

Minutes of Steering Committee No 52, Thursday 13th February 2025,

At The village Centre, Victoria Street, Englefield Green, 6.30pm to 9.15 pm

- 1) **Present:** Mike Kelly (Chair), Alan Sloan, Melanie Frobisher, Albert Jamieson, Fred West
- 2) **Apologies for Absence;** Terry Barnett, Erik Juul-Mortensen
- 3) **Resignation;** it is with regret we accept Tanja Rodenburg's resignation. She has offered, however, to continue to undertake tasks if asked and will continue to assemble a list of volunteers.
- 4) **Approval of Minutes of Meeting No 51;** Approved
- 5) **Declaration of personal interest in topics to be discussed;** none.
- 6) **Accounts;** It was noted that there were a number of invoices yet to be submitted for payment.
 - (a) Village Centre for meetings (budget £150). Alan to request Ali to submit invoice for outstanding payments and detailing the dates of the meetings the payment covers.
 - (b) Rob for use of his server and to include the cost of moving the web-site to independent supplier (budget £75). To remain outstanding until web-site moved.
 - (c) Mike for printing of flyers (budget £75). Mike agreed to leave this outstanding until the cost of the new insurance premium was known (see below).Fred also suggested we need insurance as we were now likely to be undertaking activities and asking volunteers to also undertake work. Fred to pursue.

Arising from the discussion regarding the server being with Rob still, it was agreed Melanie would investigate how to move our web site to an independent supplier, and to see if there was an expert who could help us make the website brighter and more modern.
- 7) **Application for re designation of the Forum;** Consultations complete- in final stages of approval.
- 8) **a) Membership.** Flyers have been printed and are at Mikes house. It was agreed first use of them should be in going round the central area seeking additional registrations at the same time as the CPZ enquiry. Melainie will assign roads to committee members and provide a suggested format for recording doorstep interviews.
- 9) **b) Volunteers.** Despite resigning, Tanja is continuing to assemble a list of volunteers for all groups in the village.
 - c) **Fund Raising-** a dedicated committee member is probably needed at some time in the near future.
- 10) **Infrastructure Development Schedule-** Mike and Alan to meet Stephanie Broadly on 10th March to review a list of local projects extracted from the Placemaking document that Alan has sent to her in advance of the meeting.
- 11) **NDHA update.** One complaint addressed by Alan. The consultation period is coming to a close shortly- hopefully some good news next meeting..
- 12) **English Devolution White Paper.** (Proposal to scrap Borough Councils and divide Surrey into unitary councils). Alan has received advice from the Minister of Housing and Local Government regarding the formation of a Parish Council to counteract the

reduction in local representation that will be caused by this move. We will discuss it further with Stephanie on the 10th March and Alan will prime her so that she can do any research necessary so we can have a productive discussion.

It was unanimously agreed by the committee that we should pursue an application for a Parish Council as part of the imminent re-organisation of Surrey CC and Borough Councils into Unitary Councils, as it was felt that a Parish Council would be able to more effectively undertake matters specifically relevant to the two wards of Englefield Green.

In respect of the re-organisation, we must also continue to be aware of the both Surrey CC and RBC disappearing at the end of the year and that unless we have reached agreement with either or both on matters pertaining to our projects we will in all likelihood need to go back to the beginning with the new Authority.

13) Projects arising from the Neighbourhood Plan

- a) Parking:** Parking group had a meeting earlier today and Andrea emphasised that it was necessary to move fairly fast if we were not to lose the S106 funding for a CPZ. The group will now formulate the next questionnaire in the next couple of weeks with a view to undertaking the interviews before RHUL term end (early April). In the absence of Albert (on Hol) this will be lead by Melanie and Alan. The removal of yellow lines to create an additional 14 spaces in the central area has been agreed and will now grind through the Surrey Highways system.
- b) Speed Limits and One Way systems.** Alan is still getting no response from Surrey Highways but will keep trying.
- c) The A30, Liveable neighbourhoods, National Cycling route 4;** it would appear that consultation with RHUL that took place recently was partially to do with the fact that some RHUL land is required for the new scheme. It would appear that we will only be consulted at the next stage.
- d) Transport Hub.** Applications for funding are in to Your Fund Surrey and to EG Minor Projects fund. Mike fielding a continuous stream of comments from Surrey Placemaking and YFS and keeping Trevor, Andrea and Marisa informed.
- e) Bond Street Hedges.** Disappointingly it looks as though the funding from Central Government has not come through this year so far so it might not come through at all. (subsequent to the meeting Justin from RBC arranged a meeting to discuss things with him and Elliot from Surrey CC on the 13th March to see what can be done)
- f) Other tree projects-** no comments
- g) Forest Estate Garden Project-** still in abeyance.

14) Planning;

- a)** Fairmont tree houses- Further significant submissions have been made by the applicant but we have not been informed formally. Mike complained to Ashley Smith but no reply. Further letter (short and sharp) to be submitted.
- b)** Birchlands- Mike to remind Xavier Brice re the St Judes road crossing.
- c)** Mike reported on a meeting with Surinder Arora- little of importance was discussed and there has been subsequent correspondence which has been circulated.

- d) Barbara Clark House- Still nothing seems to be happening at the moment.
- e) Oaklands driveway. This has re appeared and requires comment.

15) AOB-

Action left from last meeting; Meeting with Windsor Park; Mike would try and set up a meeting with Nick Day.

Reminder that there is the £100,000 CIL money from the N4 cycle route improvements to consider!

16) Next Meeting- 27th March 2025