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**MINUTES OF SEALE AND SANDS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023, AT 7.30 PM  
THE SANDS ROOM, THE SANDS**

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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. Mr M Furniss

Parish Clerk x 1

14 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 Borough Cllr. S Barker, Margaret and Bill Nelson, Rosemary Millar and Simon Lipyeat.
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 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023**
  - 3.1 The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
4. **HALL HUNTER**

Harry Hall from Hall Hunter gave an overview of what was their current and future plans for Binton Farm. This was followed by an opportunity for the public to ask the following questions:

What limits will be placed on the size, times and frequency of lorries using this site as the roads through the Sands and Seale are unsuitable for large vehicles? *The proposed route is to use Binton Lane accessed from the A31, truck size is estimated*

*at 12 tonnes and at a frequency of one or two per day at the height of the picking season.*

Will there be a need for additional lights and light pollution either through growing or the harvesting? *No additional lights will be used for growing and the harvest machinery is solar powered however as the harvest increases over the years potentially petrol/diesel machinery will be used as harvesting could occur 24 hours a day over a period.*

Will access through to Binton woods and around the field edges be restricted in anyway? *They are Hampton Estate paths and access will be controlled where necessary by Hampton Estates.*

Will there be noise implications e.g use of pumps for the irrigation? *There is already a pump site at the borehole in Binton Woods, additional water will be pumped from the new reservoir, with minimum noise.*

What sort of fencing will be used and what impact will that have on the local wildlife and birds. *There will be fencing erected to protect the plants from Deer and they will potentially use white fine mesh to protect the fruit from fruit fly and hail. This will also negate them using too many pesticides.*

Are the berries harvested by machine or will there be a need to accommodate the pickers if so, where? *The berries will be harvested by machines and by pickers. The pickers will be brought to the site by bus and will live at accommodation provided at another Hall Hunter site at Tuesley Farm, Milford.*

Is there a HH corporate social responsibility community fund which the villages can access to offset any environmental / social impact that the villages may be affected by, and if so, how will this work. Perhaps best illustrated by how HH are working with their other communities. *Hall Hunter showed a willingness to be part of the community and actively encourage school visits, etc and they do make donations to charities.*

## 5 PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairman read out questions and comments received prior to the Meeting.

### 5.1 Could some of Seale Rec car park be marked as a pickleball court?

*The Chairman advised that we are considering open parking for a few cars with no change to the hardstanding area.*

### 5.2 Hogs Back Service Area

HGV's are ignoring the double yellow lines at the Hogs Back Service Area. *Matt Furniss advised that Cameras are going to be installed at the location in the near future rather than sending out parking wardens.*

### 5.3 Farnham Golf Course

The Manager of Farnham Golf Course raised safety concerns over the public detouring off the North Downs Way onto the golf course to avoid the flooded North Downs Way.

### 5.4

#### **McDonald's at Tice's Meadow**

Objections were raised regarding this especially relating to litter, local people have now raised a petition against it.

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

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

- 6.1 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
- 6.2 Given the potential impact of large vehicles transporting the harvest from Binton Farm, is there any way we can speed up putting the width/weight restriction on Seale Lane from Whiteways Corner to Blighton Lane. *Matt Furniss advised this was being investigated and was work in progress.* MF
- 6.3 The Parish Council Charmain asked If there was a cap on the increase to the precept the Parish Council can apply? *Matt Furniss responded that there was not a cap for local Parishes.*
- 6.4 Can SCC please ensure that the grit bins are replenished prior to the winter. *This is currently in progress by SCC.* MF
- 6.5 Matt Furniss once again highlighted that Surrey County Council have introduced an on-demand bus service in the local area, it covers a radius of approx. 7 miles and is available to anyone at a cost from £2.00 a fare. It can be booked in advance and even as late as 30 minutes before you need it. The Bus takes dogs.

Full details are available on service [Surrey connect: on demand bus service - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/transport/surrey-connect)

7. **BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS** **Actions**

- 7.1 Borough Councillor Matt Furniss updates:
- 7.2 Borough Councillor Matt Furniss provided an update on the financial situation with respect to Guildford Borough Council and that the Chief Executive has now resigned.

8. **PARISH, NEIGHBOURHOOD AND LOCAL PLANS**

Another draft of the document has been produced by Bill Nelson in conjunction with the external consultant and this will now be reviewed by the Parish Council prior to issue for public consultation.

## 9. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman produced the following report:

### 9.1 **Flooding**

Binton Lane and Blighton Lane flooded following Storm Ciaran and the subsequent heavy rainfall. Flooding at Blighton Lane was temporarily made worse by the Golf Club pumping water due to works on the course to improve the flow through their water retention ponds next to the North Downs Way which unfortunately increased the flood and flow onto Blighton Lane.

### 9.2 **Farnborough Airport**

Comments regarding the proposed expansion of flying have been submitted. A planning application has been submitted to Rushmoor Borough Council for the expansion of flying at Farnborough. Local people are encouraged to submit their comments on the Rushmoor Borough Council website.

### 9.3 **Seale Village Hall**

SVH AGM was held on 13<sup>th</sup> November at which the PC was represented by Lyn Parrott. The SVH Christmas cheer is on Saturday 9th December from 6 – 8pm. A number of places on the committee are vacant and need support from the community.

### **Sands Rec**

9.4 Two quotations received from companies for the work required to address the dead and unsafe trees in the woodland adjacent to Littleworth Road. Members of the council 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 which they will carry out soon.

### **Seale Lodge**

9.5 Met with Suez, Hampton Estate and SCC representatives to discuss the fencing around the site. It was agreed that the 2m high chain link and barbed wire fencing on the east and west boundaries should be replaced by lower stock fencing. The work is to be carried from inside the site. With respect to the fencing on the south boundary, adjacent to the North Downs Way, another visit will be made in winter when the undergrowth has died down to assess how visible the fencing is for the NDW. Access is difficult and it was agreed that the hedgerow on the NDW needed to be protected. One solution might be to remove the high-level barbed wire only and leave the chain link fencing as it is only visible in few small areas.

### **Armistice Day**

9.6 Attended the Armistice service at Seale and laid the wreath on behalf of the Parish. Thank you to the RBL in The Sands for hosting the gathering after the service.

### **Police matters**

9.7 Burglary in Smugglers Way over the weekend (18/19 Nov).

10. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

- 10.1 **Parish Emergency Plan and Risk Register** – Regularly updated - Councillors to contribute any new items for consideration. **Clerk/Chair**

11 **PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS**

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

11.2 There were no planning applications received during the last period

11.3 **Applications Approved: Four**

11.4 **Applications Refused: Two**

11.5 **Applications Withdrawn: Nil**

11.6 **Enforcement Notices currently in place: Three**

12 **GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

12.1 There were 8 items of correspondence, 3325 e-mails received, and 121 e-mails sent during the period 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

12.2 These were all actioned by the Chairman and Clerk, as required.

13 **COUNCIL PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES**

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

Woodlands at the edge of The Sands Recreation Ground, costs to clear starting with removing dangerous trees underway and clearing of ditch for water run-off from Long Hill.

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

13.3 **Grant Aid** – No applications were made in this period. There is a total grant of £4,021 available to be claimed during 2023/24.

14. **FINANCE & ACCOUNTS**

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

To Whom	Amount	Details
Land Registry	£39.00	Two Enquiries
Castle Water	£64.56	Final account of 6 months
AGM Landscaping	£732.00	Grass Cutting
Mark Butterfield	£540.14	Maintenance Sep/Oct
Lesley Rixon - Clerk	£541.72	Clerk's duties, training

14.2 **Annual Accounts** – These have been approved by the Auditors.

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

15.1 **Permissive Path through Farnham Golf Course**

This is still under discussion.

**NC/MF**

15.2 **Communication with Forestry England**

Nicola is continuing communication with Forestry England regarding the future plans for Crooksbury Common and notification of future felling of trees.

**NC**

16. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

16.1 The next meeting is on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024, Seale Village Hall

16.2 Dates of future meetings:

19<sup>th</sup> February 2024, The Sands Room

25<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Seale Village Hall

20<sup>th</sup> May 2024, The Sands Room, Annual Assembly

All meetings are on Mondays and start at 7.30 pm.