

February 1949

Minutes of the Proceedings of a Parish Council Meeting held at the Schools on Monday 7th February 1949 at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. N. A. Little (in the chair), Mrs. Kerrison, Mrs. Laslett, Mr. Geary, Mr. Rusken & the clerk.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Footpath
opposite Manor
House.

The clerk read a reply received from the Commons, Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society stating that the council have a voluntary power but no duty to repair public footpaths and that the exercise of this power does not relieve any other person of their liability, if any. Mrs. Laslett considered it was the duty of the farmer to maintain the style if cattle were grazed. Mr. Geary proposed that the clerk be instructed to get the repairs carried out with local labour with a maximum limit of cost to £1. Seconded by Mrs. Laslett. Agreed.

F.P. to
Clacketts

It was agreed to bring this matter up at the next meeting. Mrs. Kerrison said it might be worth considering an approach to The Ramblers' Association.

Election of
Parish Councillors

The clerk read a letter from the Surrey C.C. advising that the 14th May 1949 had been fixed as the day for the ordinary election of Parish Councillors. In view of this it was agreed that the Annual Parish Council Meeting would be held in May.

Annual Parish
Meeting

Mrs. Laslett proposed that the Annual

arrange con
this Parish e

Date of Next Council Meeting Parish Meeting be held on Wednesday March 9th at 8 p.m. to be preceded by the next Parish Council Meeting at 7.15 p.m. on the same day. Seconded by Mrs. Kerrison. Agreed.

A/c's for Payment Mrs. Kerrison proposed, Mrs. Laslett seconded that the following account be passed for payment
 Railway Pass. Ass. Co. Insurance of clerk 5/-.

Allotments The clerk reported that allotment No 3 held by Mr. Streatfield was being given up next quarterday. Mrs. Laslett proposed that Mr. Streatfield's notice be accepted and that Mr. Buck be allowed to take it on after release by the present tenant. Seconded by Mrs. Kerrison. Agreed.

Petition re sewerage etc The clerk presented a petition signed by 31 council house tenants bringing to the notice of the council the undesirable state of the cesspools in some of the houses and the lack of repairs in others, citing the unnecessary delay in dealing with the recent trouble at No. 5 Westmore Cottages. Further statements by Mr. & Mrs. Jackson and by Mr. Abraham in this connection were also read as evidence. Mrs. Kerrison added a complaint of lack of cooperation and discourtesy from the housing manager when she had intervened on behalf of Mr. Jackson. After discussion the chairman proposed that a copy of the petition be forwarded to the R.D.C. with an expression of the council's surprise and dismay that the drainage conditions in the Council houses in this Parish are such as to have caused such

a petition and to request that the RDC may inform it of the steps they propose taking to alleviate the conditions. Agreed.

Footpaths

Mr. Rusken made a statement regarding the present position of footpaths generally in the country as they affected the countryman vis-a-vis the townsman. Although in the old days they were a necessity for the country people, today they were only of use for recreation purposes to the townsman. He therefore was not of the opinion that they should be maintained if their original function had passed away. There were only a few in the Parish that were really needed and the rest should be let go. The chairman thanked Mr. Rusken and suggested the footpath committee bear these views in mind. Mr. Geary expressed surprise at an old countryman having these opinions; he considered F.P.'s should be kept, if only for recreational purposes, also for safety reasons in view of the modern danger of motor traffic.

W. J. Geary
Chairman

9/5/49.

March 1949

Minutes of the Proceedings of a Parish Council Meeting held at the School on Wednesday 9th March 1949 at 7.15 p.m.

Present

Mr. N. A. Little (in the chair), ^{Mr. Weatherley,} Mrs. Kervin, Messrs. Geary & Charman and the clerk. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Laslett & the Rev. Gaudry.

Death of Mrs. Laslett.

Before the proceedings commenced the chairman moved that a vote of condolence ~~or be~~ be passed at the death of Mrs. Laslett expressing the sympathy of the members of the council with Mrs. Laslett in her loss.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Style opposite Manor House

The clerk reported that he had received a guarantee from Mr. Dagois that the necessary repairs would be carried out within a week from the date (end of February) and the necessary check would be made that the repairs had been done.

Sanitation etc

The clerk read a reply from the R.D.C. pointing out that delay in repairing the pump at the cesspool of No 5 Westman Cottages was due to circumstances over which the Council had no control; also that the pre-war houses have pumps which have proved reasonably satisfactory over the 20 years the cottages have been built.

Mrs. Laslett & Mr. Weatherley expressed the view that this was a very unsatisfactory reply, complaints having been continuous over the 20 years period. Mr. Weatherley proposed a reply be sent dissenting with the view that the conditions have been reasonably satisfactory and requesting that alleviation of the

trouble be arranged in the form of a free
pumping service. Seconded by Mrs. Morrison

Agreed.

Public rights
of way

The clerk read a letter from the R.D.C.
requesting the council's observations on
queries relating to public rights of way.
The chairman proposed the matter be
referred to the Footpaths Committee for
necessary action.

Agreed.

Rateable
Values

The clerk read a letter from the R.D.C.
advising that the Rating + Valuation
Committee had decided they were unable
to recommend the council to accede to
the request for copies of the rating values
in the parish. The chairman proposed
that a reply be sent asking for the reason
for this decision.

Agreed.

Precept
1949-50

It was agreed that the provisional estimate
for the precept for the year commencing
1st April 1949 should be £60.

Date of
next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting be
held on 4th April.

no quies
Chairman

4/4/49.

Annual Parish Meeting 1949

Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual Parish Meeting held at the Schools on Wed. March 9th 1949. at 8 p.m.

Attendance

About 24 persons, including the Revd. Dist. Rep. and five Parish Councillors.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting (17/3/48) were read & confirmed.

Summary of year's work

The chairman, Mr. N.A. Little, gave a summary of the work done by the Parish Council during the past year and the direction in which it was hoped the work would

Ricketts Hill Notice Board.

continue, particularly regarding the Green's Committee ^(of a chemist) & the provision of a notice board ^{at Ricketts Hill} regarding the erection of the notice board agreed to at the last meeting. The chairman said it was tied up with the general question of the reinstatement of the Green's Committee, but said that the ^{particular} matter would be checked up and expedited.

Bus Service to Oxted

Mrs. Doherty asked if anything could be done to alter the time of the single decker bus service to Chelsham to enable passengers to connect with the Oxted bus at Botley Hill, by putting forward the time of departure by twenty minutes. Mr. Geary pointed out that this bus had to connect with the Croaydon bus at Chelsham. The chairman said the matter would be investigated with a view to an improvement being effected. Mr. Abrahams pointed out that the 403 bus & the 706 Green Line left at the same time at 8.15 a.m. and suggested their departure times be staggered.

403 Bus
Green Line
+ 706 Services

Mrs. Tapsell said the 403 bus could start ~~put back later~~ since the school children had $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. wait at Cheltenham before the school opened.

Irregularity
of Green Line
Timing

Mr. Burgess complained of the irregular timing of the Green Line services, sometimes 5 mins. before schedule. He agreed to provide details of actual cases & let the clerk have them.

Pumping
vehicle

Road grit
on roadside
at Snows Corner

Mrs. Tapsell complained of the pile of loose grit recently dumped on the footpath at the roadside at Snows Corner, which had spread across the road & was a danger to pedestrians & traffic. The R.D.R. said he would take the matter up with the S.C.C. Highway authorities.

Hand p

Sanitation:
design of new
council houses

Mrs. Harrison requested that representations be made that in the event of any new council houses being erected special attention be paid to the sanitation design in view of the unsatisfactory conditions in existing houses. The Rev. Gounding said there was no immediate intention to put up more council houses in the parish; all that was being done was a preliminary consideration of possible sites. Sanitation design was the responsibility of the Sanitary Surveyor.

Mrs. Tapsell & Mrs. Jackson complained of bad design of cesspits owing to their being higher than the level of the houses. The Rector said this was unavoidable as the houses have to be a certain distance from the cesspits. As regards the position of main drainage being installed, he added that

Main drainage

There was no early prospect of getting it since the Government had for the time being shelved expenditure on this.

Pumping
vehicles

Mr. Burgess asked why it was the Council could not hire a pumping vehicle, since these were being advertised as available by contractors.

Hand pumps

The chairman said the Parish council were prepared to try to get the R.D.C. to hire pumps. Mr. Brazier pointed out that there used to be a hand pump in the village.

Mrs. Harrison suggested a spare hand pump kept in the village would be a good idea.

Mr. Abrahams said he lived in one of the Swedish houses which, like the Stas, was sited centrally in the plot. This made the Rector's argument for the necessity of the pit to be higher than the house level non-applicable. The procedure of pumping sewage on to the surface was dangerous to health. The ground was soaked with sewage.

The chairman considered that relief would be best obtained by an increase in the No. of pumps in the R.D.C. area. It was possible that the 2 year delivery period for a new pump would be reduced soon as a result of a change in the motor trade conditions.

Refuse
Collection

Mr. Manges + others voiced a general complaint regarding sorting by the refuse collector, i.e. refusing to take old iron + bottles. The Rector said only burnable material was refused; if the collectors did not comply with this, a written complaint should be made to Mr. Sewell, the Sanitary Inspector at Oxford Council offices. Mr.

Pond

Geary added the refuse must be in a container. Mr. Abrahams asked what was being done about cleaning the pond. The chairman quoted an extract from the council's last letter on the question of the condition of the greens to the R.D.C., enumerating the letters that had been addressed on the matter.

Church's "Kent"

Mr. Brazier referred to the fact that certain passages in a book by Mr. Church on Kent were derogatory to Tatsfield and asked whether action to restrain publication was to be taken. He also criticised the recent description of the village as squalid by Mrs. Morrison as reported in the local press. Mrs. Morrison maintained her description was correct, as evidenced by the insanitary conditions already discussed. The chairman said he was given to understand that the author or the publisher had been asked to withdraw the statements. He explained the matter had been considered by the council but it was decided that as the book was about Kent ~~it was~~ and the parish was in Surrey it was best to disregard it and not give it free advertisement by making an official complaint.

Mr. Brazier proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman and council for their work during the year. Seconded by Mrs. Dottie

Carried (nem con.)
 G. G. Weatherley Chairman
 8.3.1950

Notice Board

action pending

April 1949

Minutes of the Proceedings of a Parish Council Meeting held at the School on Wednesday 4th April 1949 at 7.30 p.m.

Present.

Mr. N. A. Little (in the chair), Mr. E. G. Weatherley, Mrs. Laslett, Mrs. Kerrison, Mr. Charman, Mr. Geary & the clerk.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous council meeting were read & confirmed.

Business arisingCesspools

The clerk read a reply from the RDC stating that measures are being taken in regard to dealing with the drainage from the Westmore Cottages. Mr. Weatherley proposed that a reply be sent requesting details of the measures being taken. Seconded by Mrs. Kerrison. Agreed.

Rateable Values

The clerk read a reply from the RDC explaining that lack of staff caused the Rating & Valuation Committee to refuse to supply a copy of the Valuation List, also that the work will shortly be taken over by the Inland Revenue Dept. Mr. Weatherley proposed a reply be sent that the explanation is noted and asking whether the RDC can advise the anticipated date of the change-over so that appropriate action can be taken at the Annual Council meeting regarding appointment of Parish representatives. Seconded by Mrs. Kerrison. Agreed.

A.G. MeetingsMinutes

The minutes of the Annual General Parish Meeting were read for information.

Business arisingRickell's Hall Notice Board

After discussion it was agreed to postpone definite action pending results of a check by the clerk.

from the records as to the manner in which the existing P.C. Notice Boards were erected; as to whether a permission exists to cover the erection of a new one; and the estimated cost of installing a new one.

Bus + Coach
Timings

It was agreed to postpone this question until the next meeting.

Cesspit
pumping

The question of the supply of pumps and their hire was discussed. Mr. Harrison put forward the view that sewage disposal in Tatsfield should have priority over expenditure on greens in the District. The clerk read a letter from Mr. Abraham, of 42, Westmore Cottages enclosing a cutting of an advertisement for an ex-RAF trailer pump, which he understood was suitable for sewage disposal. The chairman proposed that the information be passed to the R.D.C. with copy to the R.D.R., with a request that it be examined.

Other business: Correspondence

P.C. Election

~~The clerk read~~ The chairman read the salient points of a circular from the Home Office regarding the coming election of Parish Committees.

Surrey Assn.
P.C.

A circular dealing with arrangements for the Annual General Meeting of the Nat. Assn. of P.C. was held over for the next meeting.

Rambles
Assn.

The clerk read a letter from the Surrey F.P. Secretary objecting to the remarks of Mr. Rusken as repeated in the local press on the subject of the use of and disuse of F.P.'s. Apart from the acknowledgement it was decided to take no further action since Mr. Rusken's views are not binding on the

council.

British Empire Cancer Campaign The clerk read an appeal letter from the British Empire Cancer Campaign. Mrs. Jaslett volunteered to set in motion the machinery for a flag day. Mr. Geary proposed the appeal be supported by a flag day, seconded by Mrs. Kerrison.

Agreed.

Accounts for payment Proposed by Mrs. Jaslett, seconded by Mr. Chairman that the following A/c's be passed for payment.

S.C.C. Use of school room (Oct. + Dec) 12=0.
 Titsey Estate Co. Hire of allotment (18 months) £6=0=0
 Mr. Doherty Clerk's salary to 31st March £10=0=0

Litter

Mrs. Kerrison complained of litter left on greens by picnickers. The chairman stated this would be one of the points to be dealt with by the Green's Committee, if it materialises, or by the police. Mr. Weatherley thought in view of the policeman being a 'mobile' type, the latter possibility would be doubtful in effect.

School conditions

Mrs. Kerrison reported on the improved state of morale in the school which reflected, she thought, the improved surroundings and conditions of the school-buildings.

Date of next meeting

It was agreed, subject to the new Council's agreement, that the next meeting be held on May 23rd.

G. J. B. Weatherley
 23.5.1949

Annual Parish Council Meeting 1949

Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held at the Schools on Monday 23rd May 1949.

Present

Mr. N. A. Little, Mr. E. C. G. Weatherley, Mrs. Laslett, Messrs. Ridley, Simpson, Geary, Brown, the Rev. Groundry and the clerk.

Election of Chairman.

Mr. Geary proposed Mr. Weatherley, seconded by Mrs. Laslett. Carried.

Election of Vice-chairman.

Mrs. Laslett proposed Mr. Little, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Carried.

Allotments Committee.

Proposed by Mr. Geary that Mr. Ridley be elected. Seconded by Mrs. Laslett. Carried.

Proposed by Mr. Geary that Mr. Simpson be elected. Seconded by Mr. Brown. Carried.

Assessment Committee.

Mr. Simpson proposed Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Geary. Carried.

Mr. Little proposed Mrs. Laslett, seconded by Mr. Ridley. Carried.

School Managers.

Mr. Little proposed Mrs. Laslett, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Geary proposed ~~that~~ that the two existing representatives be re-elected, namely Mrs. Kerrison and Mr. Briggs, seconded by Mrs. Laslett. The second proposal was carried by four votes to one, Mr. Simpson abstaining. Mr. Little voted against the proposal.

Footpaths Committee.

Mrs. Laslett proposed Mr. Geary, seconded by Mr. Brown. Carried.

Mr. Geary proposed Mrs. Laslett, seconded by

Mr. Little

Carried

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Declaration
of acceptance
of office

The chairman duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Mr. Little proposed that the remaining councillors sign acceptance forms at the next meeting. Seconded by Mr. Geary. Carried.

Rateable
Values

The clerk read a reply from the R.D.C. stating that the date for the transfer of the rating functions of the Council to the Inland Revenue Dept. is 1st Feb. 1950. Mr. Little proposed that a request for further information regarding the new procedure, particularly from the rights of appeal point of view, be made. Seconded by Mr. Simpson. Carried.

Assen.
of P.C.

The clerk read a circular from the S.A.P.C. requesting details of the P. Council's representatives at the Second national conference to be held on 20th Oct. 1949. Mr. Geary proposed that Mr. Little represent the Council. Seconded by Mr. Piddler. Carried.

B.E.

Cancer
Campaign

Mrs. Laslett reported that the date for the ~~flag~~ collection was fixed for Saturday 29th May. She also reported that requests for contributions had been received by a number of Totsfield residents direct from the R.D.C. and this was likely to reduce the collection total for Totsfield. After discussing, Mrs. Laslett proposed that this point be mentioned when a report was sent to Mr. Lloyd by the clerk. Seconded by Mr. Brown. Carried.

greens Committee

The clerk read a reply from the R.D.C. stating they were unable to entertain the suggestion that the management of the greens be placed in the hands of a local greens Committee. Mr. Little proposed that the D.C. be asked what measures they proposed to institute to ensure that the greens were inspected at regular intervals ~~and~~ to enable ^{any} necessary points ~~to~~ being put right; to request the cleansing of the pond be expedited and to point out that hardwood suitable for notice boards was now decontrolled. Seconded by Mr. Piddler. Carried.

Cesspools

The clerk read a letter from Mrs. Kerrison pointing out that the charges for clearing cesspools in other districts were less than in G.R.D. Mrs. Laslett pointed out that the rates were higher in these districts. Mr. Little proposed that Mrs. Kerrison be thanked for bringing the information to the notice of the Council. Seconded by Mr. Simpson. Agreed.

Application for Allotment.

The clerk read an application for ~~one~~ two allotments from Mr. J. Higgs. Mr. Little proposed that the application for 2 plots be granted. Seconded by Mrs. Geary. Carried.

Mr. Goundrey

Mrs. Laslett proposed that the ~~report~~ report in the minutes for July 1946, containing six points of criticism of Mr. Goundrey, be rescinded. Seconded by Mr. Geary. Mr. Little pointed out that this was a record of the meeting certified

Date
Next

as correct by the then existing Council and could not be altered by a subsequent Council. Further discussion followed during the course of which Mr. Goundroy stated his point of view. Mr. Little proposed that a resolution be passed expressing the appreciation of the Council for Mr. Goundroy's representation at the R.D.C. and for his agreeing to continue for the his term of office.

Seconded by Mr. Ridler. Carried.

Mr. Goundroy expressed thanks for the resolution Council's action in passing the resolution.

Hillside
Rd.

Mr. Little pointed out that Hillside Rd was wrenched off, preventing free right of way, and proposed that a letter be sent to the occupier asking when the re-wiring of the ^{correct} road boundaries will be completed and the kissing-gate reinstated. Seconded by Mr. Ridler. Carried.

A/c's for
payment

Proposed by Mr. Ridler, seconded by Mr. Simpson that the following accounts be passed for payment:-

Annual subscription to Commons Pres. Society	10/6
S.C.C. Use of school room	12/-

Date of
Next Meeting

Mr. Little proposed that the next meeting be held on 13th June and that hereafter, except during August, meetings be held on the first Monday of each month. Seconded by Mrs. ~~Little~~ Laslett. Carried.

D. J. Weatherley
20.6.1949

June 1949

Minutes of the Proceedings of a Parish Council Meeting held at the Schools on Monday 20th June at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. E. Wetherley (in the chair), Mrs. Little, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Ridler, Mr. Brown.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Laslett and Mr. Simpson.

Before the start of business, members duly signed the 'acceptance of Office' forms.

Mr. Little proposed that absent members sign at the next meeting i.e. that the last date of signing be extended to the date of the next meeting.

Seconded by Mrs. Ridler. Agreed.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Rateable

Values

The clerk ^{read} a reply from the R.D.C. advising that an owner would have the right of appeal to the South Eastern Surrey Panel. Mrs. Little raised the question of where the Panel will be.

Ponds

The clerk read a reply from the R.D.C. stating that the contractors are being pressed to proceed with the work of cleaning the Ponds.

Inspection of Greens

The same letter also stated that supervision of the greens would be effected by Council officials who often pass the greens and by frequent periodical inspection. The question of the authority held by the officials to stop abuse of the greens was discussed. Mrs. Little proposed that an acknowledgement of the letter be sent with the comment that

The Council will refer to the matter again when they have ~~an~~ ^{had an} opportunity of seeing how the system works
 Seconded by Mr. Brown. Agreed.

Hillside Rd. The clerk read a letter from the new occupier, Mr. Coombs suggesting a meeting with the Council to discuss the question of what is required. Mr. Geary stated that since the change of occupant, there had been no signs of cattle grazing on the greens. Mr. Little proposed that the letter be acknowledged and that the chairman and the clerk arrange to meet Mr. Coombs. Seconded by Mr. Brown. Agreed.

Accounts for Payment Mr. Ridley proposed, Mr. Little seconded, that the following account be passed for payment

Mr. F. W. Walpole P.C. Election Expenses £1-7-6.

Newspaper Reports

The chairman expressed dissatisfaction with the manner and accuracy of the reports of council meetings appearing in the local press. He instanced the specific report on the discussion at the last meeting regarding Mr. Groundrey which contained certain inaccuracies. He also complained of the manner in which the reports were split up and printed in different parts of the paper, making the reading of the whole report extremely difficult. Mr. Geary concurred. Mr. Little commented that it was surprising how much space Tatsfield ^{news} was given but thought that apart from commenting on the fact nothing further could be done as the

paper depended on its circulation.

Report of
S.A.P.C.
Agen. Mtg.

Resignation
of clerk

The chairman read a letter of resignation from the clerk ~~who~~ stating he was obliged to relinquish the position owing to travel abroad. Mr. Little said he wished to place on record his regret at the resignation of Mr. Doherty and also ~~his~~ appreciation of his services and help during the period which chiefly coincided with his chairmanship of the council. He proposed that the resignation be accepted with regret with effect from 30th Sept. 1949. Seconded by Mr. Riddler.

Carried

New clerk

The chairman suggested that the vacancy should be advertised. Mr. Brown concurred. Mr. Little thought it unnecessary to incur expense of advertising if the position could be filled by other means. After discussion as to the method advertising to be adopted Mr. Brown proposed a press advertisement. Seconded by Mr. Geary. Mr. Riddler proposed an amendment that the advertisement should be by notice on the Notice Boards. Mr. Little proposed that a notice be displayed on the Notice Boards and if no satisfactory results were obtained a notice be then inserted in the Press. This last proposal was seconded by Mr. Riddler and

Carried

Date of next
meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting be held on 18th July.

Report of
S.A.P.C.
Agem. Mtg.

Mr. Little gave a report of the A.G. Meeting
of the S.A.P.C. held at ~~Grantsford~~ ^{Hambledon} on
18th June. He was re-elected to the Executive
Committee. There was an attendance of
representatives from 48 P.C's and 2
meetings out of a total of 67. A
brief outline of some of the ~~outstanding~~ ^{main}
recommendations received was given,
particularly regarding gipsy nuisance,
parish council elections, and the availability
of Justices of the Peace.

R. S. B. Weatherly
18/7/1949