reached a natural end, as the key people involved are no longer enthusiastic. He also reported that the new Surrey Waste Strategy has been announced which proposes an eco-park near Shepperton to take Surrey's waste. There is also an independent new group called Green Mole Forum, which Cllr. Preedy has had some dealings with, which promotes green initiatives. The group is hoping to sponsor a project with a student from Guildford University to assess the local opportunity for bio-digesters.

6. MAINTENANCE

Playground - no particular issues to report, and it was again agreed that no further money should be spent on the playground, other than essential repairs, as fundraising for new equipment will start later this year. MVDC has carried out their winter inspection and their report has been circulated. There was some concern as to the validity of the report, as it appeared to include items which were removed after their summer 2009 inspection. The Clerk will look into further and will take any issues up with MVDC. **ACTION: CLERK**

Sign cleaning - the October 2009 clean did not take place, and it was agreed that Cllrs. Preedy and Connolly will carry out the April 2010 clean, and Cllr. Knight will do the October turn with a new Councillor who will be in post by then.

Footpaths - Cllr. Denyer carried out his annual footpath walk at the end of last year, and has circulated a report on his findings. He has approached Claire Saunders of SCC to establish whether any funds would be available for the much needed upgrading of the Tar path 501, but her reply was negative. Great disappointment was expressed about this, as

the path is in desperate need of repair, and it is impossible to take prams/buggies/wheelchairs etc. along some stretches of the path. It was suggested that Cllr. Watson be approached for funding for this path and Cllr. Preedy will pursue this. The Clerk will advise details on likely costs. Cllr. Denyer was thanked for his continuing hard work and commitment on the footpath network and for an excellent job on the annual inspection.

ACTION: DP/CLERK

The Clerk explained that there had been problems with the 2009 contractor in that one path had not been cut on either occasion. Despite much chasing and details of the path's location being given by Cllr. Denyer, the path remained uncut. The Clerk still holds the cheque for the invoice for the second cut, and suggested that a new cheque be raised, deducting the appropriate amount for the missing two cuts. This was agreed, and £56.35 (including VAT) will be deducted for the work not done, amounting to approximately 6.5% of the network. The previous cheque to be destroyed.

The Clerk confirmed that the 2010 Tender invitations have now gone out and are due back by mid February. Cllr. Knight asked if all Councillors could be given a marked up map of the footpath network, which the Clerk will arrange.

ACTION: CLERK

Highways development - the gateway works have now been completed, and it was generally felt that these are not popular and create an urbanised effect. Cllr. Robb suggested that SCC Highways be asked to submit their proposals for highways development to the Parish Council, including new signage, so that choices can be made. Cllr. Preedy will do this. It is felt that there is a littering effect of increased signage, much of it unnecessary, and that often the signage is too modern and not appropriate to that of a village. The Clerk was asked to approach SCC to see whether there is a policy whereby old-style signs can be purchased rather than modern. It was also agreed to approach Surrey Hills to see if they would support replacement of modern signs in a style more suited to a rural environment.

ACTION: DP/CLERK

Highways maintenance - the drain on tot Hill which was emptied is now filling up again.

There are dangerous potholes on Reigate Road (just beyond Tyrells Wood Golf club), and in Slough Lane and Tumber Street. Cllr. Preedy urged everyone to report particular potholes to him and he will compile a list, and also to report themselves online. Cllr. Robb felt that due to the severe recent weather, there will be much work to be done country wide and that Headley will not be a priority.

7. FINANCE

Financial report 01/04/09 to 31/01/10

The financial report for the above period, having been circulated, was discussed with no issues raised.

External Audit/Annual Return - BDO has written apologising for their error in respect of our Fixed Assets; they have also accepted that our Fidelity Guarantee is sufficient if we feel we have adequately risk assessed it. They are continuing to give a qualified opinion as our Risk Assessment was discussed in February 2008 and June 2009 but not within the audited year.

Asset Register and Risk Assessment - although these had recently been circulated, not everyone had read them and it was agreed that they would be re-circulated and discussed at the next meeting.

Payments

G. Riggs - Clerks salary Dec - Jan:	£473.85
G. Riggs - Clerks expenses & Broadband Dec - Jan:	£62.02
Bill Kear Plant - 2 nd footpath cut: ** see below	£378.35

Approval of the above expenditure was proposed by Cllr. Robb and seconded by Cllr. Connolly.

*** see explanation under Footpaths regarding payment to Bill Kear Plant. Previous cheque cancelled.*

8. PLANNING

Considered between meetings:

MO/2009/1419: Erection of double garage, carport and log store with shared driveway to paddock and garage: Headley Park Farm, Hurst Lane, Headley. The Parish Council had no objections.

MO/2009/1383: Certificate of Lawfulness in respect of use of northern half of barn & surrounding field for equestrian use and the southern half of building/forecourt for storage of motor vehicles and machinery (Class use B8). The Parish Council had no objection to the equestrian use, but there were some concerns about current and future use if permission for storage is granted.

Decisions by Mole Valley District Council:

MO/2009/1160: Erection of conservatory to rear of property: Broome House, Crabtree Lane, Headley. Planning Permission has been granted.

MO/2009/1207: Conversion of bund to drying and treatment rooms: Headley Park Farm, Hurst Lane, Headley. Planning Permission has been granted.

MO/2009/1419: Erection of double garage, carport and log store with shared driveway to paddock and garage: Headley Park Farm, Hurst Lane, Headley. Planning Permission has been granted.

Appeals to the Planning Inspectorate:

Cedars Lodge, Tilley Lane, Headley. MO/2009/0724: Change of Use from C3 (residential dwelling) to mixed use Class C3 and D1 (consulting rooms). The Parish Council has submitted an objection to the appeal to the Planning Inspector. Cllr. Preedy was thanked for his very comprehensive submission on this.

Other planning matters:

There is concern regarding the long term situation whereby land and property which was previously used for agricultural purposes, is no longer viable. Fields are continuously being sold off and split, resulting in an increasing number of mobile horse shelters; and there are numerous buildings around the village once used for agriculture, and now standing empty or being used inappropriately. It was felt that there should be a policy for the continuing future use in these situations, and that the people of the village should be asked for their opinions. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the village meeting.

Cllr. Knight has been made aware of a new term "Permitted Planning" whereby in certain situations, property owners are allowed to carry out works or extensions to their homes without the need for the usual planning permission. They would only be required to approach the planning authority, and would be granted a certificate, for a fee of £75.00 which would show what works has been permitted. It was thought that no public consultation would take place, including with the Parish Council. The Clerk agreed to make further enquiries of MVDC. **ACTION: CLERK**

9. REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Headley Court - Chris Livett reported that during the recent snow, Headley Court had been effectively cut off as the bus route to Leatherhead was not gritted. HC had requested gritting as a hospital but this request had been turned down. Having reviewed their loss of productivity, it was decided that HC would purchase a gritter attachment, and in future will grit the camp and married quarters, and if resources permit, also the main road from Headley Court.

One of Headley Court's trainers, Jan Burrell, is currently writing a book on Headley Court. She is gathering as much information as possible, but if anyone has any historic knowledge which they could let her have, she would be very grateful.

The swimming pool is due for completion in April.

The Prime Minister and Prince Andrew have both, separately, visited and toured Headley Court.

Clay Pigeon Club - Phil has advised that despite the recent bad weather, works on the sound proofing have continued. Work to the earth bund has taken place, and five of the ten shooting stands have now been clad in ply.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor vacancy - Cllr. Praed has resigned from the Parish Council and the Clerk has advised MVDC and commenced the process for advertising the vacancy. An official notice has to be displayed for fourteen working days, and if an election has not been requested by then, the Parish council can co-opt a new Councillor.

The Spinney - the Clerk has been in contact with ERHA regarding the road surface. ERHA has obtained one quotation for the works, which was cost prohibitive, and a second quotation is in the process of being obtained. Cllr. Knight reported that her daughter had slipped on the surface recently when getting out of her car in wet weather and that the surface in its current state can be dangerous.

Councillor's profiles - the Clerk has received profiles from three Councillors so far, and others agreed to prepare theirs. It was agreed that these would be put in the newsletter, one or two at a time due to space, and that they would be mixed male/female in no particular order. The PCC magazine was reluctant to put these in the magazine because of space limitations.

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Monday 29th March 2010.

Signed (Chairman)

Dated