

PEASLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting held on Monday 2nd February 2026 in Peaslake Memorial Hall at 8.00pm
The meeting was chaired by Gerry Reffo and attended by 28 Peaslakers

Welcome & Introduction

Present: Nick Wells, Jim & Anne Heyes, Nick & Sally Bray, Marion & Jeff Jones, Ted & Zoe Horton, Tania Florent, Amanda Cobbett, Lesley Perry, Kate Denny, Martyn Warrell, Andrew Clayton, David Williams, Sam MacCormack, David Mercer, Deb & Kevin Stevens, Drew Nicholson, Sara Dangerfield, Alan Hilton, Amanda Cobbett, Alice Williams, Louise Deacon, Shiona Bacon & Nicola Anstey.

Apologies: Julie Barham, Julie Knight, Penny Wells & Zoe Fowle

Actions from Last Meeting

None

Treasurer's Report

Jane Williams was not at the meeting.

Peaslake School Update

Head, Sara Dangerfield, thanked those in the community who had sent objections to the proposal by the Good Shepherd Trust to remove the year 3 intake at Surrey Hills School. The consultation period finished on 23rd January and we await the outcome, hopefully, by the next meeting.

School has produced a new brochure which is being delivered to all homes in the village. Do pass on to friends or family with Peaslake School age children in the area.

Peaslake Fair

The campaign to recruit volunteers for this year's Fair has so far resulted in only two volunteers. As the Fair is a key fundraising event for the Hall, the School, Friends of the Hurtwood, and the Community Fund, Gerry Reffo proposed that each beneficiary nominate a representative to form an organising committee. The committee should meet shortly to decide whether the Fair can proceed and to allocate responsibilities, including sponsorship, street stalls, general administration (e.g. road closures), health and safety, and catering.

Representatives of all beneficiary groups were present at the meeting and will consult with their members. As reported last year, Alice is willing to assist with identifying roles and tasks but will not take on overall organisation of the Fair. Beneficiaries are asked to inform Gerry of their nominated representative as soon as possible.

Peaslake Cemetery Fence Update

Kate Denny reported that the appeal currently stands at around £25K. Peaslake Community Fund are considering a donation. Kate explained the Church would make up the difference between the final amount raised by the community and the cost of fencing.

As previously agreed Gerry has got detailed estimates from one reputable local supplier. Details at annex A. Nick Bates of Burrows Lea Forge is kindly providing advice on metal fencing both on sustainability and cost. There was some discussion around the importance of longevity and avoiding asking the community in 10-15 years to raise money for a replacement fence. It was agreed to discuss the fence in detail at the March PCC meeting when a final community decision on materials is planned and a recommendation will be sent to the Church who own the land for a final decision. This will be well publicised to ensure any interested parties attend to make their feelings known.

The PCC recommended that wooden fencing around St Mark's is repaired using wood salvaged from the old cemetery fence.

Village Organisations

Friends of the Hurtwood – Nothing to report this time.

Community Fund – David Mercer reported that the Fund had been happy to contribute to the cost of replacing the bell-tower on the Old Schoolroom. He thanked Kevin for coordinating the job and for his involvement, and Dave Hancock, Steve Johnson and Peter Knight for carrying out the work.

Sam McCormick is organising a First Aid course which will be run by St John's Ambulance. It should take place on a Saturday morning towards the end of March. 12 places are available and the Community Fund will contribute 50% of the cost for Peaslake residents.

Village Hall – Michael Urban has stood down from the committee and Gerry thanked him for his hard work and dedication during his tenure as Chair. The Hall is being painted in February and will be out of use 16-19 February. A local volunteer with marketing experience is helping the Hall committee with increasing hirings to increase revenue and assure long term viability.

Due to some resignations, new Trustees are needed. Please contact Gerry if you would like to find out more. There are several roles to fill.

Peaslake Players – Ted Horton thanked all those involved in the recent pantomime and the audiences who attended the performances. The new dressing rooms were used for the first time and the Players are extremely grateful for the space this new area provides, allowing them to have all ages appearing in the same production.

There is a read-through for a future production on 5th February, Young Peaslake Players will stage Chitty Chitty Bang Bang on 22nd March and the senior Players' next production is on 7-9 May. They are seeking males under 40 for the cast. Please see their website for information <https://www.peaslakeplayers.co.uk/>

Shere Parish Council

- Mike Keeble has stepped down as Vice Chair and Tania Florent has been appointed in his place.
- SPC has responded to the Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School consultation on proposed admissions changes, and fully supports Peaslake School.
- Penny Tomkins (SPC Chair) Mike Keeble and Tania Florent had a call with English Rural Housing about housing on Peaslake Farmyard. There will be an update at the next Full Council meeting.
- SPC has obtained quotes for the resurfacing of Pond Lane car park (permeable options), which will be considered at the next General Purposes Committee meeting.
- Bob Hughes (Surrey County Councillor) had a site visit on Pursers Lane with a mobility scooter user. The footpath is in a sorry state, and Bob is pursuing this with the relevant SCC department.
- Bob noted that planning applications are taking longer than they should and performance by GBC planning is poor.
- Danielle Newsome (Borough Councillor) said there is no update on local government reforms. Councillors are worried about the debt situation for the new Unitary Authority.

The meeting had the following comments and requests.

(1) There is significant and ongoing flooding in Pursers Lane for the last 8 days. The footpaths are further eroded, a resident's property is affected and there is a risk of an accident as cars, bikes and people try to navigate the water. Numerous requests have been made to GBC and SCC over the years, but the problem is still not resolved. Please could Gerry Reffo write to Jeremy Hunt, on behalf of residents, and ask for his help with this.

(2) Please could Gerry and Tania raise the issue of potholes with Bob at the next meeting. The roads in the Parish, especially Hoe Lane, are in a terrible state and the works on Hoe Lane (which residents thought were meant to fix the potholes) only seem to have made matters worse.

Residents were reminded that the quickest way to get a response from SCC is to take a photo (if you can safely) and report on the website <https://www.fixmystreet.com/reports/Surrey>

(3) Please could Gerry ask for more 'keep off the grass' signs for the grassy bank outside the Church and some posts to protect the verge in Walking Bottom opposite Hillside.

It was agreed to invite SPC Chair, Penny Tomkins to attend the April meeting.

History Society Update

A number of people in the meeting expressed interest in forming a local history society. If you would like to get involved or have any material which might be of interest, please contact Martyn Warrell. m.warrell@btinternet.com

Volunteers to Join PCC Chair Rota

Please contact Gerry if you are prepared to join the rota. It involves alternately chairing and minute-taking at the monthly meeting, one or twice per year.

A.O.B.

Village Hall Ladies Loo Refurbishment – £1629 was raised by the Winter Warmer. Potential donations of £2,500 are in the pipeline including £2000 from our County Councillor, Bob Hughes. The project will need to be completed in stages. Damp-proofing will have to be done first followed by new flooring, sanitary wear and cubicles, then decorating etc. Gerry is in touch with Bob Hughes to progress his donation.

Land between Radnor Road and Plaws Hill – A resident asked if some of the vegetation could be cut down to preserve the view across the village.

Next Meeting – Monday 2nd March 2026

Annex A

Option 1 – Estate Rail Fencing.

Sterndale 1.22m high continuous bar estate rail fence. Self-coloured and allowed to rust. 20mm dia round top bar. 4nr 25 x 6mm flat rails. Posts drilled to accept an annealed wire between rails to prevent dog access. 1nr 8’wide estate rail gate.

Quantity	Item	Unit	Value
320lin.m Apporx. 1nr	Supply and erect self-coloured Sterndale fencing with 4nr wires.	75.35/lin.m	24112.00
	Supply and hang 8’ wide self-coloured vehicle gate.		680.22
		Sub Total	24792.22
		VAT	4958.44
		TOTAL	£29750.66

Option 2 – All oak pale fence.

2.1m x 125 x 100mm morticed oak posts, 2.7m oak arris rails, 1.2m x 65 x 19 flat top oak pales.

Quantity	Item	Unit	Value
320lin.m Apporx. 1nr	Supply and erect oak pale fence.	95.16/lin.m	30451.20
	Supply and hang 8’ wide softwood field gate on oak posts		673.00
		Sub Total	31124.20
		VAT	6224.84
		TOTAL	£37349.04

Please confirm receipt of this estimate ASAP

Option 3 – Oak and softwood pale fence.

1. m x 125 x 100mm morticed oak posts, 2.7m softwood arris rails, 1.2m x 65 x 19 flat top softwood pales.

Quantity	Item	Unit	Value
320lin.m Apporx.	Supply and erect oak and softwood pale fence.	75.90/lin.m	24288.00
1nr	Supply and hang 8' wide softwood field gate on oak posts		673.00
Sub Total			24961.00
VAT			4992.20
TOTAL			£29953.20

Please confirm receipt of this estimate ASAP

With all options there are additional costs for clearance of existing fence and self seeded trees.