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## Draft minutes of a meeting of Caterham on the Hill Parish Council held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 2pm via video conference

**Present:** Cllrs Webster (Chair), Botten, Brent, Burningham, Dennis, Orrick, Rujbally, Turner.

**In attendance:** Mrs H Broughton, Clerk and 4 members of the public.

**C 015 Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**C 016 Declarations of interest arising from the agenda**

Cllrs Burningham, Orrick and Turner declared an interest in Item 7 on the agenda, the nature of their interest being that they were members of the Caterham Community Association.

**C 017 Public forum**

Chris Windridge thanked the Parish Council for their contribution towards an observation bore hole which has been operational for 5 weeks. The bore hole has made available new evidence, which confirms a significant groundwater flow path under the Church Walk site, putting the proposed development into question. While the bore hole cannot show the actual water levels as may have existed in Mid-March, there is sufficient evidence now to point to the groundwater levels at this site fluctuating within a range to render the proposed SUDS scheme at risk. Critically the bore hole demonstrates that the aquifer level for an historic Bourne, flows directly through the site and this is in contradiction to the relevant EA maps, which puts the site in the wrong groundwater risk classification. Mr Windridge advised that automation of the data may cost in the region of £2k to £3k and he may need to approach Parish Councils for additional funding. This would be included on the next agenda if received.

Councillor Botten thanked Mr Windridge for all his work.

Councillor Dennis requested that key points be sent to District Councillors.

**C 018 Previous minutes**

**Resolved: to approve the minutes of the June Council meeting.**

**Finance & General Purpose**

**C 019 Schedule of payments**

The schedule of payments and invoices had been circulated by email prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** to approve the schedule of payments (*appendix 1*)

**C 020      Accounts**

The accounts as at the end of May 2020 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** to approve the accounts to the end of May 2020 (*appendix 2*)

**Projects**

**C 021      VJ day**

VJ day was taking place on 15<sup>th</sup> August and it was proposed that the Parish Council mark the event in a similar way to that of VE day with a piper playing at various locations. A beer tent on Westway Common was suggested but the Parish Council was concerned about Health and Safety given Covid-19.

**RESOLVED:**

***i) To agree a budget of up to £500 for a piper to play on 15<sup>th</sup> August.***

***ii) To put lamppost poppies up until the end of August.***

**C 022      Wildflower verges**

The Parish Council was considering taking on the maintenance of verges in Caterham to encourage biodiversity through a cut and collect regime. Expert advice and the involvement of residents was needed and it was suggested that a working group be formed.

**RESOLVED:** that a working group consisting of Cllr Burningham and interested residents be formed.

**C 023      Planters**

The Council considered additional planters in the High Street. Cllr Dennis suggested contacting the Flood Action Group as there are planters available that can help collect rainwater. Grants may be available from Thames Water. Cllr Orrick said that the Horticultural Society had arrange for planters in the High Street and that the Parish Council might wish to work with them for continuity of theme.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk contact the Flood Action Group and the Horticultural Society and that planters be further considered at the next meeting.

**C 024      Parish Warden's Report**

Issues reported by the Parish Warden had been circulated. The drains around the 3 schools were blocked and the schools had been informed that they were not Surrey County Council's responsibility. There were a number of illegal banners on railings.

**RESOLVED:**

***i) that the Clerk obtain a quotation for clearing the above drains.***

***ii) that the Parish Warden be asked to remove illegal banners.***

**C 025      Update from the Chair of Projects**

There was nothing to add.

**C 026      Caterham Community Association**

A paper had been circulated in advance proposing that the Parish Council adopts group membership of the Caterham Community Association at a cost of £10 per annum.

***RESOLVED: to approve the Parish Council adopting group membership of the Caterham Community Association at a cost of £10 per annum***

**C 027      Planning**

The Chair of the Planning Committee gave an update on the following:

**Coulsdon Lodge**

Coulsdon Lodge was refused at planning committee as the access road is too narrow and does not meet Surrey Highways Design standards. As this is a local plan site it may go to appeal.

**Annes Walk / Whyteleafe Road**

Cllrs Dennis, Botten and Mansfield have been involved in this application for a year now to try and get an integrated form of development. The issue of Shanley homes intending to take access through Annes Walk is unresolved and Shanley Homes have submitted a third planning application. The Parish Council has written 3 times to TDC for an update but has had no response.

**C 028      Updates**

**Westway Centre**

The manager is gradually introducing services back to the centre while continuing with outreach work. A workshop is being held tomorrow with trustees and some volunteers to agree direction and to find new trustees. The future of ESDAR is being looked at.

Cllr Botten had held a positive meeting with SCC regarding the Westway Centre taking on some, or all of, Dormers to enable it to act as a base for organisations such as St Catherine's Hospice and other organisations.

**Tandridge District Council and Surrey County Council (SCC)**

Cllr Botten reported that it had been announced that SCC would be making a bid for Surrey to become unitary authority for the whole of Surrey. Cllr Botten was concerned that this would result in residents becoming disenfranchised and that this would take significant energy and resources, distracting from delivery of services. This may result in the May elections being postponed.

It was suggested a Town Council would have more power to ensure local accountability for key decisions and a Parish Council conference was suggested in September.

**Neighbourhood Plan (NP) and Local Plan (LP)**

Cllr Webster reported that the examiner has reinstated some aspects of density and some aspects of CCW2. There are now 18 policies which the examiner has approved and 11 which he has deleted. The main reason for deleting policies is that they either do not conform to the core strategy or are strategic.

The examiner has cut green spaces by 11, mainly because they are adequately protected around the churches or they may be needed by the NHS. The Parish Council now has to decide if it wants the neighbourhood plan, in which case it will be given full weight at a meeting of TDC. JW would circulate a paper on the NP, inviting members of council if support it, or not.

The Local plan has issues as so much depends on the garden village and the highways agency has said that improvements to J6 of the M25 have to happen before any building takes place. There is however no public money available. Cllr Botten added that a letter received seems to imply that the inspector is looking to approve the local plan in Tandridge without the garden village due to the Junction 6 issues. He is asking which of the housing number is 2014, 2016 or 2018 the Council would like to look at and suggesting the number of properties to be developed in one site should go up from 150 to 245. If housing at each site is expected to have a greater level of density this will have an greater impact on Caterham.

**C 029 Urgent business for inclusion on future Council and Committee agenda**  
Consider improvement of broadband locally as an objective for this year.

**The meeting closed at 3.45pm**