



**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held in the
Council Chamber, Unit 2 Saxton, Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 9JX
at 7.30pm on Thursday 31 October 2024**

2024-316 - Present

Councillors:

Cllr G Adam, Cllr B Ahier, Cllr D Bird, Cllr N Crampin, Cllr S Ellahi, Cllr B McShee, Cllr N Mitchell (Chairman), Cllr M Price, Cllr C Riley, Cllr B Nagle, Cllr J Snowball, and Cllr T Wright.

Officers of the Council:

Mrs G White - Clerk to the Council

Members of the public:

Borough Councillor B Akhtar and County Councillor K Witham were present for part of the meeting.

2024-317 - To accept apologies and reason for absence in accordance with the LGA 1972, Sch 1, para 40

Cllr M Fance had given his apologies and reason for absence. The reason for absence was approved by the Members.

Borough Councillors Honor and Philip Brooker had also given their apologies for the meeting.

The Assistant Clerk also tendered her apologies.

2024-318 - Public Participation

None.

2024-319 - Declaration of Non-pecuniary Interests

Cllr B McShee, Cllr N Crampin and Cllr T Wright each declared a non-pecuniary interest relating to item 18 on the agenda – Application to hold the Wood Street Summer Show 2025.

- Cllr B McShee – Member of the WSVA
- Cllr N Crampin – Member of the WSVA
- Cllr T Wright – Treasurer and Member of the Show Team

2024-320 - Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) - by councillors in accordance with the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012 No 1464)

No declarations were made.

2024-321 - To receive and consider written requests for new DPI dispensations, if any

No requests were received.

2024-322 - Amendments to the Register of Interests

No declarations were made.

2024-323 - Declaration of gifts or hospitality over £50

No declarations were made.

2024-324 - Presentation by Janet Ashton – Heat/thermal imaging surveys and support for vulnerable residents

Ms Ashton gave a presentation to the Council advising that The Surrey Climate Commission, in conjunction with Zero Carbon Guildford, are assisting vulnerable local residents who are in need of additional support around heating their homes and reducing their energy bills.

Heat surveys can be carried out on peoples' homes to highlight where heat is being lost. The aim of the survey being to make homes more energy efficient, to enable residents to stay warm, and to save money. Being cold can have a huge detrimental impact on the health of the elderly.

Energy saving measures can include:

- Solar panels
- Ground source heat pumps
- Air source heat pumps
- Cavity wall insulation
- Deep loft insulation (270mm)
- Radiator foil – to be placed behind radiators located on outside walls.

Various funding sources are available to assist those on a low income. These are listed below:

- **Surrey County Council** - energy advice tool: <https://www.surreyenergyadvice.org.uk/>
- **Free Home Energy Survey** - from Zero Carbon Guildford: <https://www.zerocarbonguildford.org/energy-surveys>
- **Energy Saving Trust** - impartial information: <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/>
- **Money Saving Expert** - (Martin Lewis): [https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/utilities/how-to-get-help-if-you-re-struggling-with-your-energy-bills-/](https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/utilities/how-to-get-help-if-you-re-struggling-with-your-energy-bills/)
- **Surrey Climate Commission - HEAT Plus**: Cat Reeby (cat@surreyclimate.org.uk) and Anna Jolley (anna.jolley@zerocarbonguildford.org)

Members did raise concern about the efficiency of ground heat source and air heat source pumps which (from experience) only to heat to 17°C, and also stated that the Government had missed an opportunity by failing to provide a reasonable subsidy for solar panels and the energy feed-in tariff. Ms Ashton thanked the Members for their feedback, which she would pass onto Zero Carbon Guildford.

Ms Ashton was thanked by the Parish Council for all she is doing to help vulnerable residents within the Parish. Cllr B Ahier enquired whether Ms Ashton would give the same presentation to the Fairwood Helpers to help further raise awareness of the help available from Zero Carbon Guildford [<https://www.zerocarbonguildford.org/>].

2024-325 - Borough Councillor's report

Cllr B Akhtar gave the following report:

1. **Solace Report** - The Waverley Borough Council Solace report has been delayed.
2. **Winter Fuel Payments and Single Person Council Tax Discount** - At the Full Council meeting held 8 October 2024 the Council resolved to:
 - Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer calling for the policy on linking Winter Fuel Payments to Pension Credit receipt to be immediately paused and asking her to rule out any change to the Single Person Council Tax Discount in the Autumn Budget Statement.
 - Call upon all MPs covering Guildford borough to give their formal support to halting the changes to the Winter Fuel Payment eligibility and resisting any reduction in the Single Person Council Tax Discount.
 - Commit the Council to signing the 'Save the Winter Fuel Payment for Struggling Pensioners' petition being run by Age UK and write to all members offering them the opportunity to sign the petition themselves.
3. **Pension Credit** - Encourage local efforts to promote the uptake of Pension Credit (and other frequently under-claimed benefits) through council services and partnerships with local charities and community organisations to ensure that all eligible pensioners in Guildford Borough are supported in claiming their entitlement."
4. **Safety and Quality Standards** - Safety certification for the Council's housing stock is being carried out. To date, 195 certificates have been issued. 2,000 certificates are expected to have been issued by July 2025.
5. **SANG (Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space) Wood Street Knoll** - The planning officer, Kate Little, has drafted the S106 Agreement which has been sent to the other party. It is believed this issue is close to resolution.

A short question and answer session took place.

The condition of Bannisters Field following the recent circus was raised [NB: Bannisters Field is outside the Parish]. Cllr Bill Akhtar advised that the query should be raised with Hendryk Jurk at Guildford Borough Council.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Bill Akhtar for his report.

2024-326 - County Councillor's report

Cllr K Witham's October and November 2024 reports had been circulated to all Members via email in advance of the meeting.

Cllr Witham's reports covered the following topics:

- New electric bike scheme in Guildford supported by Surrey CC
- Ash Dieback tree works
- The Surrey Police "Pegasus" scheme
- Highways roundup and a new way to report road and pavement issues
- Surrey Connect bus services - all local areas
- Winter is on the way! Sign up to highways alerts
- Reducing speeds on rural roads - residents survey
- Information about watercourses and flooding
- More specialist school places created
- Eco-schools
- Community champion nominations

Cllr Witham also advised that:

1. The Parish Council's application for grant aid from Your Fund Surrey towards the provision of Christmas illuminations at Pitch Place Green is being progressed.
2. The Parish Council's application to Your Councillor Community Fund application towards the provision of replacement logs at the junction of The Avenue and Worplesdon Road is also being progressed.
3. Discussion regarding the Government's proposed devolution agenda continues to take place, and rumour has it that the 11 borough councils and county council may become a Unitary Authority within the next two years. This change will be invoked by legislation. The aim is by reducing the number of senior posts across all twelve councils, this may save taxpayers £250m per year. Given the population of Surrey (1.2 million residents), it is probably that there would be two Unitary Authorities. It is likely to be November/December before a steer on this matter will be provided.

Cllr Bill Akhtar and Cllr K Witham left the meeting at 20:10.

2024-327 - Minutes of the previous meetings:

It was proposed by Cllr J Snowball, seconded by Cllr D Bird, and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 19 September 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

It was proposed by Cllr G Adam, seconded by Cllr B Ahier, and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Planning/General Purposes and Finance Committee Meeting held 10 October 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

2024-328 - Planning Applications for consideration:

Cllr N Mitchell presented the planning applications for consideration to the meeting.

Planning Application No: 24/P/01393 - Cranmere, The Avenue, Worplesdon, Guildford, GU3 3RA - Proposed Garage extension with raise to ridge and associated roof alterations to improve the first-floor layout.

It was **RESOLVED**: that the Parish Council would draw the planner's attention to the anomalies within the submitted documents, particularly those relating to the increase in roof height.

Planning Application No: 24/P/01415 - 38 Gumbrells Close, Fairlands, Guildford, GU3 3NG - Single storey timber outbuilding in rear garden.

It was **RESOLVED**: that the Parish Council request a condition be applied being that the outbuilding should remain ancillary to the main dwelling in perpetuity.

It was also **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would draw the borough council's attention to the watercourse in the rear garden.

Ms Ashton left the meeting at 20:20.

Planning Application No: 24/P/01485 - 4 Hillbrow Close, Wood Street Village, Guildford, GU3 3DF - Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to vary condition 2 (Approved Drawings) of planning permission 24/P/00300 for the 'Construction of a single storey rear extension following the partial demolition of the existing garage and ground floor WC' to change the approved drawings.

It was **RESOLVED**: leave to planners.

Planning Application No: 24/P/01446 - 55 Envis Way, Fairlands, Guildford, GU3 3NL - Proposed single storey rear extension.

It was **RESOLVED**: leave to planners.

Planning Application No: 24/P/01298 - 54 Liddington New Road, Guildford, GU3 3AH - Placement of an air source heat pump to rear elevation.

It was **RESOLVED**: leave to Guildford Borough Council’s environmental health officer.

Planning Application No: 24/P/00166 - Maryland, Perry Hill, Worplesdon, Guildford, GU3 3RB - Demolition of existing dwelling (The Cottage) and erection of new dwelling with landscaping enhancements and associated works. (Amended description 7 March 2024) - Following the submission of further information by the applicant’s representatives, to consider the Parish Council’s response, if any.

It was **RESOLVED**: that the Parish Council seek clarification as to exactly which building is to be demolished, as there appears to be a discrepancy between the submitted documents and the letter from Hughes Planning dated 3 June 2024.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would reiterate its understanding that the proposed building is not a like-for-like replacement dwelling and that “The Cottage” to be demolished is outside the 400m SPA buffer zone.

2024-329 - Finance:

a) Proposed list of payments to be tabled at the meeting for approval

The payment list was presented to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr D Bird, seconded by Cllr N Crampin, and unanimously **RESOLVED** that payments to the value of £20,740.34 be approved. The payment list was duly signed by the Chairman, Cllr N Mitchell, during the meeting.

Table 1: Proposed list of payments 31 October 2024

| Code | Date | Description | Supplier | Net | VAT | Total |
|-------------------------------|------------|---|------------------------|--------|-------|--------|
| Land Management | 30/08/2024 | Heavy duty black bin bags | Just Bin Bags Ltd | 36.62 | 7.33 | 43.95 |
| Chairman's Allowance | 20/09/2024 | Supplies for Mayor's visit | Tesco | 22.35 | 0.00 | 22.35 |
| Establishment Charges | 09/10/2024 | PPE for Head Groundsman | Cluskeys CCP Ltd | 17.99 | 3.60 | 21.59 |
| Establishment Charges | 09/10/2024 | PPE for Groundsman | Cluskeys CCP Ltd | 40.00 | 8.00 | 48.00 |
| Establishment Charges | 14/10/2024 | 1 x A1 Map Copy | Repoint | 13.20 | 2.64 | 15.84 |
| Revenue Costs Works Vehicle | 16/10/2024 | Air for Van Tyres | Sainsburys | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.50 |
| Revenue Costs Works Vehicle | 15/10/2024 | Van wash | Clay Lane Valeting Ltd | 33.00 | 0.00 | 33.00 |
| Establishment Charges | 14/10/2024 | Hi Vis Pilbara Backpack | Sport Pursuit | 36.65 | 7.33 | 43.98 |
| IT budget | 16/10/2024 | OnePhone - phone charges - including mobile data | BT PLC | 212.66 | 42.53 | 255.19 |
| Parish office - Unit 2 Saxton | 17/10/2024 | Water and sewerage charge - Unit 2 Saxton - 01.09.24 - 30.09.24 | Castle Water | 18.16 | 0.00 | 18.16 |
| Professional Advice | 17/10/2024 | Payroll services - qtr to 30/09/2024 | Mulberry & Co | 120.00 | 24.00 | 144.00 |
| Land Management | 17/10/2024 | Roll of Turf | Spooners Turf | 7.00 | 1.40 | 8.40 |
| Establishment Charges | 19/10/2024 | Office supplies | Sainsburys | 4.03 | 0.00 | 4.03 |
| IT budget | 21/10/2024 | Subscription - 17.10.24 - 16.11.24 | Adobe | 16.64 | 3.33 | 19.97 |
| Revenue Costs Works Vehicle | 24/10/2024 | Fuel for works van | Waitrose Shell | 33.98 | 6.80 | 40.78 |
| Land Management | 23/10/2024 | Hire of skip | John Gunner & Co Ltd | 240.00 | 48.00 | 288.00 |

| Code | Date | Description | Supplier | Net | VAT | Total |
|---------------------------------------|------------|--|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Establishment Charges | 22/10/2024 | Car parking | Guildford Borough Council | 4.40 | 0.00 | 4.40 |
| Professional Advice | 24/10/2024 | Drafting representation for planning inquiry | Steve Tilbury Consulting Ltd | 250.00 | 0.00 | 250.00 |
| Christmas trees/lights WS, Perry Hill | 24/10/2024 | Tree inspection and protection plan | TGB Tree Consulting | 375.00 | 0.00 | 375.00 |
| Parish Office | 24/10/2024 | Building insurance - Unit 2 Saxton 25.8.24 - 24.8.25 | TL Fund | 688.73 | 137.75 | 826.48 |
| GBC Emptying Litter Bins | 24/10/2024 | GBC Bin Emptying Charge (12 bins) | Guildford Borough Council | 3,070.00 | 0.00 | 3,070.00 |
| IT budget | 24/10/2024 | Halo for business 1 - ultrafast 2 & value line | BT PLC | 66.30 | 13.26 | 79.56 |
| Staff Costs | 24/10/2024 | Salaries/ PAYE/ NI/ Mileage/ Pension Conts Ee's & Er's | Staff Costs | 14,972.21 | 0.00 | 14,972.21 |
| Staff mileage | 24/10/2024 | Mileage | Mrs G F White | 41.93 | 0.00 | 41.93 |
| Staff mileage | 24/10/2024 | Mileage | Mr A Connor | 60.13 | 0.00 | 60.13 |
| Staff mileage | 24/10/2024 | Mileage | Mrs V C Fear | 29.90 | 0.00 | 29.90 |
| Establishment Charges | 26/10/2024 | Office supplies | Sainsburys | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| Land Management | 25/10/2024 | Paint for Benches | M P Enterprises Limited (Amazon) | 10.82 | 2.17 | 12.99 |
| Total | | | | 20,432.20 | 308.14 | 20,740.34 |

b) Bank reconciliation for September 2024

The Finance Officer (FO) had prepared the bank reconciliation for September 2024 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations, a copy of which had been issued to all Members via email in advance of the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr M Price, seconded by Cllr B McShee, and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the bank reconciliation be approved and signed by the Chairman, Cllr N Mitchell, during the meeting.

Appendix 1 - September 2024 Bank Reconciliation

c) Monthly budget reports for September 2024

The FO had prepared the budget reports for September 2024 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations, copies of which had been issued to all Members via email in advance of the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr B McShee, seconded by Cllr S Ellahi, and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the budget reports be approved and signed by the Chairman, Cllr N Mitchell, during the meeting.

Appendices - 2, 3 and 4 - September 2024: Summary Budget Report, Net Position Report, and Earmarked Reserves Report.

Cllr N Mitchell presented the half-yearly budget figures to the Members.

Cllr G Adam stated that it is traditional in local government for the spending in the second half of the year to be greater than the first half of the year.

d) Precept 2024/2025 – Second instalment received (including final instalment of LCTSS grant)

The second instalment of the precept (including LCTSS grant) amounting to £174,662.00 had been received from Guildford Borough Council. Guildford Borough Council has confirmed that it will not be providing any further Local Council Tax Support Scheme grants in future. The Concurrent Functions Grant Aid having already been withdrawn. This puts further pressure on the Parish Council's income stream, which is now limited to bank/building society interest, and occasional grants issued by external bodies.

2024-330 - Notice of Casual Vacancy – Following the death of Dr Paul Cragg a vacancy now exists on the Parish Council for the Wood Street Ward

Guildford Borough Council confirmed that ten electors had not called for a bye-election and, therefore, the Parish Council is free to co-opt a new member.

Members were encouraged to raise local awareness of the three vacancies on the Parish Council. The Casual Vacancy arising from Dr Cragg's passing the other two being unfilled seats from the elections in 2023, one for the ward of Fairlands, the other for the ward of Jacobs Well.

2024-331 - AONB Boundary Review - Natural England is carrying out a second round of public consultation following amendments to the proposed boundary changes. Deadline for comments 10 December 2024

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr B Nagle, seconded by Cllr J Snowball and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council reiterate to Natural England (NE) its full support for the proposed Hogs Back Boundary changes as shown on NE's map ref: Fig 14a. See appendix 5

Cllr N Mitchell then advised that the University of Surrey's solar farm planning application no: to 24/P/00441 is to be considered by Guildford Borough Council's Planning Committee at their next meeting on Wednesday 6 November 2024. If this application is approved, the three fields on which the solar farm will be constructed will no longer meet Natural England's Beauty Criteria.

Following further discussion it was also **RESOLVED** by Cllr B Nagle, seconded by Cllr J Snowball that the Parish Council should write to all Members of Guildford Borough Council's Planning Committee asking them to defer making any decisions regarding the solar farm planning application until after the Surrey Hills Boundary Review has reached its natural conclusion, because the Boundary Review represents a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Appendix 5: Fig 14a Natural England Map – Proposed extension of the Surrey Hill Boundary Hogs Back

2024-332 - Mast upgrade – land to the rear of Gravetts Lane Stables

The Clerk advised that local residents had been advised of the proposal and had not raised any concerns.

It was subsequently proposed by Cllr G Adam, seconded by Cllr N Mitchell and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council write to Cornerstone stating the Parish Council has no objection to the proposed mast upgrade.

2024-333 - Claimed rights of way – Harry's Meadow (Right of Way no: 581)

The following minute numbers refer:

533-2015 - 22/10/2015

375-2020 - 10/12/2020

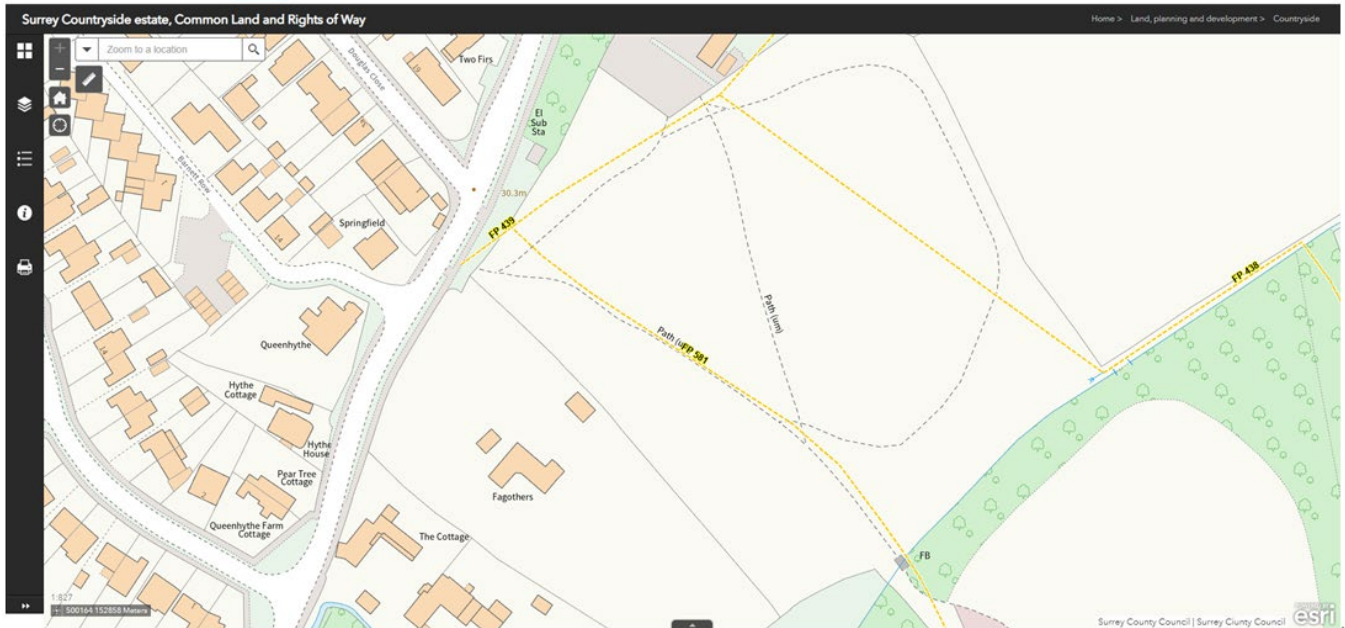
405-2023(3) – 14/12/2023

In 2015, the Jacobs Well Residents Association submitted a Schedule 14 (Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) application to Surrey County Council for a right of way to be claimed between Jacobs Well Road and Westfield Road. The Association had submitted evidence that the route, which crosses Harry's Meadow and goes through what is now the North Moors Allotments (owned by Guildford Borough Council) had been in existence for over 35 years and had been used 'as of right'. Surrey County Council had advised that the easiest way to proceed was for the owners of both fields to dedicate the route across their respective land.

Worplesdon Parish Council had supported the proposal and had understood that having confirmed its willingness to dedicate the route across its land, Surrey County Council would undertake the necessary legal processes to have the right of way dedicated.

Guildford Borough Council had subsequently requested a modification order to the claimed route across their land to facilitate construction of the allotments. The modification order was approved by the Planning Inspectorate 26 October 2023, however, the Planning Inspectorate’s order only related to sections A-D of the claimed route.

Unfortunately, it has come to light that whilst the route through Harry’s Meadow was being shown on Surrey County Council’s interactive map as having been designated as part of Right of Way no: 581, Surrey County Council had not completed the legal paperwork and therefore further work was required to complete the process.



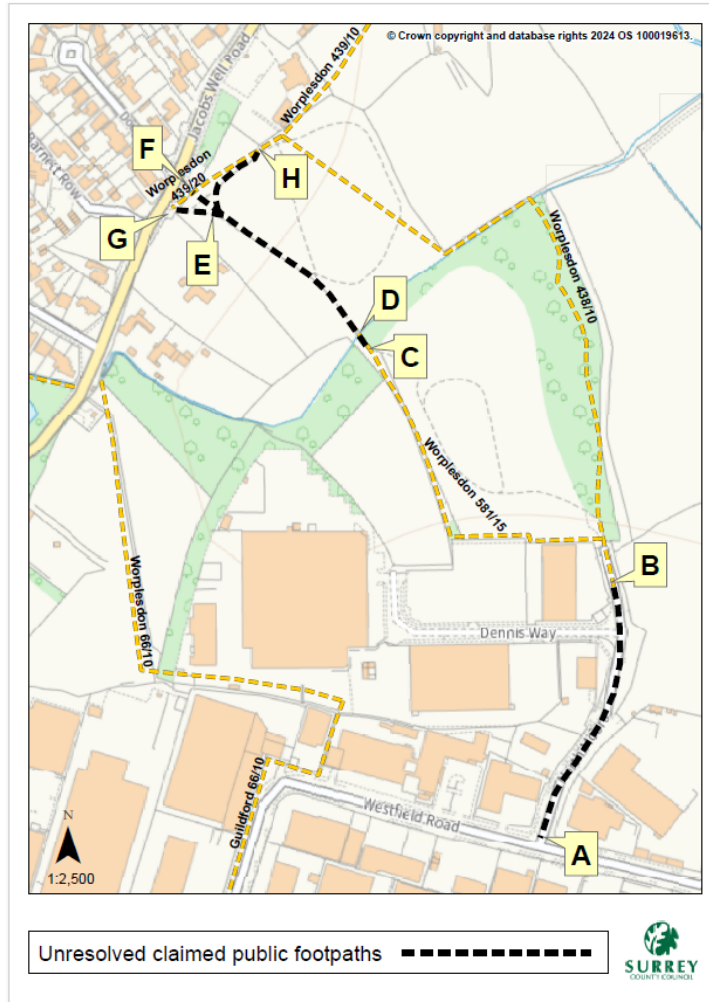
Surrey County Council’s Countryside Access Officer (Legal Definition Team) had written to advise that when an application is received to record a route as a public right of way, this triggers a legal duty for the County Council to review all of the evidence and determine whether the claimed rights have been established in law. This means that any footpath dedication at this site should reflect the rights established by the evidence – if the County Council only addresses part of that then their duty will be unfulfilled. The Parish Council, therefore needed to be aware of all the routes claimed.

A map showing all of the potential routes were shown to the Members during the meeting (having also been circulated to all Members via email in advance of the meeting). It should be noted that these routes have only been drawn approximately by Surrey County Council at this stage:

- D-E: This section of path is claimed by all users and would form part of any dedication agreement.
- E-F: This is the route shown in the main application form and most of the user evidence. However, though aerial photographs show several worn path lines in the field, there is no worn route on this line. From aerial photographs it appears that this line is likely to have been drawn in error on the evidence forms, and that users have actually walked E-G.
- E-G: Is clearly shown on aerial photos over a long period of time.
- E-H: 10 people claimed to have walked this route.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr N Mitchell, seconded by Cllr J Snowball and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council is content to dedicate routes D-E, E-G, and E-H. Route E-F is a vehicular access point which has not been used as a pedestrian right of way.

Map showing Rights of Way points A – H (Right of Way 581)



Once the dedication of these routes has been completed, Surrey County Council will be willing to discuss the replacement of or works to improve safety of the ‘Resistance Bridge’, which was installed by some very determined residents in 2015.

Appendix 6 – Original map showing the claimed right of way

2024-334 - Wood Street Village Show 19 July 2025 - An application has been received from the WSVa for permission to hold the Summer Show on Wood Street Village Green on 19 July 2025 (the Jazz Festival to be held on 20 July 2025 – separate application to be submitted for the Jazz Festival)

The Wood Street Summer Show Committee had submitted their application to hold the 2025 Summer Show on Wood Street Village Green, which will require the use of the Green from 16 – 21 July 2025.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr N Mitchell, seconded by Cllr B McShee and unanimously **RESOLVED** that in principle, the Parish Council approved the request, subject to receipt of various documentation before the last week in June; this is because the Parish Council is holding its Full Council meeting on Thursday 3 July 2025.

It was agreed that it would be acceptable for the Show Committee to:

- Submit the renewed insurance policy and electrical safety certificate next year.

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- Provide an updated site plan when they have finalised arrangements, but this would need to be submitted by 30 June at the very latest.
- Submit a risk assessment once they have clarity on the mix and layout. The Committee anticipates that the risks will be very much as they were in 2024; in place are a number of mitigations to respond to adverse weather conditions (not having the planned dray rides, for example).

It is anticipated that in addition to the Summer Show a Jazz Festival is to be held on Sunday 21 July 2025 but a separate application is to be submitted by Challengers.

The Council agreed, in principle, to grant permission for the Jazz Festival subject to receipt of an event application form and risk assessment. The fee for hiring the Green to be debated once the application form is received.

2024-335 - Clerk's Report

1. **Provision of four parking spaces in the Jacobs Well Recreation Ground** – The Clerk advised that the construction works are scheduled to commence on 11 November 2024. Access into and out of the Recreation Ground via the height barrier off Jacobs Well Road will be out of action for an anticipated period of six weeks. Notices to be displayed on the height barrier at the earliest opportunity.

2024-336 - Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report had been circulated via email in advance of the meeting:

Community Speed Watch

Deployments have occurred during the last six weeks, and my thanks go out to Cllrs Ahier, Price and Wright for deploying during my trip to Utah.

The weather and other appointments have reduced the number of actual deployments, and as Cllrs know we cannot deploy during inclement weather when drivers could be distracted by the deployment.

19 September

I chaired the full council meeting that was attended by the Mayor Cllr Sallie Barker MBE.

The Mayor sent us a thank you email following the meeting.

20 September

The Clerk Gaynor White and I visited Magda Cragg to pass on condolences on behalf of the Parish Council on the passing of Cllr Dr Paul Cragg.

30 September

I chaired a meeting with the Worplesdon United Charities and the Philips Bequest/ War Memorial Fund (WUC) and the Worplesdon Parochial Church Charity (WPCC) to discuss the merger of the above charities to WPCC and the closure of WUC. The Clerk Gaynor White and Cllr Beth Nagle, as our representative to WUC, were also in attendance.

The WPCC will be consulting with Stakeholders about the proposed merger in the near future.

14 October

The Clerk Gaynor White and I attended a meeting with Wood Street Village Cricket Club (WSVCC) about the renewal of the lease on the cricket ground and the change to the lease for the preschool to allow it to extend its operating hour.

Renewal of the cricket club lease on the cricket ground will involve Surrey County Council's legal team. Further work is required to move the extension of the lease forward.

18 October

I attended the first Flood Forum chaired by our new MP Zöe Franklin.

It was pointed out that the aim of the Flood Forum is to identify the authority who need to take action to resolve issues within the parish.

Zöe Franklin did take away actions on the legislation for both water management and planning through her office at Westminster.

22 October

The Clerk Gaynor White and I attended the Planning Inspectorate Inquiry into Hester's Yard at Guildford Borough Council offices.

Three residents from Wood Street Village attended the meeting.

The Inquiry was conducted on strict process-based procedure.

The Clerk presented to the Inspector Worplesdon Parish Council's support for the proposed development and the benefits that could be provided to the Parish Council and the whole parish. The Clerk was able to answer a number of questions from the Inspector and Guildford Borough Council about the submission. A copy of the submission was entered into the record of the Inquiry.

The Inquiry has now concluded, and the Inspector is expected to issue his findings later this year.

Key issues that were raised on the day were:

- Biodiversity Net Gain
- Drafting of the Section106 Agreement
- SANG requirements
- Viewpoints into the Development from the surrounding Green Belt
- Harm to the Green Belt because of the proposed development

In the evening I attended the Planning Training presented by Steve Tilbury, along with the Clerk and Cllr B Ahier.

Interestingly there are no Green Belt issues in Sussex and Hampshire.

The main point that I took from the training was that there is still confusion and unease in the planning process because of the lack of positive directives from Central Government.

The changes to the NPPF are expected to be issued before Parliament rises for its Christmas break.

2024-337 - Items for inclusion on future agenda

No suggestions were proposed.

2024-338 - Date of next meeting – Full Council Meeting Thursday 12 December 2024 - 19:30.

Meeting closed 21:17

Signed:

Chairman of the Council

Date: 31 October 2024