**PEASLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Meeting held on Monday 5th December 2022 in Peaslake Memorial Hall at 8pm**

**The meeting was chaired by Julie Barham and attended by 15 Peaslakers**

Present: Julie Barham (Chair), Deb Stevens (Minutes), Nick Bray, Sally Bray, Jim Collin, Nigel Downer, Adrienne Golightly, Zoe Horton, Julie Knight, Sam McCormick, Kevin Stevens, Marion Taylor-Cotter, Martyn Warrell, Janette Weller, Nick Wells,

Apologies: Andy Clayton, Cyndie Gould, Christine & David Harrison, Anne & Jim Heyes, Keir Shiltz, Alice Williams, Jane Williams.

Welcome and Introduction

**Presentations** were made to Marion Taylor-Cotter in thanks for her many years as treasurer for the Community Council, and to Sam McCormick for all she did as organiser of this year’s very successful Peaslake Fair. Sam then presented cheque envelopes to beneficiary representatives – Jim Collin (Memorial Hall), Janette Weller (Peaslake School) and Zoe Horton (Friends of the Hurtwood). Photos were taken for the Parish Magazine.

**Matters arising from last meeting – 7th November**

Walks around Peaslake: Adrienne Golightly is continuing her research on local walks of interest, and Jim Collin has provided a list which she will update, together with input from Scilla Roe and Sandy Eve on any historical aspects. She plans to continue walking and writing up the routes and, starting in January, Deb Stevens has kindly offered to be a guinea pig and try out the walks. Adrienne now hopes to update 5 – 8 walks, together with maps.

Conservation Area: Adrienne said there has been a disappointing response to her fear that trees in and around the Hurtwood are blocking out some significant viewpoints, and this will worsen as trees get taller and broader. General discussion centred around the awareness that although trees are essential environmentally, failure to clear and coppice some of them and the many saplings will make the situation worse. The possibility of discussing with the Hurtwood landowners their policy regarding management of the trees was mooted, but it was decided that Zoe Horton, as representative of the Friends of the Hurtwood, will ask the Ranger about his policy on this.orton

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Jane Williams was unable to be at the meeting, but confirmed that all outstanding payments had been made, most particularly those to the beneficiaries of the Peaslake Fair. Jane had prepared a sheet detailing the amounts raised by individual stalls at the Fair and the split, which was given to the Fair Committee.

**Peaslake Events**

Peaslake Fair. This was deemed to have been a great success; Sam McCormick was congratulated for all her hard work which was much appreciated and that of the committee too. It was agreed that using the Peaslake Fields for parking improved the traffic situation on the day.

Village Christmas Tree: Many thanks to David Colebrook for once again organising the Christmas Tree, and all those who’ve been involved. It will be situated, as last year, outside the Hurtwood Inn dining room. Martin Nicholson and his tele-lifter will be transporting and erecting the tree, Dave Isherwood will be organising the lights, and Matt Morris at the Hurtwood is providing the power. It will be erected on 6th December. The “Gentlemen of the Tree” are looking for younger gentlemen to join them next year.

St. Mark’s Christmas Tree: Kevin Stevens and Nigel Downer kindly offered to erect this tree, co-incidentally on the 6th too, and had the handy assistance of a visitor to the church who volunteered to help them. Lights and decorations to be completed by others – Sally Bray to liaise with David Harrison.

**Reports from Local Organisations**

B4SH:

Nick Wells reported that full fibre has now been connected to properties in the centre of the village which include the Hurtwood Inn and the Memorial Hall. Further connections are in progress for the west side of Ewhurst Road heading south towards Coverwood. In addition, road crossings have been completed at Coverwood and the Duke of Kent School, as well as two crossings of Pond Lane at Burchets Hollow and Hazel Hall.

The next part of the project is to lay ducting to the west side of Pond Lane and make progress towards Pursers Farm in a northwards direction, and Peaslake Lane (west side) in an easterly direction. Progress will be somewhat dependent upon the weather as mole ploughing ducting requires good tractor adhesion. If anyone would like to try B4SH broadband, stop off at the Hurtwood and log on.

On request Nick also went over briefly how the work is funded, saying progress is determined and the direction by which roads commit with investment and help. There was general praise for the meticulous work by B4SH and their contractors.

Memorial Hall

Jim Collin will contact Alice Williams, Hall Secretary, to discuss passwords now the Hall is connected.

The Guildford Shakespeare Company’s production of “Macbeth” on Saturday 26th November was very successful - though probably different to expectations with a somewhat shortened text and four cast members - and much enjoyed.

Peaslake School:

The Concert by Candlelight on 3rd December in St. Mark’s was highly praised by all who were present – a wonderfully evocative musical evening in lovely candlelit surroundings and with extremely talented musicians. It was very well organised and raised a considerable amount for the School – so very many thanks to all who contributed to its success.

Peaslake Players, Memorial Hall – and the Ladies’ Toilets!

The Players are hoping to proceed in due course with their planned extension to the rear of the Hall; in view of this, the proposal to upgrade the Ladies toilets was considered by most present to be inappropriate at this time. Although basic improvements and a third toilet would be welcome, any work on them would be negated when the extension is done. Two toilets are inadequate at times of continuous use, notably the Peaslake Fair, and Sam McCormick said that an extra toilet (Portaloo), although expensive, would be needed for the Fair.

YOPPS (Young Peaslake Players). On Saturday 3rd December, YOPPS put on two afternoon performances of their version of a Christmas Carol, written and directed by Lesley Lane, which was very enjoyable - an excellent production with talented young actors and wonderful costumes.

St. Mark’s Church.

The Christingle service held on the afternoon of Sunday 4th December was very well attended, and both children and adults enjoyed a delicious tea provided by the church in the Old School Room afterwards. Thanks to all who helped in whatever way.

**Shere Parish Council** – Gerry Reffo was unable to attend the meeting but sent the attached update.

**A.O.B**

The Queen’s Jubilee Tree: Martyn Warrell has sourced a wider protective sleeve for the sapling and this is now in place. He also pointed out that the plaque had become loose and offered to fix this. There was a non-permeable sheet around the base, and Julie Barham said she would provide two types of permeable ground cover to try out.

Leaf Blowers: Two complaints had been received and various comments made about the use of leaf blowers, most particularly when the leaves have been directed onto the road. It can be particularly dangerous where the leaves bank up and reduce the road width - and it’s against the law!

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

**Date of Next Meeting**: Monday 9th January 2023 at 8.00pm in the Memorial Hall

**Date of Shere Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 10th January at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall**

DS/JB/12.12.22

**Parish Councillor’s Report**

**Peaslake Farm Housing Development**

Greenoak Housing Association have agreed an intention to enter a partnership with Stonewater Housing Association. While details of the deal are still being agreed, it’s envisaged that the partnership would mean Greenoak becoming a subsidiary of Stonewater for two years, then becoming part of the Stonewater group whilst maintaining a regional operational base in Woking. A copy of the press release is on the Community Council website.

The project has been further delayed due the initial costings for the building of the development coming in much higher than anticipated. Costs savings are being investigated within the parameters of the planning permission and new grants are being sought. However, it may be necessary for Greenoak to go back to planning to make some changes. For now, the Council does not know the detail of their proposals. If significant changes are involved, the Council will let you know, so you too may comment and will keep you updated with progress.

**Peaslake Farm Fields**

A decision on the bids from Surrey Wildlife Trust and Friends of the Hurtwood will be made on 10th January at the Parish Council meeting which will be held in Peaslake. It’s hoped for a good turn-out of Peaslakers at the meeting.

**Flooding in the Centre of Peaslake**

Following on from the report last month, a site meeting will be held by Surrey CC Highways with the landowners.

**Road Safety Village Centre**

Reducing Speed Limits

Surrey CC are reducing speed limits in villages from 40mph to 20 mph. Peaslake Councillors have suggested the following changes based on residents’ feedback:

* Ewhurst Road from the Coverwood corner (Guildford/Waverley border) to the existing 30 MPH sign to go down to 30MPH
* Ewhurst Road from the existing 30MPH to Peaslake Lane 20MPH
* Peaslake Lane 20 MPH
* Pond Lane 20MPH
* Lawbrook Lane from the junction with Pond Lane north to the junction with Walking Bottom 20 MPH
* Radnor Road from the junction with Ewhurst Road past Plaws Hill and Spurfold entrance. 20 MPH
* Mackies Hill 20MPH
* Burchets Hollow20MPH
* Lenten Close 20MPH
* Pursers Lane from Peaslake Lane up to Hoe Lane Junction 20MPH
* Pursers Lane from Hoe Lane Junction up to Burrows Cross 30MPH

One resident suggested reducing the speed limit to 20mph on the remainder of Lawbrook Lane, Jesses Lane and Hoe Lane. What do residents especially those who live in these roads think?

Vehicle Speed Advisory Signals (VAS)

The management and maintenance of our VAS system has been problematic over the last year.

Finally, both VAS (ours and the one on long term loan from Surrey CC) are now in working order and Richard Morris, who set up the Shere Speedwatch Group, as well as being recently appointed as Guildford Borough Councillor for Tillingbourne ward, has kindly agreed to take over the management of the VAS's on a three weekly rota system to ensure they are regularly charged and rotated around the villages.

A new rota is below. **Please note the two VAS’s will be shared between 5 sites and moved every 3 weeks, it is not possible to have an even and fair distribution between villages**. Once we purchase a new VAS next year, we hope to have a permanent one sited in Peaslake.



**Log Play Area - Open**

The new Log play area next to the Children’s playground is now open.

**Ditches and Walking Bottom Drainage**

- After many months and regular follow-ups regarding Walking Bottom drainage, SCC have said that they will respond formally in the ‘near future’.

- Following GBC’s recommendation a year ago to remove the silt traps, the officer responsible is planning a site meeting with trustees of the Memorial Hall and the owner of the Hurtwood Inn.

**Hedges in Peaslake Lane**

Following SPC’s request, SCC have confirmed that cutting back overhanging bushes has been put on their schedule.

Gerry Reffo