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**MINUTES OF SEALE AND SANDS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY, 15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024, AT 7.30 PM  
SEALE VILLAGE HALL, SEALE**

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Cllr. Mr I Brown  
Cllr. Mr J Butcher  
Cllr. Mrs N Collett  
Cllr. Mrs L Parrott  
Cllr. Mr A Jackson

County & Borough Cllr. Matt Furniss  
Borough Cllr. Sallie Barker

18 Members of the Public

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**Actions**

**1. WELCOME and APOLOGIES**

1.1 The Chairman welcomed and thanked all those present.

1.2 Apologies were received from Lesley Rixon and Margaret Nelson.

**2 DECLARATION OF NON & DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS BY COUNCILLORS  
In accordance with The Relevant Authorities Regulations 2012 (SI 2012 No. 1464)**

2.1 There was nothing declared.

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

3.1 The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4. PUBLIC FORUM**

The Chairman received the following questions prior to the Meeting.

4.1 The following query was received by email from a member of the public asking when will the yellow lines on Seale Lane be painted as promised by Matt Furniss?

***The Chairman advised him this was raised with Matt prior to Nov meeting and the work is scheduled for FY23/24.*** SCC

- 4.2 A complaint was received relating to the felling of 3 Oak trees on the section of the NDW from Binton Lane opposite Binton Hall.
- Hampton Estates*
- The Chairman emailed the Hampton Estate for any information regarding tree removal who confirmed they were felled without their permission. A response has been sent explaining this.***
- 4.3 McDonald's at Tice's Meadow - Further queries were raised on this as to what was happening and when a decision would be made.
- GBC***
- The Chairman advised that a decision is expected in February/March timeframe.***
- 4.4 Wood Lane Resurfacing - When is this being addressed?
- SCC Highways***
- Matt Furniss responded by advising that initially patching would take place prior to full resurfacing in the future.***
- 4.5 After receiving a previous planning application refusal, a resident wished to re-submit a planning application and would like to work with local people and invited the Parish Council to discuss their ideas before they submit a new application.
- S&SPC***
- The Chairman advised he was happy to do this and asked for the member of public to leave their details.***
- 4.6 Suffield Lane Closure - Hampton Estates kindly advised the Parish Council and attendees that due to road repair Suffield Lane would be closed for 16 weeks from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2025 due to a collapsed culvert under the road. This has led to a delay in the reopening of the middle car park as the timber stored there cannot currently be removed.
- 4.7 Signage on North Downs Way - A member of the public advised that a sign has 'disappeared' from where the North Downs Way crosses the Elstead Road to warn of people crossing.
- SCC***
- Matt Furniss advised that he would organise for this to be addressed.***
- 4.8 Flooding of property on Seale Lane - A member of the public asked if we could enforce anything to make a private landowner responsible for water running of their fields/land which leads to severe flooding on neighbouring properties.
- SCC***
- MF responded by saying that he would request that the flood team visit the landowner to advise them of their responsibilities.***
- 4.9 Grips on Blighton and Binton Lane - Surrey C.C. are not clearing any grips in the local area.
- SCC***
- Matt Furniss responded and advised that the most Grips are SCC responsibility, however where the ditches border local property it is the property owner's responsibility.***
- 4.10 Blighton Lane - Further concerns were raised by a resident regarding a possibility of an ancient riverbed coming alive that now stops at Blighton Lane.

***Matt Furniss advised that the Flooding Forum would pick up on this point going forward.***

**SCC**

**5. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS – Matt Furniss**

County Councillor Matt Furniss was present and provided an answer to questions raised and an update as follows:

- 5.1 Parish Council Chairman reported the signs are still at both ends of Blighton Lane following the painting of the white lines to SCC (Highways ref 72346, 21 Sept). They confirmed the signs will be removed in due course. Reported to Matt at the last meeting (16 October) and the signs are still there. *Matt Furniss advised he will remove the signs.* **MF**
- 5.2 Seale Lane Footpath - Plans for Seale Lane footpath is still going ahead. **MF**
- 5.3 Speed Survey -This has now been booked in for Seale Lane. Date to be advised. **MF**
- 5.4 Reinstate the Flood Forum that was previously in place to address recent issues, Meeting was agreed for March for Seale Lane. **MF**
- 5.5 Works on Blighton Road / North Downs way is awaiting confirmation on updated timescales. Need to speak to residents regarding taking away verge and culvert as they are perceived to have no purpose. **MF**
- 5.6 Currently a consultation on the Surrey rights of Way on the Surrey Says webpage for the general public to comment on by 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024. **MF**
- 5.7 Matt Furniss advised that he still has £600.00 on allocation to be used by the 31<sup>st</sup> January with a further £5000.00 for the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. An additional £50,00.00 for 2024 will be available so need ideas for the community. All capital items only. **MF**

**6. BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS**

**Actions**

- 6.1 Borough Councillor Sallie Barker provided updates:
- 6.2 Pedro Wrobel has been appointed by the Council (and by Waverley) to be the next Joint Chief Executive and is due to start on 8 April. The Interim Acting Chief Executive for the two-month gap is *Anne Righton, Head of Community Wellbeing*.
- 6.3 Issues and investigations of fraud at Reigate and Banstead are underway. Guildford Borough council review of General Governance reports. At various stages updates will be given to councillors and the public as soon as they are permitted to do so.

6.4 Budget for 2024 to 2025 and Medium-Term Financial Plan was published last week. It proposes a balanced budget for the next financial year and an update on the Medium-Term Financial Plan position up to April 2027. All indications are that we will not need to issue a section 114 notice. The draft budget will be reviewed at two internal committees and then be put forward for approval by Full Council on 7 February 2024. Guildford Borough Council new budgets for 24/25 are to be announced in February 2024.

6.5 Crowdfund Guildford is looking for projects from schools and parish councils. There is still up to £5,000 funding available for community projects in the Autumn round. The deadline to create a project is 31 January 2024. We're looking to support projects that:

**SB**

- support those in need
- improve rural areas
- enhance green spaces
- promote wildlife and nature
- enhance wellbeing.

6.6 The Mayor's Award for Service to the Community 2024 has just been announced. So if you know a person or group that has made a significant difference to our borough please submit an application before Friday 2 February 2024

- the award recognises individuals, groups and organisations serving their local community
- you can [submit a nomination online](#), by [email](#) or call 01483 444031 for a form
- successful nominees will be invited to attend an awards event on Saturday 27 April 2024

6.7 The Household Support Fund is now open for applications until 31 March 2023, or until funds have been allocated. Households can apply once and could get up to £400 for essentials like food and heating. If someone needs help applying, they can call the Community Services team at The Hive on 01483 458055.

6.8 Sallie Barker promised to follow up on assisting with sorting out the repair/renovation for the Memorial in Seale.

## 7. **PARISH, NEIGHBOURHOOD AND LOCAL PLANS**

Bill Nelson advised the Final report is awaiting comments from the Parish Council and will be submitted once comments integrated for public consultation. Comments have been promised to Bill by end January latest.

**BN/  
S&SPC**

## 8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman produced the following report:

### 8.1 Golf Club

Met with the Golf Club Manager, Ben Beagley in December to discuss several topics. Binton Lane and Blighton Lane flooded following Storm Ciaran and subsequent heavy rainfall. FGC have created ponds on the course to hold water that flows through the course to slow the rate at which water reaches Blighton Lane and try to reduce flooding at that point. The temporary pumping reported at the last meeting and was needed to enable pipe work to be carried out has not been needed since.

### Farnborough Airport

8.2 The PC submitted a letter with comments objecting to the planning application to expand flying at Farnborough airport to Rushmoor Borough Council.

### Seale Village Hall

8.3 The SVH Christmas cheer was held on Saturday 9th December was well attended. A full committee has been appointed to keep the Hall running for the local community.

### The Sands Recreation Ground

8.4 Two quotations have been received from companies for the work required to address the dead and unsafe trees in the woodland adjacent to Littleworth Road. The Chairman met with SSE regarding the dead trees that are at risk of falling on their overhead electricity supply cables and they have removed the ivy from one large tree in preparation for its removal. On SSE's request a Bat survey has been carried out on one of the trees to determine if it is being used as a roost this proved to be not applicable. However, SSEN has advised that they will now not undertake the removal of the two dead trees that, if they fell, would likely fall across their power cables at the side of Littleworth Road. Cuts have been made into the woodland and at the end of The Green to take water flowing from Long Hill to try to reduce the volume flowing down Sands Road towards Blighton Lane and the North Downs Way.

### Flooding

8.5 Extensive areas of flooding have occurred since the last Parish Council meeting which culminated in many roads being blocked and some closed following storm Henk. The North Downs Way has remained flooded and impassable for some 200m from its junction with Blighton Lane for a significant portion of the Autumn through to the New Year. A Flooding Forum is being set up.

### Seale Lodge

8.6 Runfold Liaison Group meeting scheduled for 7th February.

## 9 PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

9.1 The Parish Council abide by the decision of Guildford Borough Council concerning all applications for Certificate of Lawfulness and Arboriculture proposals.

9.2 There were two planning applications received during the last period.

Reference: 23/P/01941

Location: Selbourne House, Seale Lane, Seale, Farnham, GU10 1LF

Proposal: Convert the existing Garage into an annex for extra domestic use and occasional rental space. The existing garage will remain the same footprint.

Changes to fenestration

**Comments Submitted: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Reference: 23/P/01995

Location: Rogate, Seale Lane, Seale, Farnham, GU10 1LF

Proposal: Proposed change of roof shape from hip to gable with height increase, a proposed single-storey flat roof extension and changes to fenestration throughout.

**Comments Submitted: 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

9.3 **Applications Approved: Two**

9.4 **Applications Refused: Nil**

9.5 **Applications Withdrawn: Nil**

9.6 **Enforcement Notices currently in place: One**

## 10. **FINANCE & ACCOUNTS**

10.1 Orders for payment which were agreed and ratified were as follows:

<b>To Whom</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Details</b>
AGM Landscaping	£480.00	Grass Cutting
AGM Landscaping	£228.00	Maintenance/Grass Cutting
Mark Butterfield	£328.00	Maintenance Nov/Dec
Mark Butterfield	£297.90	Maintenance Dec/Jan
Lesley Rixon – Clerk	£600.80	Clerk’s duties mid Nov-Mid Jan
BUDS	£1626.00	Ditch Clearance
Surrey Wildlife Trust	£558.00	Bat Survey
AR Hardy – Roofer	£280.00	Roof repair Seale Pavilion
Jason Butcher	£221.63	Voiphone/expenses

10.2 Precept agreed and set at £23,000 (16% increase). Loss of Grant Aid funding from GBC which this year was forecast at £3,600.

## 11 **COUNCIL PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES**

11.1 **Project List** – These will be incorporated into the Parish Plan work. They will be shown, as each item is identified and started.

**ALL**

More trees are highlighted to be felled on Crooksbury Common and Nicola has contacted the Forestry Commission for more information.

11.2 **Projects to be considered** – The Sands Recreation Ground woodland, and entrance to field.

12. **MATTERS RAISED BY PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

12.1 None raised

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

13.1 The next meeting is on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024, The Sands Room

13.2 Dates of future meetings:

25<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Seale Village Hall  
20<sup>th</sup> May 2024, The Sands Room, Annual Assembly  
17<sup>th</sup> June 2024, Seale Village Hall  
15<sup>th</sup> July 2024, The Sands Room  
16<sup>th</sup> September 2024, Seale Village Hall  
21<sup>st</sup> October 2024, The Sands Room  
18<sup>th</sup> November 2024, Seale Village Hall  
20<sup>th</sup> January 2025, The Sands Room

All meetings are on Mondays and start at 7.30 pm.