

## BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at 8pm in the Reading Room on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

### **Present:**

Cllrs Bourke, Cox, Gowrley, Jones (Chair), Pryor and Steed.

### **In attendance**

One resident and the Clerk attended the meeting. Mole Valley District (MVDC) Cllr Simon Budd attended for items 1-6 and one member of the public attended for items 1-5.

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

(181) Council noted apologies had been received from MVDC Cllrs Paula Keay and Paul Potter and Surrey County Council (SCC) Cllr Helyn Clack.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

(182) None.

### **3. Requests for Dispensations**

(183) None.

### **4. Minutes**

(184) Council **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### **5. Open Forum**

(185) Cllr Jones welcomed a member of the public and a resident to the meeting and invited their input during this open session.

(i) The member of the public:

- (a) outlined a Re-Betchworth initiative to explore a proposal to establish a Biodiversity Park across a geographical area encompassing the parishes of Brockham, Betchworth and Buckland and the unparished community of Boxhill;
- (b) explained that Re-Betchworth had, to date, met with the National Trust, Surrey Hills Society and Surrey Wildlife Trust to discuss the opportunity;
- (c) advised Surrey Wildlife Trust had encouraged Re-Betchworth to apply to the Transition Network for a grant to support a year-long programme of development work with key partners; and
- (d) had shared a copy of a supportive email exchange with SCC Cllr Marisa Heath, SCC Cabinet member for the Environment and a letter of support from Betchworth Parish Council;

(ii) Cllrs took the opportunity to clarify aspects of the Re-Betchworth proposals before Cllr Jones:

- (a) thanked the member of the public for taking the time to come to the meeting to explain the proposal; and
- (b) shared with the member of the public that a key topic on the agenda for this year's Annual Parish Meeting is Biodiversity, reflecting Council's wish to update the village on recent legislative change, highlight new information recently published on the village website and assess interest in volunteering to complement the current activity being undertaken by Buckland Estate and the Parish Council;

(iii) Cllr Jones, responding to a query from the member of the public, advised Council would not be in a position to express a view about the Re-Betchworth proposal until it meets in May, after the Annual Parish Meeting.

*The member of the public thanked Council for listening and left the meeting.*

(186) A Buckland resident, responding to an invitation from Cllr Jones focused on two items.

### **Surrey Highways Road Safety Strategy**

The resident:

- (i) expressed concern about the draft Surrey RoadSafe Vision Zero Road Safety Strategy that was recently presented to SCC Cabinet;
- (ii) registered a specific objection to a suggestion within an appendix to the report that safety cameras are programmed to be installed on the A25 Reigate Road between Dorking and Reigate during the 2024/25 financial year; and
- (iii) made reference to earlier communication exchanges challenging the basis for the introduction of a 20mph zone along Reigate High Street and reducing the speed limit on a section of the A25 Reigate Road from 50mph to 40mph.

Council encouraged the resident to submit a response to the forthcoming consultation to ensure their views can be assessed by SCC and reassured the resident that Council will, in line with its established practice, highlight the consultation via a parish update and publish a copy of its response to the consultation.

### **Future Mole Valley – A new Local Plan**

The resident:

- (i) queried the content of the latest draft Local Plan and the changes that had appeared since early consultations were held in Buckland and draft proposals tabled for consideration;
- (ii) expressed a view that residents who have moved to the village since 2019 need to have an opportunity to hear about the plan and to understand the implications for Buckland;
- (iii) queried how what is in the plan links to development management decisions.

Council expressed its hope that MVDC will clarify how they plan to proceed towards adoption of a new Local Plan in time for this information to be included in the Chair's update to the Annual Parish Meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that, in the interim, a timeline setting out the actions MVDC had taken over the last five years is published on the village website and continues to be updated.

## **6. Planning and Licensing**

### **New Planning Applications**

(187) Council noted an update from the Clerk, that following consultation with Cllrs who serve on the Planning Committee, no comments had been made on the following two applications, for each of which the consultation period closed prior to this meeting:

- (i) MO/2023/1802: Installation of a standalone structure to house a transformer at Chesterfield Park, Reigate Road, Buckland, RH2 9TB. Council noted MVDC Environmental Health had requested details of noise levels across the frequency spectrum and construction details of the proposed housing (i.e. the roof and the walls of the structure);
- (ii) MO/2023/1913: Remove 2 holly trees, one silver birch tree, one sitka spruce tree, and 2 yew trees at 3 Buckland Court, Reigate Road, Buckland, RH3 7EA.

### **Planning Notifications**

(188) MO/2023/1016: Prior notification for the raising of land levels by means of deposit of approximately 3,000 loads of soil for restoration of the land to enable the planting of trees and wildflower meadows on land to the west of Lawrence Lane, Buckland, RH3 7BE.

Council noted:

- (i) the application was registered on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023;
- (ii) MVDC confirmed, on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023, that as the works constitute Permitted Development, Prior Approval is not required.

## Vehicle Licensing Notification

(189) Council noted:

- (i) The Office of the Traffic Commissioner (London and South East) had advised an application for a new licence had been made by Terry Davies (OK2069832 SN) to locate 4 heavy goods vehicles at Buckland Garage, Reigate Road, RH2 9RG;
- (ii) As the team at Buckland Estate is aware of the application and had confirmed congestion will not, in its view, be an issue no comment was made.

## Planning Policy

(190) Council, noted MVDC had issued a statement on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023, following the Planning Inspectorate decision to overturn refusal of permission for the “Sondes Place development”; a site within the Green Belt that includes plans for up to 144 dwellings, a new access point, a school drop-off/pick-up area, gypsy and traveller pitches, public open space, landscape planting, surface water attenuation, and associated infrastructure.

(191) Council noted that:

- (i) following the publication, on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023, of a refreshed National Planning Policy Framework, MVDC had expressed disappointment that the government requires Future Mole Valley, the new Local Plan that was paused whilst undergoing independent examination, pending publication of the refreshed NPPF, to be adopted under the NPPF that applied at the time of drafting;
- (ii) MVDC had, on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023, indicated a further delay will now occur to provide time to decide how the District Council wishes to proceed;
- (iii) The Inspector appointed to examine the new Local Plan had written to MVDC to encourage a lifting of the pause and the submission of a procedural update by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024;
- (iv) MVDC had, on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024, advised MVDC:
  - (a) is unable to comply with the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024 deadline;
  - (b) will convene an Extraordinary Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to consider how to proceed; and
  - (c) provide an update to the Inspector by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

## 7. Highways, Rights of Way, and Airports

### Highways

(192) Council noted:

- (i) SCC Highways had published details of a road closure notice, to allow the use of three-way traffic lights at the junction of Rectory Lane and the A25 Reigate Road, between 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024, “to facilitate the installation of high containment kerbs between the junction of the A25 Reigate Road and Slough Road”;
- (ii) Cllr Clack had asked highway officers to engage;
- (iii) SCC Highways had since clarified the:
  - (a) high containment kerbs are to be installed on the A25 Reigate Road between Park Cottage and the Round Lodge and between the Rectory Lane sign outside the Rectory and the retaining wall that runs alongside The Rectory; and
  - (b) proposed use of part of the carriageway of Rectory Lane as a working zone on which to locate welfare facilities, store equipment and materials and park vehicles; and
- (iv) the Clerk had liaised with Buckland Estate, outlined to SCC the challenges their contractors can expect to encounter if the work proceeds as planned and suggested to SCC that if they clarify what space they need the team at Buckland Estate will suggest alternate locations to avoid an obstruction on Rectory Lane.

**Action:** Clerk to provide an update to Cllrs.

- (193) Council noted Cllr Clack had recently confirmed she had commissioned the work to address the ponding a short distance to the west of the boundary of Park Lake and The Pheasant, work it is hoped will be implemented early in the 2024/25 financial year;

### **Brockham Traffic Calming**

- (194) Council noted:

- (i) Cllr Steed had attended a public meeting that had preceded Brockham Parish Council's November meeting to hear a SCC Highways officer present:
  - (a) SCC led proposals to address road safety on Middle Street, Brockham; and
  - (b) a suggestion for a traffic calming scheme for Brockham Lane, something Brockham Parish Council is keen to deliver;
- (ii) Artist's impressions, presented to the meeting, have since been published on the Brockham village website;
- (iii) Cllr Steed's view that the proposals:
  - (a) appear to have been well thought out to reduce accidents and driver speed; and
  - (b) if supported by Brockham residents are worthy of support;
- (iv) SCC Highways engineers are conscious the proposals may impact traffic flows through Betchworth and, to a lesser extent, through Buckland.

### **Surrey RoadSafe Vision Zero Road Safety Strategy**

- (195) Council:

- (i) noted SCC Cabinet had recently considered a draft Surrey RoadSafe Vision Zero Road Safety Strategy and agreed a public and stakeholder consultation on the draft strategy, inclusive of a new 20 mph speed limit policy, be held commencing in January 2024 and running for 10 weeks to mid-March 2024;
  - (ii) recorded a vote of thanks to Cllr Steed for reviewing the draft strategy, acknowledged his conclusion that the draft policy is a well thought out document worthy of Council's support and noted that the:
    - (a) draft policy continues many of the current initiatives to improve road safety so no real controversial issues there;
    - (b) SCC strategy advocates any proposal to introduce a 20mph speed limits will require consultation and the support of the local residents and their SCC Councillor. The draft policy sets out sensible and more objective speed criteria for any such scheme and avoids any suggestion of a blanket approach (cf. Wales);
    - (c) document includes a reference to a DfT Safer Roads Funds Scheme implementation of road safety cameras to facilitate average speed enforcement of the 40mph speed limit between Dorking and Reigate during the 2024/5 financial year;
  - (iii) noted:
    - (a) the Clerk had contacted SCC Cllr Clack to ask for an update on Council's request to have "sight of any more details on the DfT funded proposals to SCC Highways officers to provide Council with an opportunity to use their local knowledge to provide constructive feedback prior to plans being set in stone"; and
    - (b) Cllr Clack had confirmed she is awaiting a response from the design team; and
  - (iv) noted Cllr Steed is liaising with Betchworth Parish Councillor Randall with respect to the draft paper and forthcoming consultation.
- (196) After careful consideration, Council **resolved** to accept Cllr Steed's recommendation to submit a broadly supportive response to the consultation and acknowledged Cllr Steed's cautionary note that the "devil will be in the detail as to how the strategy will be delivered". **Action:** Clerk, with support from Cllr Steed, to ensure a response, consistent with the update provided to Council, is submitted to the forthcoming consultation.

## Rights of Way

(197) Council noted:

- (i) SCC had invited the parish council to submit a response to its consultation on a new Rights of Improvement Plan;
- (ii) A copy of the consultation questionnaire had been circulated to councillors in advance of the meeting and, based on initial feedback, a draft response had been circulated with the agenda; and
- (iii) A questionnaire targeted at individuals is available to download from the Surrey Says website and a link to the consultation had been published on the village website and included in a parish update.

(198) Council, having considered the draft response **resolved** to submit the response without further amendment. **Action:** Clerk.

## Airports

(199) Council noted:

- (i) Two dates for a stakeholder information briefing had been scheduled for late January 2024 as part of the Gatwick Airport Limited (GAL) Airspace Change Proposal (ACP 2018-60) to redesign the arrival and departure routes that serve the airport's operation in line with the UK's Future Airspace Strategy Implementation (FASI) programme and UK Airspace Modernisation Strategy (AMS); and
- (ii) Cllr Cox had registered to attend the virtual briefing on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

(200) Council noted a Preliminary Hearing on the Application for a Development Consent Order for the Northern Runway Project at Gatwick Airport had been scheduled to take place on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and that this meeting, although held in public is a purely procedural meeting that does not require the attendance of interested parties.

## 8. Formalities

### Environment Act 2021

(201) Council noted:

- (i) the current 5-year plan, covering the management of Buckland Village Pond and Green for the period 2022-2027, was adopted on 10th January 2022;
- (ii) the plan was prepared for Council by Surrey County Council's Lead Officer for the Open Standing Water Habitat Action Plan within Surrey's Biodiversity Action Plan and is compliant with Sections 102 & 103 of the Environment Act 2021;
- (iii) as the reason for proposing a management plan, back in 2011, was driven by the need to have regard to, and benefit, the biodiversity interests, the 2011 - 2016 Pond and 2016 – 2021 Pond and Green management plans were compliant with Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (relevant legislation prior to enactment of the Environment Act 2021);
- (iv) the Clerk had registered to attend a virtual SCC led Biodiversity Duty Workshop for Surrey ALC member councils on Tuesday 20th February that is intended to provide a good understanding of a parish council's duty and responsibilities under the Environment Act 2021. **Action:** Clerk to advise Council as to any further actions that may be required at the March meeting.

(202) Council, having given consideration as to whether to initiate an in-depth review of its Communications and Engagement Strategy **resolved** to:

- (i) retain the village website as the primary source of information;
- (ii) continue to highlight key information via parish updates issued via the village email group, parish magazine and notice boards;
- (iii) rely on all Cllrs encouraging any individuals keen to promote items via WhatsApp groups or other forms of social media to do so using links to the source information published on the village website. **Action:** All.

(203) Council noted the crime report provided by Surrey Police had advised:

- (i) one crime: theft from a car parked at The Pheasant; and
- (ii) one incident: vehicle interference whereby a car had been accessed by unknown persons. All the windows were found open. Nothing reported stolen,

recorded in Buckland since 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

### **MVDC Transformation**

(204) Council noted Seonaid Webb, MVDC Executive Head of Service (Transformation and Partnerships) (SW) had hosted a virtual briefing for parish clerks on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 during which she had outlined MVDC plans to transform service provision by increasing the use of digitisation and enhancing the range of services provided by the customer contact centre to free up officer time to focus on complex tasks.

### **MVDC website update**

(205) Council noted:

- (i) when MVDC “soft-launched” a new website on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 that it did so without any warning to parish councils (or any other local stakeholders) prompting a significant number of broken links on community websites across the district (35 broken links on the Buckland village website);
- (ii) MVDC, having opted for a manual data transfer, published out of date information on launch day and took over a month to correct reported errors;
- (iii) parish councils are now buried under an information sub-heading of the community menu, alongside defibrillators, parks, and burial grounds with no direct links from any of the democracy or councillor and decision making menus;
- (iv) menu options are not as user friendly for members of the public leaving users over reliant on search functions that have yet to be honed to reflect user requests;
- (v) the new format website does not work well on standard sized mobiles as all information, whether portrait or landscape is displayed in a single column; and
- (vi) while the communications team had since advised extensive testing was undertaken prior to the soft launch it appears the team missed the opportunity to recruit users of the extranet by limiting testing to users with intranet signons.

(206) Council noted SW, during the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024, had expressed appreciation for the feedback and committed to working constructively with the parish councils.

### **MVDC Consultations**

(207) Council:

- (i) noted the Clerk had provided feedback to the MVDC Communications team to suggest they review their use of a one consultation response per ISP to ensure residents are not prevented from submitting individual responses to consultations;
- (ii) the MVDC Communications team had struggled to accept that:
  - (a) not all households in the rural areas of Mole Valley have sufficient mobile signal to be able to use a mobile ISP to register a response; and
  - (b) only one device can register a response if connecting via WiFi routed through a home broadband service.

(208) Council noted SW, during the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 had acknowledged the points raised with respect to consultations and arranged to attend the Clerks meeting currently scheduled to take place on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

(209) Council noted the following updates, issued by Surrey ALC since 13<sup>th</sup> November, had each been circulated to Councillors: December newsletter, Civility and Respect Newsletter, Invitation to attend an LGA sponsored virtual seminar on Councillor Safety, Statement and Q&A on Chancellor’s announcement (within the Autumn statement) of a level 2 County devolution deal for Surrey.

(210) Council noted details of the following consultations:

- (i) SCC Police Crime Commissioner – Policing priorities for 2024/25;
- (ii) Have your say on SCC 2024/25 Budget;
- (iii) SCC Consultation on primary school provision in Reigate; and
- (iv) Priorities and actions to be included within a new SCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan,

had been published on the village website and highlighted in a parish update.

(211) Council noted updates issued by the Surrey ALC, Surrey Hills Society, River Mole Partnership, GACC, SCC and MVDC had been circulated to Cllrs and key information published on the village website and/or included within Parish Updates.

## **9. Amenities and Volunteer Activity**

(212) Council noted:

- (i) SCC had highlighted revisions to government targets for the reach of superfast broadband issued as part of a consultation (targeted principally at broadband suppliers) on how best to provide meaningful broadband to “Very Hard to Reach Premises (VHTR)”;
- (ii) as neither the consultation paper nor the SCC update explained which properties are defined as VHTR properties an item was included in a parish update inviting residents to share any problems they are encountering with Council;
- (iii) to date, two households have responded and information providing options for them to explore had been provided.

(213) Council noted:

- (i) the telecoms industry is currently working towards retiring the analogue copper phoneline network by the end of 2025;
- (ii) the shift towards landline calls being delivered using digital technology called Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), a method which uses broadband connections had already started to happen for customers who upgrade their broadband package or move house;
- (iii) advice to residents had been published on the village website, issued in a parish update, and will feature in the February edition of the parish magazine.

(214) Council **resolved** to record a vote of thanks to:

- (i) the Clerk for refreshing the content on the village website to now include Environment and Support sections;
- (ii) Dominic Sanders for contributing an article setting out Nature initiatives on Buckland Estate;
- (iii) the Clerk for researching options for underplanting the trees in the section of verge that runs alongside the public footpath that connects Old Road to Bromley field and **resolved** to support the recommendation to plant single snowdrops in the green. **Action:** Clerk.

(215) Council considered the arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting, scheduled to be held on at 8pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Council **resolved** to accept an offer from Cllrs Cox and Jones to arrange refreshments and Cllrs Gowrley and Bourke to set out the room. **Actions:** Cllr Husband to prepare an article for the March issue of the parish magazine (due to be distributed at the end of February) to encourage residents to attend. All Cllrs to share relevant information and updates with Cllr Husband.

(216) Council **resolved** to record a vote of thanks to Brockham Parish Council for extending the opportunity to Buckland residents to recycle their Christmas trees, and to Brockham resident Jason Keen for overseeing the tree shredding.

## 10. Finance

(217) Council noted:

- (i) Cllr Jones had verified the bank balances entered on the Q3 bank reconciliation against the bank statements, and having reviewed the cashbook against the bank reconciliation, signed the cashbook to confirm no anomalies had arisen between 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023; and
- (ii) financial schedules circulated in advance of the meeting had included a year-to-date cash book, an analysis of forecast versus budget expenditure and a bank reconciliation.

### Account Receipts and Payments

(218) Council noted Unity Bank had, on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, applied:

- (i) an £18 Q3 service charge to the current account; and
- (ii) Q3 interest of £181.45 to the instant access savings account.

(219) Council **resolved** to renew its membership of :

- (i) NALC via its Surrey ALC branch for 2024/25 for a fee of £201.80; and
- (ii) the Surrey Hills Society for 2024/25 for a fee of £30.00.

**Action:** Clerk to arrange payment upon receipt of appropriate invoices.

(220) Council **resolved** to approve the following payments:

- (i) HMRC £130.44, PAYE liability re: December salary payment;
- (ii) G Burley & Sons Ltd £116.16 including £19.36 Vat,  
Edging sections of grass in village centre;
- (iii) Information Commissioner Office £35 (by direct debit via Unity Bank);  
Renewal of Annual Registration Fee : Data Protection
- (iv) Sheena Boyce £8.32 including £1.39 Vat,  
Reimbursement of council expenses.

### Pension Regulator – Auto enrolment

(221) Council noted:

- (i) the requirement to auto-enrol the Clerk into a pension scheme had been met by Council registering with Nest;
- (ii) at this time, as Council's scheme does not have any active members, no further action is required.

### Budget and Precept Request for the period April 2024 – March 2025

(222) Council noted a draft budget accompanied by a schedule of explanatory notes and draft assumptions and a copy of the latest full year forecast to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 had been circulated to Cllrs accompanied by a "wish list" of potential expenditure proposals relating to amenity improvements.

(223) Council noted the Finance team at MVDC had recently:

- (i) notified a local tax base for Buckland Parish of £303.70 for 2024/25 compared to £303.30 for 2023/24.
- (ii) advised Council the value of the 2024/25 concurrent service payment will not include any inflationary increase. MVDC suggests it would be reasonable, for the purposes of preparing parish budgets, to assume the 2024/25 figure will remain the same as the 2023/24 figure of £2,390;
- (iii) advised Council the value of the 2023/24 council tax support scheme payment will not include any inflationary increase. MVDC suggests it would be reasonable, for the purposes of preparing parish budgets, to assume the 2024/25 figure will remain the same as the 2023/24 figure of £924.



(224) Council noted the Clerk had:

- (i) questioned the MVDC Finance Team suggestion the concurrent service payment is a grant given the payment has always been defined as MVDC's 75% share of the cost of grounds maintenance (calculated on a rolling three-year basis) that is undertaken by parish councils in parished areas whereas MVDC continues to absorb the full cost of grounds maintenance in unparished areas;
- (ii) having not yet received a response to her query of 6<sup>th</sup> December, had forwarded her query to all three MVDC Cllrs and asked for their assistance.

(225) Council, having reviewed the current year forecast and draft budget, **resolved** to :

- (i) acknowledge, given the continuing "cost of living crisis" a need to fully justify any discretionary spending;
- (ii) accept that as SCC and MVDC budgets remain subject to economic uncertainty it is reasonable to anticipate a continued need for the Parish Council to ensure it can meet the needs of the parish whilst maintaining appropriate financial reserves; and
- (iii) recognise the need to remain mindful that if the government decides to extend referendum principles to parish councils (by capping year on year increases in parish council tax) such a change would limit Council's ability to increase the precept in future years without incurring the significant cost (c.£4,000 per MVDC) of a referendum.

(226) Council noted the draft budget reflects an allowance for a 2024/25 increase in salary scales of 6%, consistent with the assumption factored into the MVDC budget.

(227) Council **resolved**:

- (i) to budget £500 discretionary spend on amenity improvements for the 2024/25 budget year;
- (ii) to retain a budget for discretionary expenditure to £160 to fund the electricity charge for floodlighting to the church and renewal of Council's membership of Surrey Hills Society; and
- (iii) to budget to continue to undertake "maintenance of the footways alongside the A25", to ensure the investment that has already been made to improve the A25 footways continues to be safeguarded until such time as SCC Highways can be persuaded to invest in further footway reconstruction.

(228) Council, having reviewed the draft budget, comprising a financial projection, proposals wishlist, explanatory notes and assumptions, noted:

- (i) an invitation to propose amenity improvements, featured in a parish update issued to residents via the email group and published in the parish magazine, had not led to any unfulfilled proposals;
- (ii) the current and projected levels of general (unallocated) reserves, whilst in accordance with the advice in the Practitioner's Guide ("*the generally accepted recommendation with regard to the appropriate minimum level of a smaller authority's general (unallocated) reserve is that it should be maintained at between 3 and 12 months net expenditure*" and "*The smaller the authority, the closer the figure may be to 12 months expenditure, the larger the authority, the nearer to 3 months*") remain modest;
- (iii) the modest increase in local tax base means that to raise £17,767, the amount of money needed to balance the 2024/5 budgeted expenditure of £21,081 will require a 7.44% (£4.05) increase in the Band D precept attributable to the parish council element of the council tax.

(229) Council **resolved** to:

- (i) set budgeted expenditure for the 2024/25 financial year at £21,081; and
- (ii) submit a precept request for the 2024/25 financial year of £ 17,767, the value required to balance the 2024/25 budget.

**Action:** Clerk to submit the precept request, signed by Cllrs Jones and Pryor, to MVDC.

- (230) Council **resolved** to accept an offer from Cllr Jones to refresh the information about the Parish Council published on the village website in time for the updates to be signposted in the Chairman's address to the Annual Parish Meeting. **Action:** Cllr Jones.

#### **11. Forthcoming Meetings**

- (231) The Parish Council will next meet on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and meetings are subsequently scheduled to be held in the Reading Room on the following dates:  
2024: 13<sup>th</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 9<sup>th</sup> September, 11<sup>th</sup> November;  
2025: 13<sup>th</sup> January, 10<sup>th</sup> March.
- (232) The 2024 Annual Parish Meeting will be held at 8pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in the Reading Room.
- (233) Cllrs Jones will attend a forum of Surrey ALC Parish Councillors on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024.
- (234) Cllr Cox will attend a:
- (i) GACC Briefing Meeting re the Application for a DCO to allow development of the northern runway at 7.30pm on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024; and
  - (ii) stakeholder information virtual briefing on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024 for a progress update on the Gatwick Airport Airspace Change Proposal and the planned next steps in the process.
- (235) The Clerk will attend virtual:
- (i) forum of Surrey ALC Clerks on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024;
  - (ii) meeting of MVDC Clerks meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024; and
  - (iii) SCC led Biodiversity Duty workshop for Surrey ALC Clerks on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.18pm.

**Sheena Boyce, Clerk**

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