

Artington Parish Council

Minutes of the annual parish council meeting held on 11th November 2024 at St Francis church, Littleton.

Councillors present: Cllr B Beabey (Chair), Cllr, F Clayton, Cllr H Farrant, Cllr S Kitson, Cllr A More-Molyneux, Cllr J West, Cllr J Wisher and Cllr Catherine Houston (GBC).

In attendance: Philip Gorton (Clerk).

APC = Artington Parish Council, GBC = Guildford Borough Council, SCC = Surrey County Council.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Matt Furniss (SCC) and Cllr Dominique Williams (GBC).

2. **Disclosure of interests**

Cllr More-Molyneux declared an interest in anything relating to the Loseley estate.

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2024 were signed as an accurate record.

4. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

5. **Planning**

Mount Browne.

Councillors have been concerned that the APC response to the two Mount Browne planning applications had been posted on the GBC planning portal only on the application for the new road and not the application for the main development. However, it was confirmed by Cllr Houston that the response had been received and had been noted by the GBC planners and the planning committee. Both planning applications have since been granted and councillors were pleased to note that the current entrances to Mount Browne, in Sandy Lane and The Ridges, are to be used only in emergencies, with all traffic to and from the site to be via the new road from the Park & Ride roundabout on the Old Portsmouth Road. The access road is to be built before the main development begins.

Braboeuf Manor development

There is to be an extra meeting of the GBC planning committee concerning this application on 27 November. APC has nothing to add to its previous responses.

6. **Reports from borough and county councillors**

Cllr Houston reported that:

- * The height barrier is to be installed at the Park & Ride between 25 – 29 November.
- * She and Cllr Williams have recently visited the businesses near the Park & Ride to introduce themselves, discuss the new barriers and other matters.
- * The GBC Festive Family Fun Day will take place in Guildford on Sunday 24 November.
- * Cllrs Houston and Williams will be hosting their next ward surgery at the Sea Horse in Shalford on Thursday 21 November between 11am and noon.

Cllr Furniss was absent from the meeting but sent a report:

- * *Surrey Connect*, an on-demand bus service, is now available in southwest Surrey to help residents travel in Surrey at a time that suits them.
- * The *Your Councillor Community Fund* is now open. Each county councillor has £5,000 of funding per year to support community organisations in their areas.
- * Flooding can be reported to SCC. If it appears to be an emergency situation, the county council can be called via its contact centre. Details on the website: surreycc.gov.uk
- * Children in receipt of free school meals can now receive free cycling and walking training from SCC.

* A *Rural England Prosperity Fund* grant funding is now available to businesses, charities and community groups to grow rural economies and communities. Again, more information is to be found on the SCC website

7. **Highways**

Cllr Furniss's report also covered highways matters:

* Nothing more has been received by the Rights of Way team about the possible closure of the level crossing at Peasmarsh. Cllr Furniss has asked Network Rail if a footbridge could be provided alongside the New Pond Road railway bridge if they wish to proceed with the suggested closure.

* Plans are progressing for the new 20mph speed limit along Sandy Lane and Littleton Lane. It is expected that the new limit will be put in place during the next financial year. Stakescorner Road is not included in this scheme.

* The county council's new *FixMyStreet* online reporting tool will make it easier for residents to report highways problems.

Cllr Kitson reported that the shared cycle/pedestrian pavement from the new bus shelter to St Catherine Hill has been cleared of overhanging vegetation by the Mount Browne estates department but the section to the south of the shelter has not.

8. **Community Speed Watch**

Cllr Wisher reported that there has been three CSW sessions recently during which 16 offenders were identified and reported to the police. Another event is to take place in the near future.

9. **Loseley related matters**

Cllr More-Molyneux reported:

* A Christmas Craft Fair will be held at Loseley on 14 - 17 November.

* The footpath by the lake is now open again following dredging and other works.

* The hedge is currently being laid along the western side of Stakescorner Road.

10. **Caleb Lovejoy Almshouse charity**

The council unanimously approved the nomination of Mr Philip Hooper as one of the four APC trustees on the board of the Caleb Lovejoy Almshouse Charity.

11. **Donation to Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal**

The council resolved to make a donation of £50 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

12. **Financial matters**

Payment for use of St Francis church

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The council agreed to make a donation of £200 to the Loseley Christian Trust for its use of St Francis church.

Payments made since last meeting

The Information Commissioner	£35.00
Clerk's reimbursements (Apr – Sep 2024)	£142.93
Donation to the RBL Poppy Appeal	£50.00
Donation to Loseley Christian Trust	£200.00

Budget estimates for 2025-26

The clerk had previously sent to the councillors the budget estimates for 2025-26. This is to inform the council's decision on the required precept that is to be made at the next meeting in January 2025.

These minutes remain draft until signed at the next APC meeting on Monday 13th January 2025 starting at 7.00pm at St Francis church, Littleton.