



Mytchett, Frimley Green & Deepcut Society

MINUTES of HALF-YEARLY MEETING 15th October 2018

1. WELCOME

President Sue Cartwright welcomed Local Officers and about 40 members and visitors. Sue asked for the previous minutes to be approved. Duncan Miles nominated and Angela O'Connell seconded.

Sue announced that the publicised speaker had cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances and that Graham O'Connell and Cliff Hilton were going to give presentations on the "Greening the Green" project and the status of the proposed 4 way traffic lights in Frimley Green.

Before the presentations Sue asked Carol Drew to give a quick update on the Mytchett Village Sign which had fallen over due to its stand rotting. Carol said that she had tried to organise something to renovate it but before that could be done, she found that a local business Christian Bloom had already done it. Carol said that Christian Broom had only asked for their name to be publicised at the meeting for their very generous action. Carol also asked BT if they could remove the telephone kiosk next to the sign and the Christian Broom shop as it was an eyesore, BT refused but said they would renovate it.

2. SPEAKER'S PRESENTATION

Graham talked first on the "Greening the Green" project. The ceremony installing the Soldier Silhouette commemorating the end of WW1 takes place on Sunday 21st October, everyone is invited. As the Soldier Silhouettes are only meant to be on display until the end of the year, Graham was asked what happens then, he said that they were looking for a permanent location for the Soldier Silhouette.

In the morning of the 21st, there will be bulbs planted on the Green weather permitting.

Graham said that as the red oak had died, the plan was to cut it back and then carve a sculpture from the remains. He is looking at various tree carvers.

Planning a community noticeboard but still discussing with the council (SHBC) over who maintains it.

Graham then did an introduction on the traffic lights with Cliff and Graham giving updates on the various schemes and both answering questions. They have been liaising with Skanska for the last 9 months about this and a second scheme which retains the roundabout on the Guildford road junction but still has traffic lights at the Wharf road junction has been proposed. The campaign against the traffic lights of which Graham and Cliff are the leaders have come up with their own proposal which does not involve any traffic lights.

David Rushmer asked how this proposal might affect pedestrians crossing to Boots Chemist. Graham seemed to think that it would not make much of a difference.

Asked what the next step is if the campaign's proposal is rejected by SCC, the answer is that it will be back to the original 4 way traffic lights or the newer proposal involving traffic lights at the Wharf road junction and retaining the roundabout at the Guildford road junction. This proposal would not take any of the Green but traffic posts would be on the Green.

Asked if Michael Gove can help, the reply was that he was onboard but he could only influence as this is decided at the county level.

Asked about whether intelligent traffic lights would be used, the answer was that the most intelligent will be used.

Asked about air pollution, will traffic make it worse? The answer was that probably yes and that the current level is category 3, one below critical.

At the end of the talk there vote on the proposed 4 way traffic lights, the attendees were 100% against!

3. TEA & COFFEE BREAK

4. QUESTION TIME WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS: Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey David Munro Area Commander for Surrey Heath, Inspector Bob Darkens Councillors Paul Deach, Oliver Lewis & Joanne Potter

(Questions will be denoted by Q: unless the person asking the question is known)

David Munro gave a short introduction on what the responsibilities of the PCC are. Was elected 2 years ago, tries to meet as many people as he can. Holds Surrey Police to account, sets the budget and gives overall direction for the police but does not run them, that is done by the Chief Constable. Said that the Police cannot do everything especially with the cuts in funding and resources. He was a county councillor for 19 years previously.

Inspector Bob Darkens introduced himself, he is responsible for Surrey Heath. He has been a police officer for 20 years, said

he wished he had more police and that he will not make promises that he cannot keep.

Q: Theft at Boots.

BOB DARKENS: Not a high priority, will record but if no more information will not follow up.

Q: There are not many, if any officers on the beat?

BOB DARKENS: Would be concerned if there were as it is not an efficient way of using police in this day and age.

DAVID MUNRO: Low level crimes should always be reported, they might not be actioned to start with but as more information comes in they could be. There is a new system for local policing called Policing in Your Neighbourhood (PiYN).

Sarah Kingsley asked about anti-social behaviour at Frimley Green recreation ground.

DAVID MUNRO: This encapsulated what the problem is, need to get people to work together. Asked that he be contacted.

Q: How many special constables are there?

BOB DARKENS: 3, all volunteers but still cost money.

Q: How many police dogs.

DAVID MUNRO: A lot, they are trained near his office.

BOB DARKENS: They are shared with Sussex police, 3 per division.

Q: How many frontline staff versus back office staff.

DAVID MUNRO: Total number of warrant officers has been fairly stable, what has changed are the jobs they do, there is not a big distinction between frontline and back office now.

BOB DARKENS: As an example domestic violence has increased and it is much thoroughly investigated than before. Operational staff have been redeployed as a result.

DAVID MUNRO: After Savile there was a big increase in sexual abuse cases though it is now plateauing. Talked about having to redeploy police to handle the initial upsurge, also the retraining involved in handling and safeguarding victims and witnesses.

Anji Patterson said that police have upped their game on safeguarding.

DAVID MUNRO: Thanked her for that.

Questions were then asked of the local councillors.

Q: Toilets in the Frimley Green Rec are always locked.

OLIVER LEWIS: Said he has chased up on this previously but will do so again.

Sarah Kingsley again brought up the anti-social behaviour in the Frimley Green recreation ground, asked why there could not be a member of the SHBC parks and grounds staff living in the buildings in the recreation ground like in Frimley Lodge Park.

PAUL DEACH: Frimley Lodge Park is larger and SHBC could not justify the cost.

Q: The roundabout at Johnson's Wax has not been maintained for a long time.

PAUL DEACH: Will email the appropriate people.

Q: Lorries parking outside "Generation Hire & Sale" are blocking up Sturt road.

JOANNE POTTER: Looking into trying to get the companies on the site to schedule the lorries so they do not have to park on Sturt road.

Graham O'Connell asked about the new Local Plan and the appearance of de-designating some of the green spaces.

PAUL DEACH: Said that SHBC is under extreme pressure to build houses.

Jan Thompson brought up the cars parking on Rorkes Drift pavement.

JOANNE POTTER: Said it was a traffic offense, one of the councillors will email the company owning the van.

Q: Could the process of putting together the Local Plan be made less complex?

PAUL DEACH: Said he had trouble understanding it, talked to the office in charge who said they have to follow a mandated process. Paul thinks that they should be more open and transparent.

Q: What are SHBC thoughts on mitigation and compensation for the new Esso pipeline.

OLIVER LEWIS: Said that Esso is very approachable and is open to compensation.

5. RAFFLE and MEETING CLOSE.

After the raffle, Sue thanked everyone for coming and officially closed the meeting.

Local Officers Present

Councillor Paul Deach	Surrey C.C. Frimley Green, Mytchett/Deepcut & Surrey Heath B.C. Mytchett/Deepcut
Councillor Oliver Lewis	Surrey Heath B.C. Frimley Green
Councillor Joanne Potter	Surrey Heath B.C. Mytchett/Deepcut

Local Officers NOT Present

Councillor Craig Fennell	Surrey Heath B.C. Mytchett/Deepcut
Councillor Max Nelson	Surrey Heath B.C. Frimley Green
Councillor Chris Pitt	Surrey Heath B.C. Frimley Green

MFG&D Committee Members Present

Sue Cartwright (President)	Carol Drew (Treasurer)	Sarah Kingsley (Publicity Officer)
Rod Carroll (Secretary)	Susan Burton	Maharukh Daley
Chris Main	Anji Patterson	Jan Thompson