

MINUTES OF MEETING

A meeting of Ockley Parish Council was held at Ockley Village Hall on Monday 1 November 2021.

Councillors present

Ms J Page Chair for the meeting
Ms A Barclay
Mr J Lee-Steere
Mr B Thorne
Mrs L Fletcher Clerk

SCC/MVDC Councillor H Clack was present at the meeting

Apologies had been received from Mr D Thomas (ill - Covid)

Declarations of interest:

JL-S Jayes Park Estate (*JPE)
 Treasurer and Trustee Ockley Housing Association
 Churchwarden of St Margaret's and Trustee Ockley School Buildings
BT Planning appeal and application

One parishioner was welcomed to the meeting.

Speaker from GACC was also welcomed to the meeting.

GACC Speaker

Consultation: Gatwick Airport - use of standby runway

Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign

GACC had been formed in 1968 and is run by a group of volunteers.

Financial contributions welcomed as currently funds being used on studies to provide evidence for objections to proposals regarding expansion of airport.

Gatwick Airport were now consulting on proposals to bring the existing northern runway (currently the emergency runway) into routine use alongside the main runway. Departures would be shared between both runways. The northern runway would be used for smaller aircraft. All arrivals would continue to use the main runway. Ockley was predominantly affected by departures. The plans also include the development of supporting infrastructure and facilities. These include road improvements, the realignment of the existing Northern Runway, a new Pier (aircraft stands), additional parking and hotels and improvements to the existing terminal buildings. It was noted that currently only one terminal was open.

If approved Gatwick's expansion would mean:

- more passengers using Gatwick - rising to nearly the size of Heathrow. 45m passengers to 76m over the next 15 years.
- more flights - 280,000 flights annually (base line 2018) to 390,000.
- 50% more CO2 emissions from the airport, with Gatwick alone being responsible for over 5.5% of total UK emissions by 2038 (currently 1%). Air quality / pollution also significant from increase in air / road traffic in the vicinity of the airport. Reference to WHO standards.

- more noise near the airport and under flight paths - noted local noise monitor had reading above acceptable limit of 57 db on 1 November. 'Planes were becoming quieter but number of flights going up thus noise accumulative'. A 'noise envelope' had been suggested by Gatwick but this had not been discussed with community groups.
- more congestion on strategic road and rail links to the airport and on local roads from passengers and those working at the airport. Adequate public transport was not currently available. Disruptions (accidents, breakdowns) on motorways caused huge issues when traffic diverted on to local roads
- five years of intensive construction activity around the airport

The consultation was deeply technical and lengthy. It was carried out online. GACC had produced a number of responses to the questionnaire.

Employment figures had been questioned. Using national figures - no new jobs would be created. People may travel significant distances to work at the airport bringing increase in traffic levels. If moving to the area then housing would be required - there was already a shortage of housing.

It was noted that air traffic was cheap - it was subsidised, no fuel tax, no import duty. Ownership of the airport was offshore so any profits made do not stay in the country. During the Covid pandemic a large number of residents in Crawley became unemployed. Rate relief claimed by Gatwick was not passed on to tenants at the airport.

GACC's message - Gatwick's big enough

Speaker thanked for coming to the meeting.
Speaker left the meeting.

1. Minutes of meeting held on 6 September 2021

These minutes had been circulated to all councillors.

The Clerk had added the Resolution for the bank mandate regarding signatories at Item 5(c).

It was proposed by AB and seconded by BT that they be signed as correct.

2. Updates on minutes

The Green

posts - BT to discuss with JL-S.

benches - Clerk not heard from local building firm regarding repairs/replacement of bench.

BT to look at bench opposite pavilion/remove if considered beyond repair.

motorhome - noted that although motorhome had been seen several times it was not thought it had been parked overnight on School Lane. The Clerk had heard from Surrey ALC solicitors who had advised that any actions taken by the parish council to stop the owner parking overnight on School Lane could be costly.

responsibilities on The Green - item no longer to be included on the agenda.

safety on bend at Heathfield Cottages - HC reported that the installation of the additional sign was still on the list of works to be carried out.

speed app - AB stated that she would take this matter further.

Community Speed Watch - the new radar gun had been purchased and was in use. A letter of thanks had been received from the Speedwatch co-ordinator. Monthly reports had been sent through and would continue to be sent on a regular basis.

10. Future MV - draft MV Local Plan 2020-2037

*JPE

This item was brought forward on the agenda.

JP had circulated a v1 response to the above to councillors. Written comments had been circulated, those who had not sent written comments had no further comments. Detailed discussions were held regarding the response. The response included concerns about lack of consultation, addition/removal of sites proposed for development, parking and infrastructure. JP to amend v1 response and circulate for comments/approval. Final response to be submitted before deadline date 7 November 2021.

Thanks to JP for preparing response.

It was noted that OPC had been copied in to responses sent to MV by parishioners. These had also raised concerns as shown above.

HC left the meeting.

3. Correspondence

diary date - Surrey Future Community Conference 25 November 2021

DT to attend representing MV parishes

Gatwick Airport consultation (close 1 December 2021) - all councillors present opposed to proposals regarding use of emergency runway / further expansion. JP to circulate response for comments/submission.

Ward boundaries for MV consultation (close 6 December 2021) - councillors agreed with response suggested by DT:

OPC believes there is no reason to change the boundary of Okeward ward.

Closure of Abinger school - it was noted that some of the children from Ockley had attended this school. Flyers regarding the closure had been circulated in the village.

SCC/MVDC Local Heritage List Project (nominations open until 16 November 2021) - it was noted that practically all of the village itself was already designated as a heritage asset. A list of assets had been sent to the Clerk. SCC/MVDC had been notified that councillors currently had no time to spend on this project.

SCC Gigabit Voucher Scheme - details of the scheme had been circulated to councillors.

Surrey Fire and Rescue Service, Wildlife Prepared - information had been circulated to councillors.

Parishioner concerns re. traffic on A29 - it was noted that OPC had been copied in to further correspondence that the parishioner had had with HC and Sir PB.

Defibrillator on the map - JP stated that the Ockley defibrillator was registered so that the emergency services were aware that there was one at the pavilion.

4. Planning matters

Planning lists received since September meeting

Councillors had been informed of the planning matters as shown below and had had no comments to make on the applications or any of the decisions.

BT expressed an interest regarding the following appeal.

A discussion was held on the Appeal for Land south of Coles Lane:

planning reference MO/2020/0667. Comments had been sent to MV regarding this application and although these had been forwarded on to the Planning Inspectorate it was felt that further comments should be made. Clerk to forward original comments to councillors so that a further response could be sent within the timeframe (35 days from the Appeal start date of 6 October 2021).

Planning applications - list dates

1 October 2021

MO/2021/1830/DEA

Stylehurst Farm House, Weare Street, Ockley RH5 5JA

Prior notification for the erection of an agricultural building of 9.30 m x 5.60 m for vehicles, equipment and storage for the keeping of bees and harvesting honey.

22 October 2021

prior approval not required

Planning decisions - list dates

17 September 2021

MO/2021/0378/CU

The Bakery, Stane Street, Ockley RH5 5TD

Change of use of part of existing building from retail (Use Class E) to residential (Use Class C3).

approved with conditions

1 October 2021

MO/2021/1578/CAT

The Cottage, Love Lane, Ockley RH5 5TP

Remove 3 no conifer trees (includes work to conifer hedge - exempt works)

no objection

8 October 2021

MO/2021/1370/PCL

Oke Cottage, Stane Street, Ockley RH5 5LU

Certificate of Lawfulness for the proposed development in respect of a loft conversion with rear dormer window

approved

MO/2021/1476/LBC

Boswells Farm, Ruckmans Lane, Okewood Hill RH5 5NE

Building B12 (Farmhouse) - install tin roof, remove and set aside roof coverings, reduce and set aside central brick chimney to level of stone chimney breast, remove internal concrete hound lodges, remove internal cement screeds, remove and set aside Charlwood stone floor flags, remove modern concrete block and brick walls and infil panels.

Building B11 (Barn) - remove internal concrete hound lodges and remove internal modern brick wall and felted roof over hound pen. Pigsty - remove internal concrete hound lodges.

External – demolish modern low brick walls and railings, forming hound pens to allow telehandler access. Modern shed – demolish concrete block and metal profiled flat roofed hound pen (including hound lodge) south of B12.

approved

15 October 2021

MO/2021/1544/PLAH

Midways, Weare Street, Ockley RH5 5NW

Construction of outdoor swimming pool and associated hardstanding
approved with conditions

MO/2021/1653/CAT

application made by BT

The Inn on The Green, Stane Street, Ockley RH5 5TD

Remove 2 no Ash trees

no objection

MO/2021/1007/CU

*JPE

The Old Dairy, Jayes Park, Ockley RH5 5RR

Change of use from Veterinary Practice (Use Class D1) to flexible use as E(c) Provision of:
E(c)(i) Financial services, E(c)(ii) Professional services (other than health or medical
services), or E(c)(iii) Other appropriate services in a commercial, business or service locality
and E(g) Uses which can be carried out in a residential area without detriment to its amenity
(E(g)(i) Offices to carry out any operational or administrative functions; (E(g)(ii) Research
and development of products or processes; and, E(g)(iii) Industrial processes).

approved with conditions

22 October 2021

MO/2021/1830/DEA

Stylehurst Farm House, Weare Street, Ockley RH5 5JA

Prior notification for the erection of an agricultural building of 9.30 m x 5.60 m for vehicles,
equipment and storage for the keeping of bees and harvesting honey.

prior approval not required

Appeals started

MO/2020/0667/OUTMAJ

Land south of Coles Lane, Ockley RH5 5HW

Outline planning permission for a residential scheme of up to 60 dwellings, with associated
landscaping, amenity space, sustainable urban drainage system (SuDS) and associated works.
All matters reserved except for access.

5. Finance

a) accounts to be paid

It was proposed by AB and seconded by BT that the following accounts be paid:

already paid but not yet authorised

Community SpeedWatch online shop
purchase of radar gun

£565.94

yet to be paid

S P Cooke
set up e-mail address

£65.00

IG Design e-mail address set ups, annual e-mail hosting and domain name	£45.00
CPRE Annual membership	£36.00
Mrs L Fletcher Clerk's salary and Admin costs	TBA
HMRC tax and NI on Clerk's salary	TBA
Viking ink cartridges	£70.40
S Dean-Webster litter pick August/September	£60.00

It was noted that the grant for the NDP had been paid in - £9637.00

b) precept 2022/23

It was noted that discussions on the precept would take place at the January meeting.

c) signatories on bank account

The online form had not yet been completed by councillors and sent to NatWest.

d) verification of bank statements to budget sheet

JL-S had checked the figures up to 5 October 2021 and confirmed all correct.

6. Footpaths in the parish

The two kissing gates had been installed:

one beyond the windmill and one beyond the graveyard.

There had been no news regarding the installation of the two self closing gates:

A29 opposite Park Farm and A29 below Stane House.

Circular footpath arrows were available for volunteers to put up.

7. Crime

Police statistics 6 September to 1 November 2021:

Six incidents and two crimes noted.

8. Social matters

Nothing to report.

9. Community Hub

DT had reported to members of the community hub team that a further meeting would be held soon to review 'where we are and what we need to do next'.

The Clerk reported that Ockley Cricket Club had reviewed the spreadsheet of suggested uses for the hub and had had no further suggestions / objections to record.

11. Ockley NDP

DT had reported the following to members of the team:

- The grant had been agreed (and as noted above, was now in the bank account).
- A meeting had been held with MVDC. His assessment of this meeting based on their advice was that the most important thing we can do is to agree the design and design codes that we wish to have in Ockley. Other elements of the proposed NDP that are useful/important are transport and parking, natural environment, demand for housing and the type/mix of houses that we want in the village.
- A meeting had been held with DT, member of NDP Team and representative from SCA to start working on the scope of the Character Appraisal. Work to start on this by walking around the village to help SCA rep get bearings and start gathering data.
- DT very much of the view that the Character Appraisal will be a very useful reference document when we come to working with the Bimby Lite package, particularly with reference to design and design codes section.
- On timetable - it is thought that we shall have a working draft of the Character Appraisal by Christmas. Suggest that a village meeting might be held in January to allow the village to see and comment on that draft.
- SCA also suggests that we postpone the survey until we have this working draft. So we are thinking along lines of publishing survey mid January with replies by end of first week February. The results of the survey would then be available around beginning of March.
- Meanwhile we can start work on the easier sections of the NDP such as the first 2 sections, natural environment, transport and parking, recreational facilities.

12. Casual vacancies

The parishioner present had expressed an interest in becoming a parish councillor. JP asked that she introduce herself and outline her interest in becoming a parish councillor. This she did and JP thanked her. JP stated that parish councillors would discuss the matter and be in touch with the parishioner.

13. Policies

Health and Safety policy

A draft HandS policy had been circulated to councillors.

It was agreed that the policy be adopted.

14. Website / e-mail addresses

It was noted that, @ockleypc.co.uk, e-mail addresses had been set up for all councillors and the clerk. These addresses were now being used by most councillors.

15. Dates of meetings 2022

The following 2022 meeting dates were noted:

10 January, 7 March, 9 May, 4 July, 5 September, 7 November.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.