



Minutes of the meeting on Monday 6 OCTOBER 2025 at Pippbrook

The Meeting was conducted by Cllr Margaret Cooksey – with 16 attendees, who were; Cllr Nick Wright, Cllr Stephen Cooksey, Cllr Rosemary Hobbs, Cllr Paula Keay, Cllr Hazel Watson, Sgt Eddie Adderley, Rev Anthony Rustell, Rev Rob Stevens, Margaret Brett, Basil Doha, Andrew Fuller, John Meudell, Pat Smith, Pierre Tartari, David Tobbit, and Guest, Jacqui Marsden – and MVDC officers Dia Irlan, Arabella Davies.

(1) APOLOGIES for ABSENCE; Cllr David Draper*, Rev Nelson Porter, Andy Tanner, Chris Heaps. (*Likely occasional absence due to timings of his 'mentoring' responsibilities).

(2) MINUTES of SEPTEMBER Meeting and MATTERS ARISING:

The Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed, with no matters arising – *other than the mention of inviting relevant officers to our next meeting – fulfilled below.*

(3) POLICE UPDATE; *We were delighted to welcome... Sgt Edward 'Eddie' Adderley* who updated us... by saying that (a) his area was 'north' (Hannah is 'south') and though they are tightly stretched they have been (b) very active on courses/bike marking; (c) their priority being to combat anti-social behaviour and retail crime – and with recent successes aided by improved CCTV and positive reporting. Questions followed... Rosemary asked about 'beggars' and Eddie said they would give a 1st-only verbal warning; Hazel queried action on anti-social activity especially around Meadowbank – possibly including drug dealing... and Eddie replied that 'dealing' was a '999' but others, '101' (slower) or online, but he would give us his number – partly also in answer to Nick asking about public access to officers. Stephen queried speeding on the A24 and resulting reporting/enforcement, to which Eddie re-stated that they were few (6 for MV) which meant specific road targeting – currently on Mickleham. Rosemary asked about 'Community Cohesion' and the prospect of demonstrations – Eddie replied that other than the likely event in Reigate on 9oct, there was little local intelligence of any planned – and others added comment about lamp-post flags and posters. Margaret thanked him for attending.

(4) UNITARY DEVOLUTION; *Margaret welcomed Dia Irlan and Arabella Davies;* to scroll through the summary of CGR (Community Governance Review - which is the local part of the national LGR); Dia stressed the hope and intention that their effort will encourage all elements in the community to assess their preferences and draw together where appropriate, seeking to establish the 'secondary' tier under the Unitary bodies – which would mainly be by creation/enlargement of Parish Councils (to become Local Councils) – all in the first phase ending on 17oct (2nd stage Feb/Mar, final stage Jul; Parish elections spring/27). Margaret asked how we might process 'DTF' into 'DTC', the answer to which was via submission of the survey and a covering email. Nick asked how many submissions so far = 377 – and he then added to the comments of others – that being titled 'Parish' was confusing the public who presumed some link to church councils... to which Dia noted it was a national descriptor and could not be altered - which lead to Pat outlining the absolute and urgent need for public communication on all of this – to which they had set up 'shop' (2 weeks only) in the High Street, and had produced flyers/posters, and asked (echoed by Basil) why MVDC had not mailed residents or produced literature, to which the reply was 'cost', but that, at the 2nd stage, there would be more communication. After more exchanges, Nick asked how groups might organise themselves without any idea of assets/budgets... to which Dia concluded by saying that all would be clearer at the 2nd stage. Margaret thanked them for their presentation - Pierre to circulate link to it. Stephen continued on the **Unitary Devolution**; waiting for 15oct when the Government should publish its findings/decisions. Margaret then asked Hazel to outline her task as chair of the 'MV pilot' assessment (now titled 'Neighbourhood Area Committee' – NAC – and not 'Community Board') suggesting how this secondary tier might function, taking over assets/costs/budgets from District councils



(2 other pilots = Caterham/East Elmbridge). Margaret then put it to members that the intention was that the DTF would propose that we established ourselves as 'DPC' to become 'DTC') and **asked for an evidenced vote; 9 for, 3 abstentions, 0 against** – and at the same time, ask the villages for their opinions/plans.

(5) BID update; Andrew highlighted; **(a)** the absolute success of the '**Walking Festival**' and its popular and well-booked 20 local walks between 20/28sep; as was **(b)** the **litter-pick**. He had **(c)** attended the significant 'GRO' **retail development event** (in Old Billingsgate Market), enabling him to talk with retailers we would welcome – but he heard negatives expressed about our parking and charges; and then expressed more negativity about the pavement cleaning, which had not removed all the gum residue but had scoured the rendering between the slabs; concluding with news of another vape shop in the EE unit!

(6) TOWN Report; Paula started with; **(a)** the decision to recommend to the Cabinet that the proposals in the Masterplan for re-direction of traffic from West St be removed (in light of the petition from Chalkpit/Ashcombe residents) – at which Margaret invited Pierre to comment... he confirming that a counter-petition (asking Cabinet for general/public consultation) before such deletion, had gained the required number of signatures and been sent to MVDC. Paula continued by confirming **(b)** the approval of the design of the **Foundry project** – with 5 residential and 2 commercial units, with building expected to start next spring – supported by an extra £440,00 excess on building costs – queried by Pat and others – justified by Paula by the recent extreme rise in construction costs; and she ended by highlighting the **(c) Surrey Hills Power of Place Showcase**, in D/Halls on 9oct - (bringing together hospitality leaders and corporate buyers, to explore how local sourcing, sustainability, and regional identity can drive business success in the Surrey Hills). Nick then advised that though the D/Halls ceiling repairs were proceeding to plan/timeline, there was need of £2m to cover some of the extra costs of Phase1, and new necessary costs for Phase2 electrical and engineering improvements.

(8) MEMBERS GROUPS' UPDATES ... (9) OTHER ITEMS; *Margaret advised that both items should be held-over as we had extended the meeting to over 2 hours.*

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 10 November

The meeting started at 17:30 and concluded at 19:45

PjToct25