

PEASLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting held on Monday 5th February 2024 in Peaslake Memorial Hall at 8.00pm
The meeting was chaired by Cyndie Gould and attended by 27 Peaslakers

Welcome & Introduction

Present: Cyndie Gould (Chair), Janette Weller (Minutes), Nicola Anstey, Shiona Bacon, Julie Barham, Adrian Bell, Nick Bray, Sally Bray, Andy Clayton, Amanda Cobbett, Louise Collins, Nigel Downer, Tania Florent, Zoe Fowle, Adrienne Golightly, Anne Heyes, Jim Heyes, Julie Knight, Sam McCormick, Sam Mathewson, David Mercer, David Morton, Lesley Perry, Kier Schiltz, Martyn Warrell, Nick Wells, Pennie Wells.

Apologies: Jim Collin, Ted & Zoe Horton, Gerry Reffo and Deb & Kevin Stevens,

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer was unable to attend the meeting.

Matters arising from January Minutes

No matters arising.

B4SH Report

Nick Wells reported:

- Following a prolonged Christmas and New Year break the cold weather of January conspired to slow any form of progress. Freezing weather is difficult for tractors and diggers and it is impossible to install fibre.
- Progress has been much improved since the recent warmer weather. The extension of the Plaws Hill to Mackies Hill route, which includes a spur for Spurfold and Bearwood, now has fibre underground. It is estimated that around 12 properties will be connected in the course of the next month or so.
- Route planning is almost agreed for Crest Hill and residents of Fulvens are encouraged to make contact as B4SH is keen to complete the eastern loop around the village and advance south to link with the fibre around Mackies hill.
- Commercial broadband providers are about to increase their charges by 7.9% next month which follows last year's increase of 14.5%. As a community project the B4SH monthly fee remains the same - £45 per month.

Peaslake Community Fund

- This fund was set up in 2007 following a bequest from Peaslake resident, Jean Brodie, to be spent for the benefit of people in the village. Over the years, several grants have been awarded to individuals and organisations around Peaslake.
- David Mercer and some of his fellow committee members attended the meeting to seek views on a proposal to move the money from its current home, under the auspices of the Community Foundation for Surrey, into The Guildford Philanthropy Fund, which is also part of the Community Foundation for Surrey. The main reason for this is to take advantage of a GBC scheme offering to match-fund 50% of any investment. This would enable the Peaslake Fund to donate a substantial sum towards the construction of disabled access to the Old School Room.

- Several questions were raised and the majority of those present would like more information before deciding whether or not to back the transfer. (*Since the meeting, David has contacted a representative of Guildford Philanthropy who will attend the March meeting to answer questions*).

Village Events

Defib Training

This is taking place in the Memorial Hall from 7.15 pm on Monday 12th February. As many people as possible are encouraged to take part. Places are still available at <https://theridershub.sim1plybook.it/v2/#book/service/2>

Janette has sent the link and info to School & Nursery parents, and Julie has sent it to all on the Community Council mailing list.

Peaslake Fair

Alice Williams advised that preparations are underway. Would-be beneficiaries are asked to apply in time for the March CC meeting. Please email julie_barham@hotmail.com

Reports from Local Organisations

Peaslake Players

Ted Horton was unable to attend the meeting. It sounds as if the recent panto was a huge success.

Peaslake Memorial Hall

No representative present at the meeting

Peaslake School & Nursery

The next fundraising event is Open Gardens on Sunday 9th June. Gardens are based around Sweet Lane, Pursers Lane and Wonham Way. If any residents of that area would like to open their gardens, please contact the school info@peaslakefreeschool.com to be put in touch with the organisers.

Louise Collins, Peaslake Nursery Manager, reported that she is pursuing various local grants to allow the Nursery to offer further support to local young families. Outside of her role in the Nursery, she has been instrumental in reinstating the Peaslake Toddler Group, which now meets on the last Thursday of the month.

Climate Café

Shiona Bacon reported another well-attended gathering on 4th February (the Climate Café meets in the Old School Room on the first Sunday of the month).

On 3rd March, the focus will be on recycling with a visit from a representative of Wastebusters and there will be a litter-pick in April. For more details, please contact Shiona on 07966 718478 or Jenny Janse at ecopeaslake@g.mail.com

Shere Parish Council Update

Gerry Reffo was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report (below).

AOB

The Bible Box – next to the village bus shelter is in desperate need of repair. Keir will liaise with the team from SCC who are building new planters and ask them to look at this.

Peaslake Community Social Media

Louise Collins asked if anyone is prepared to take on the job of creating and operating a Facebook page for the village. One person offered to help with an admin role. If you can offer any expertise, please contact Julie Barham.

Unsanitary Behaviour on the Hurtwood

Concern was expressed about the number of people who seem to be using the Hurtwood as a toilet. It was suggested that the Friends of the Hurtwood might erect signs in the car-parks directing users to any available toilets. Amanda Cobbett is taking this up with the Hurtwood Ranger.

Unsafe Cycling

A near-miss between a pedestrian and a cyclist was reported on an unofficial track which crosses a footpath and the Millennium Trail. Mark Beaumont has been advised by the pedestrian.

Peaslake Parish Councillor Report

(Comments from meeting are in italics.)

Peaslake Farm Fields

I had a useful site meeting last week with Tim Metson and Mike Keeble (Chair of SPC General Purposes Committee). We agreed some draft Heads of Terms to let the land to Coverwood Farm with a portion assigned for use as a Community Orchard/garden.

The next step is to report progress to the Parish Council and get legal advice.

I hope we can present the plan to the Community Council on 4 March to get feedback ahead of SPC taking a decision.

Mike and I want to get a quote for the flood mitigation measures recommended by professional consultants so that we can see how much it would cost to do the work locally. I hope this can be done in the next few weeks. So, if there is any financial year end money available in Government we can bid for it.

Some concern was expressed that residents were not being adequately consulted or kept informed about the consultations on the Farm Fields and requested that this be done.

Shere Car Park

A reminder that the car park will be closed for at least the next two weeks. If resurfacing works overrun then it may be longer.

Parish Council Vacancy

Ten residents petitioned Guildford Borough Council to ask for an election voted on by Peaslake residents in the event of more than one candidate standing. In this situation, residents will now choose their next parish councillor. The polling day is expected to be 14 March.

Any candidates who put themselves forward will be invited to address the Community Council on 4 March.

Speed Limits

Hoe Lane speed has been reduced to 20mph. A number of residents wrote to me supporting this change.

I've asked SCC to complete the 20MPH rollout to include the other roads converging on the village centre – Walking Bottom, Pond Lane, Radnor Road, Peaslake Lane in accordance with their plan.

I've also asked at residents' request that SCC review the 20mph designation in Lawbrook Lane on the stretch up to Shere Road.

Three residents have written to me opposing all the changes.

No Parking signs

I've requested two new signs to replace the informal signs on Ewhurst Road after one resident was blocked in two weekends running. Once by cyclists and then by visitors to the Panto in the Village Hall.

Residents of Walking Bottom said they also were unable to leave their driveways in recent weeks. They will contact Gerry to request No Parking signs for their verges.

Planters

I am pleased to report that SCC's scheme to give skills to young people working in the community will design and build the planters to replace those by the bus stop in the village centre. They will be made from local Larch wood and made at Norbury park sawmill. They estimate 3 weeks from go ahead by SPC. There is no charge. Many thanks to Keir Schiltz for suggesting this and liaising with the team in SCC.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 4th March 2024, Peaslake Memorial Hall, 8.00pm

JW 10.02.24