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Minutes of the East Clandon Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 30th March 2006

Present Adrian Thomson, (Chairman), Alison Woolgar, Roger Nickolds, Beth Cooper, Cathy McMullan, Mary Leech (Clerk)
Apologies County Cllr David Davis, Cllr Jenny Wicks, Cllr Jen Powell.

Declaration of personal or prejudicial interests registered.

One Declaration: from Alison Woolgar, concerning the trees in the recreation ground adjoining Briony Cottage

Item

Action

1626 **Minutes of the meeting of 27th February 2006**

There were no amendments.
The Minutes were signed by the Chairman as correct.

1627 **Matters arising**

Item 1618.1616 Conservation Review. The council expressed disappointment that its comments have apparently been largely ignored in the draft report available on the website. Mary will contact the GBC Conservation team after first checking through this draft report with reference to the letter from Adrian Thompson dated 16th September, 2005, and if necessary, pass any comments on to our GBC councillors Jenny Wicks and Jen Powell.

Mary

Item 1622 Benches in the village. Adrian told the meeting that the Molvidsons would like to donate a bench, to be sited on Tumnore Triangle. Adrian hopes to meet with Richard when he visits the village in early May, and to discuss this further.

Adrian

Item 1622 notice board on Old Epsom Road. Mary has confirmed that this board is the property of East Clandon parish council and can therefore be removed and disposed of.

Roger

Item 1622 Recreation Ground Trees. Alison Woolgar declared her interest in this agenda item by signing the Declaration of Interest Book, and by taking no part in the discussion other than to answer factual questions from Councillors. The parish council has received a letter and photographs from Julian Woolgar concerning the sycamore trees that are in the Recreation Ground adjoining Briony Cottage property. Councillors felt that ECPC is running a risk of the occupants of properties bordering the Recreation Ground claiming against them if there is damage caused by these trees, for which the council has no insurance cover. Mary will ask the GBC Tree Officer to visit the site in the presence of Adrian and Roger prior to our putting in a Planning Application to have these trees lopped/felled/thinned as necessary. If such an Application is refused, then ECPC considers that it will have to inform GBC that we have no insurance cover against future action from any residents whose property is

Mary

in danger of being damaged by the trees or their roots.

Concern was also expressed about the possibility of long-term damage to the tennis court by some of these same trees.

Item 1625 (a) Sawpit Lane. Roger will obtain 20 tons of road scalplings at a cost of £165 +vat. A compactor will be hired; from residents whose properties back onto the lane have already volunteered to lay the scalplings. It is hoped that this will be done towards the end of April.

Roger

Item 1625 weed control in Tunmore fields. Roger is waiting for quotes from contractors.

Roger

1628

Financial Report

(a) Current account: £767.59. Deposit account: £2548.66. total: £3316.25

Councillors were notified of a potential grant of £600 from SCC via Central Government to be used toward the prevention of arson attacks to parish property. It was decided to apply for this grant to be used towards the refurbishment of one of our bus shelters or benches, both of which would meet the SCC criteria.

Mary

It was decided not to renew our subscription (£156.42) to Surrey County Association of Parish and Town Councils (SCAPTC) for the coming year.

1629

Gardening Contract

The wording of the Contract is being updated by Roger. Mary will then seek tenders from three Garden Service Contractors, including Jim Bacon.

Roger
Mary

1630

Community Speedwatch

There will be a note about this on the village email, and on the notice board, and in the next parish magazine. If the project goes ahead, it will be undertaken jointly with West Clandon.

1631

Village Trees and Verges Project

(a) Churchyard work. Mary has received a quote from Roots & Shoots for £420 +vat for work on the Turkey Oak. An Application will now be made to GBC Planning Department and Adrian will inform the PCC by a copy of the detailed planning application.

Mary

Adrian

(b) Seed sowing/planting by pond. Beth will research suppliers of seed mixture.

Beth

(c) Pollarding of poplars by Back Lane pond. Mary has obtained a quote from Roots and Shoots for £500+vat. Councillors felt that this is high and asked Mary to check back with Roots & Shoots for their reasons, and if necessary, to obtain further quotes. It was pointed out that this is within the Conservation Area and may need Planning Permission from GBC.

Mary

(d) Hedges. Adrian has met with the Estate Manager of Ryde Farm Estate (Chris Chambers). He accepts that the Estate is responsible for cutting back the hedges owned by the Estate that border Ripley Road and Back Lane. Chris Chambers expects this to be done after August due to the bird nesting season. He is also pleased for ECPC to plant new oak trees in the Ripley Road hedge. Adrian will liaise with Tim Yorath, our Tree Warden. The new owners of Old Manor Farm have offered to cut back their hedges, which border on Back Lane.

Adrian

1632

(a) Planning Reports

Since the last meeting:

Daphne Cottage 06/P/00559/00560, plans currently being circulated among councillors.

Merrow Park and Ride and Golf Course. 01/P01627. Discharge of Condition 18 attached to Planning Approval. Further to receipt of a copy of the information and plans received in relation to the lighting condition, Mary has drafted a reply with the ECPC comments to GBC Planning Department. This draft letter was approved.

(b) Planning Enforcement

(a) Hill Top Farm. A Planning Contravention Notice has been issued by GBC for the removal of 2 lean-to structures, which have now been removed.

(b) Clandon Manor Farm The council has already been informed of the cancellation of the Appeal which had been set for 7th March. Reasons given to Adrian by the developer Mark Savage are that his legal team proved that the Enforcement Notices issued by GBC were null and void. New Enforcement Orders have since been issued. Mary will contact the Planning Officer Tim Dawes to obtain confirmation and an indication of the timescale of the new inquiry.

Mary

1633

Change of date of May meetings.

The Annual Parish Meeting and the subsequent council meeting will be held on 11th May.

1634

Any other business

(a) Village war memorial. Some of the names on the memorial are becoming illegible, especially on its south and west sides. The War Memorials Trust and English Heritage both provide grants for restoration work. FROST is also able to help provide funds if necessary. Roger agreed to initiate a restoration project. It may be necessary to obtain a Faculty from the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) – Adrian will find out from the church PCC.

Roger

Adrian

(b) The Common. Mary suggested to the council that The Common could be managed in such a way as to encourage a more natural wild-life meadow habitat. This was discussed, but it was felt that the best procedure at present would be to ask Jim Bacon to be more selective in the mowing of the Common, and to reduce the times that some areas are mown through the year, but to maintain pathways through.

Roger

(c) Risk Assessment. Councillors were advised that in May the risk assessments are due to be carried out.

all
councillors

Date of next meeting:

The Annual Parish Meetings on Thursday 11th May, beginning at 7:45 pm. precede the Council Meeting which will begin immediately after.

Mary Leech, Parish Clerk
10th April 2006

