

Churt Parish Council

Clerk to the Council
Mrs Dawn Barrow

Minutes of the meeting of Churt Parish Council held on Wednesday 18 December 2024 at 7.30 pm.

Present

Churt Councillors: Sally Shorthose, Mike Shorthose, Stephen Wright, Julian Spence, Lisa Martin, Dominic Raeside, Myra Johnson, Pippa Harrison

Surrey County Council: 0
Waverley Borough Council: 2 - David Munro (part), James Staunton (part)
Clerk to the Council: Dawn Barrow
Members of the Public: 1 - Joe Munday

24/153 Chairman's Welcome

Cllr S Shorthose welcomed all to the meeting and invited the guests to speak.
Joe Munday, who is interested in becoming a councillor, has lived in Churt since 1978. Originally a physics teacher who started his own business in Churt selling textiles and haberdashery.

24/154 5 minute presentation by SCC

In Cllr Harmer's absence he asked the Clerk to report that Children's Services were the main area of concern at SCC.
Central Government have reopened the idea of moving to a unitary authority to replace two tier County and District Councils. Possible suggestion of merging part of Surrey with W Sussex. SCC believe a single unitary body for Surrey is best with more powers given to town and parish councils who have local knowledge.
The next Western Villages meeting to take place on Weds 23 January 10am.

24/155 5 minute presentation by WBC

Cllr Staunton reported the idea of a single unitary council could be in place by 2026, in which case planning, bins, collection of council tax would move to SCC.
Cllr Munro added Surrey could be divided into 2 and the May county elections could be abolished. Waverley monies could be used to pay off the debts of other boroughs and districts such as Guildford, Spelthorne and Woking.
Cllr Spence commented the NPPF has come out with double the housing requirement in Waverley. Local plan is moving forward. Cllr Martin added there is a huge debate about proximity of housing to sustainable transport links.

24/156 Apologies for absence

Cllr Harmer (SCC)

24/157 Disclosure of Pecuniary and other Interests

Cllr Spencer confirmed he must stay neutral when discussing planning applications as he sits on the WBC planning committee.

24/158 Minutes of the meeting of 20 November 2024

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2024 were **AGREED** by all. **Proposed** by Cllr Spence, **seconded** by Cllr Raeside.

24/159 Report of the Clerk to the Council

- 1) 2 x No Fire signs bought for Wicket Wood, to be erected by Cllr Spence
- 2) Successful village cheer event held 7 December (felt councillor name badges would be useful next year)
- 3) £5000 transferred between Lloyds deposit and current account 10 Dec

24/160 Report from the Environment Committee (JS/MJ)

Cllrs Spence and Johnson to meet with SWT Heathlands Connection project in January.

24/161 Village strategy 2035 (MS)

Next meeting to take place on 10 January. We need to be aware of managed decline if we do nothing. Need to build on the current ethos. Maintain Rec. as the heart of the village, aim to offer greater diversity of housing with the young and old in mind. Should we have a default response for future decision making re planning?

Respondee to questionnaire felt there is a strong volunteering ethos across all generations. Would be good to open a coffee shop.

Cllr Harrison will chase the businesses re their response as they may well have different views.

Clerk asked when we would feed back initial ideas? Cllr Martin suggested at the Annual Assembly in April.

24/162 Village centre (PH)

Cllr Harrison will ask the Spar about a new bin outside, provided by CPC but emptied by Spar.

Xmas lights are up. Could we have a tree on the Green next Xmas? Could fete monies be used for this?

Excessive signage at corner of Lampard Lane sorted very quickly.

Pipasha have been burning some toxic material.

24/163 Roads and Transport (LM)

Cllr Martin asked what happens in other villages regarding the lighting at bus stops?

SCC have funded a demand responsive bus service for a flat rate. Cllr Martin will put together a Jpeg to advertise this service on the website and FB page.

Re Crosswater Lane we believe the fence has been put up on SCC land. Land grabbing?

Cllr S Shorthose will write to the owner saying we believe SCC own the land.

24/164 Crime and Disorder (DR)

Nothing to report.

24/165 Financial Matters

24/165.1 Payments for authorisation – Nov 2024

Nov's accounts were **proposed** by Cllr Wright, **Seconded** by Cllr M Shorthose and **agreed** by all.

24/165.2 Budget Update and Income report – Nov 2024

Noted.

24/165.3 To note individual monthly costs in excess of £500

20 November – Dawn Barrow – £1532.88, Clerk's Nov salary.

24/166 -To note and comment on current planning applications (MJ)
Report circulated in advance of meeting by Cllr Johnson.

WA/2024/02168 Green Cross Farm, Green Cross Lane. Objections submitted by 8 December noting the excessive 66% total addition to square footage made up of single storey extension and use of roof void. Suggested any alterations and extensions be contained within 40%. CPC support the change of access to a single access point however we consider the proposed gates, plinths and walls to be out of keeping with the rural environment.

WA/2024/02334 High Pines, Jumps Road. Erection of greenhouse, no comment.

WA/2024/02287 Minford, Green Cross Lane, Construction of 2 dormer windows and porch, no comment

WA/2024/02381 Greylees House, Farnham Road, erection of single storey extension and alterations to integral garage to provide habitable space, under 40%, not contravening any planning regs, response due by 13 Jan.

WA/2024/01943 Ashby House, Star Hill, Certificate of Lawfulness was granted for continued use of garage/store as ancillary living space.

Other matters

There being no other business the meeting of the Churt Parish Council closed at 8.32pm . There then followed a meeting of the Churt Recreation Ground Trust (See separate Minutes).

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Signed:

Date:

Chairman

The next meetings of the Churt Parish Council and Churt Recreation Ground Trust will be held on **Wednesday 15 January 2025 at 7.30pm in the Churt pavilion.**