

Normandy Parish Council

Serving Our Community through working in Partnership

Minutes of a **MEETING** of **NORMANDY PARISH COUNCIL** held at the **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION HALL** on **THURSDAY 28 APRIL 2022** at 7.30 pm

Members present Amy McLeod (Chairman), Tony Coomber, Bob Hutton, Philippa Mitchell and Pat Tugwell.

Non-members present Sam Lane (Clerk) 2 members of the public and two members of the Normandy Tennis Club

C-192 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Mark Galloway and Cllr Paul Howarth

C-193 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

C-194 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Council meeting held on 31 March 2022 were approved as a true record

C-195 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None raised

C-196 REPORTS FROM OTHER AUTHORITIES

(a) There was a report from Surrey County Council

(b) There was no report from Guildford Borough Council

C-197 TENNIS

Proposal for a Padel Court: Introduction from both Ben Parkinson and David Franks came to discuss the potential growth plans of Normandy Tennis Club; they wish to create a Padel Court alongside the existing Tennis club. Padel tennis is a variant of tennis that is very popular in parts of Europe and is becoming increasingly popular within the UK, with support from the LTA (<https://www.lta.org.uk/play/ways-to-play/padel/>). Concerns were raised over the expansion at Normandy Common and the potential effect on the wildlife at Normandy Common and for the surrounding residents. Councillors also expressed concern about parking and light pollution at Normandy Common. It was suggested that perhaps a court at Manor Fruit Farm could be considered but the Tennis Club felt that it would need to be close to the existing facility for them to manage and for their existing members to easily use the court. The question of funding was raised – there are possibilities within the Tennis and Padel authorities and possibly Surrey County Council's Your Fund Scheme. For this to be successful there would need to be strong support from the community, so the next step would need to be greater engagement with the community, which would also be needed for the Parish Council to support the proposal.

C-198 PRIORITISATION MEETING

Discussion by councillors to recruit ambassadors from various areas of Normandy to engage with people that do not use internet or are able to attend Parish meetings. Chairman will arrange feedback from the prioritisation meeting and circulate information from the recent survey. Councillors would also ascertain if it is possible to use communal notice boards within Willey Green – for example. Councillors plan to organise a door drop to get information to resident that are unable to come to meetings or use the internet.

C-199

OUTSOURCING OF THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER ROLE

To consider outsourcing of the RFO role to Andy Beams' company in the short term at least until we have a Parish Clerk on board who could pick this up. As it was agreed that we need to keep Andy Beams (Locum Clerk) for the time being to continue to support the Clerk with council business, it was agreed to also carry out the RFO role on a contract basis. Concern was raised about visibility of financial information as a request had already been made for read-only access to the accounts, but this had not yet been actioned.

RESOLVED: The council agreed to this.

C-200

COMMITTEES / WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Estates:

- CSW to finish at the allotments, then Normandy Common & Manor Fruit Farm
- Councillors agreed the Orchard and greenhouse at allotment goes with the allocated plot
- New contracts needed for all allotment holders, Andy to confirm contract

Events:

- Confirmed which councillors are available to work at the Jubilee weekend.
- Banner and Jubilee Villager edition to be published.
- RBL carpark is available as an overflow

C-201

DISCUSSION ON COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

Currently one vacancy, possibly another to follow, after confirmation of whether there is a requirement for an election from GBC – expected 10th May. The councillors agreed the need to raise awareness of co-option vacancy, potentially through targeted mailshots to encourage candidates outside the usual area from which applicants arise, also more information on social media and a door drop to residents who may not be online.

RESOLVED: Agreed

C-202

DECISION REGARDING RECRUITING AN ADDITIONAL POST TO THE PARISH OFFICE

A request has been made by the Clerk to reduce her hours as a result of which the Parish Council has advertised for additional support in the 'Parish Office' Following discussion, it was agreed to seek applications from interested parties and assign roles according to their experience. It was agreed to plan on two people sharing the duties with a split of, say, 25 and 15 hours giving a total of 40 hours.

RESOLVED: This approach was agreed.

C-203

OTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND/OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS

- Calendar of all meetings, including Comms.
- Royal British Legion as a potential Parish office.
- Website
- Survey results to be included within the Septembers Villager
- Proposal communication, social media, ambassador.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:23pm.