#### 2022 7th Dec AGM Minutes

- 1. Welcome by Chair Trevor Dale
- 2. Reports on activities of Cranleigh Civic Society plus information about local developments and projects
- 3. Last AGM minutes to approve
- 4. Treasurer's update
- 5. Membership and secretary's update
- 6. Nominations & Elections of Officers Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Proposer and seconder for each role.
- 7. Chris Bulley Cranleigh Cottage Hospital Conservation project
- 8. Parish County Council -Beverley Bell Parish Clerk
- 9. Cllr Liz Townsend Surrey County Council & Waverley Borough Council
- 10. Planning matters Bob Callard
- 11. AOB
- 12. QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

# CRANLEIGH CIVIC SOCIETY PUBLIC MEETING AND AGM WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022 7pm BAND ROOM, VILLAGE WAY, CRANLEIGH

Cranleigh Civic Society mission is to help improve Cranleigh and make sure it stays as good as it can be. CCS is not about negativity and rejecting changes. We are passionate about conserving what's great about the village and its community.

It is important that the society represents Cranleigh community, so Trevor asks for input from all throughout the year.

Civic societies are a national movement and statutory bodies do listen to the requests and views of the public via Civic societies.

Members and visitors signed in and were offered for sale some cards and birthday calendars – art by local friend Wendy Gibson.

Refreshments were offered and people were encouraged to look at displays and talk to the team about the various topics.

It was an unpleasant weather evening, about 40 people attended

#### ITEM | Actions

# 1. Welcome by Chair Trevor Dale

Team

Sue Dale -secretary, membership

Diane Littlewood – treasurer

**Bob & Coral Callard** 

Lorraine & James Cotton

**Howard Barratt** 

Chris Bulley

2. Trevor's report: the main role of the society is to network with others, develop understanding and gather information and views, so that the society represents the community effectively. The society also shares information that can help with problems such as road closures, blocked drains and flooding, as does the Parish council. It can be difficult to discover who to report problems to and how.

Topics that have been looked into include:

Working with a group concerned with improving walking and cycling links between the various parts of the village and the services and High Street -hoping to fulfil goal of reduction in use of cars. Those involved do not know Cranleigh so our representatives' views are invaluable. LCWIP – local cycling and walking infrastructure partnership.

Finding out about the Bridge on Elmbridge Road as it gradually cracks – photos and reports have pushed the work up the agenda.

Reporting to Surrey Wildlife Trust- measurements of phosphates in our waterways, and abundance of riverfly larvae which can show health or pollution. Outcomes hoped for – holding Thames Water, Surrey County Council and Environment Agency etc to account and getting improvements in outflows.

Helping to set up Flood Forum with our MP Angela Richardson and representatives from the councils, on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022, which was generally unhelpful because Thames Water refused to answer any questions about water supply and pipes/leaks. Councillor Liz Townsend, supported by CCS, set up a specific meeting with senior Thames Water reps on 28 November 2022. Their representatives did not know Cranleigh and gave big picture and long-term strategy replies which were little different from previous years, however they declared their belief that leaks must be reduced urgently. New water supplies are being introduced as planned. Netley Mill has been improved which should help prevent water supply problems.

Attending ongoing meetings with consultants WellNorth Enterprises - engaged by our local NHS Integrated Care System (ICS) and many local representatives to help imagine and implement far reaching improvements to Cranleigh's publicly held buildings, project known by government as One Public Estate, with a reduction in waste and improvements in ecological energy uses. The project will include the new leisure centre and many other buildings and spaces. The concept is to integrate the buildings as well as reducing silo thinking.

Cranleigh Medical Practice – the team has watched and listened to many concerns. All GP practices are contractually obliged and funded to run a Patient Participation Group, which Cranleigh had disbanded, but recently has formed a new one. A Patient Participation Group (PPG) is a group of people who are patients of the surgery and want to help it work as well as it can for patients, doctors and staff. The NHS requires every practice to have a PPG. The idea is a two-way sharing of general information and should lead to improvements in patients' understanding and GPs understanding of issues that arise - in a timely way. Watch this space – only one PPG meeting in 2022 with a second one in January or February 2023.

Trees – the trees on the new Knowle Park are said to be healthy – they have their own water supplies; the large oak beside the tennis court is said to be safe from being felled – Cllr Townsend. Native species are being planted in and around including those Notcutts have donated.

Knowle Park – going to plan, soft opening in late May 2023, but much will be protected until end of year. Hoping for a full opening by 2024.

Schools – sometimes there is not enough money to support children and young people enough, so local funds have been found through links, including Cranleigh Lions Club. Surrey County Council may revisit building a new Primary school on a field and selling the land for housing, but this is not official.

Boundary changes – the Parliamentary areas are being changed to reflect the changing numbers of constituents living in each area. Cranleigh is proposed to be in Godalming and Ash constituency, whereas Ewhurst is proposed to be in Dorking and Horley. Guildford gets reduced area due to high population density.

Voting in the future – likely use of photo identification being introduced so that you can vote starting May 2023.

Dunsfold airfield redevelopment – they do not have a developer for the housing. The time limited planning application to install the access road off the A281 is separate and going ahead. There is an appeal for people to offer suggestions to name the road.

#### 3. Last AGM minutes to approve

The attendees and members agreed unanimously the minutes of the last AGM in 2021

## 4. Treasurer's update Diane Littlewood

The members were asked to accept the previous year's accounts – carried.

The main items CCS spends money on are insurances and the web site, plus occasional hall hire.

The membership fees do cover these expenses. In addition, CCS bank account and insurances have been used to further the feasibility study for conserving and using Cranleigh Heritage Cottage Hospital 'Napper Cottage'. Grant money has been paid in to pay for surveys and professionals and their invoices paid. There is a balance of around £1100 in the CCS account that belongs to the project. It is necessary to create a new and separate bank account and membership to promote Napper cottage.

The members were asked to support the change – a new bank account will be opened to run the project – carried unanimously.

## 5. Membership and secretary's update Sue Dale

The number of people who subscribe to Cranleigh Civic Society news updates is around 500.

The number of people who are members is around 150.

The number of people who have updated their subscription of £10 per year is around 100.

We have brought back meetings at The Three Horseshoes pub once a month – last Wednesday in each month from 6 – join at any time and also they do food so some of us have our evening meal there.

#### 6. Nominations & Elections of Officers Chair, Treasurer, Secretary

Proposer and seconder for each role.

CHAIR – Trevor Dale – proposed Chris Bulley, seconded Bob Callard.

TREASURER - Diane Littlewood - proposed Howard Barratt, seconded Lorraine Cotton.

SECRETARY – Sue Dale – proposed Trevor Dale, seconded James Cotton

Other members of team agreed to remain – all agreed.

New member Joanna James has joined the team.

All carried unanimously.

# 7. "Napper Cottage" Cranleigh Heritage Cottage Hospital conservation project

Update - Chris Bulley

The cottage was first built in 1446 and has now been unused since 2010. It is dilapidated. It is owned and cared for by NHS property services ltd. (NHSPS) It is **Grade II listed**. Grade II Star listing would make a difference to many things – but no discernible benefit at this time.

The cottage is of National, local and international interest and importance.

The hospital site includes the working day hospital – Cranleigh village hospital. The site will be split so that the cottage can become a heritage asset for various community uses.

Cranleigh Heritage Trust has been formed as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), to enable works to be done and grants to be applied for.

NHSPS have offered the charity a lease at a 'peppercorn rent' so long as the property is conserved and renovated and then used for health and wellbeing services.

Architect's drawings have been fully drawn up and listed building consent sought for minor changes – these will enable safe use of the building including alterations to make the staircase safe and the upstairs usable.

The charity has gained grants to cover the costs of all the surveys and professional services required to date. N.B. this does not include architect costs as all that work has been donated by retired architect Bob Callard.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund has been applied to for an initial assessment of the project to conserve and bring into community use. Known as an Expression of Interest. The EOI was successful - NLHF have agreed that there is a good, strong case for applying for a full grant.

Uses could include -

Renting spaces for therapies and various groups on sessional basis.

Opening for public education about the heritage of the building, and the start of the 'free at the point of use' medical services provided since 1859. Both Carefully curated rotating displays, and computerised information are envisaged.

Opening to schools and colleges, including resources to educate about careers in medical and social professions.

Opening an on line and in person tourist information and newcomers welcome service. Plus linking with others to ensure it's easy to find out what help and activities there are for all sorts of people and concerns.

The feasibility stage is complete. It is feasible to conserve, renovate and open the cottage and so at this meeting the members are asked to agree to separating from Cranleigh Civic Society.

#### All agreed.

A motion was put forward by secretary that the new charity will need to ask people to support it with a new membership contribution to cover the costs of insurances and website.

#### All agreed.

Howard Barratt described the way forwards:

Firstly museums are not fulfilling enough public good for the Lottery funds to support them any more. Even Guildford Museum is having to close and move its collections.

The main room in the cottage can seat up to 24 people for various meetings and is very comfortable and welcoming. Various social prescribing services could be set up. It is different to other assets in the village and so will hopefully attract different clients. The cottage will have annual costs but be mainly run by volunteers. Cranleigh is at least 8 miles from other towns with services and groups that Cranleigh community would benefit from.

The business plans include figures for inflation and contingency.

The NLHF grant will be applied for by middle of May 2024, meanwhile much work needs to be done by the team.

#### 8. Cranleigh Parish Council - Parish Clerk Beverley Bell

Elections in 2023 for local councils – new councillors needed. The borough wards are being simplified from 5 wards to 3. Beverley Bell, the Clerk to the Council presented information about how people can apply to become a councillor and what benefits they could bring to the Parish and Borough. Contact BB for further information.

Web site - Waverley Borough Council Be A Councillor.

Due to the elections councillors go into a period named purdah where they 'go quiet' from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023. Nominations for new councillors must be in by 4<sup>th</sup> April.

Elections for Parish and Borough councillors 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

Coronation King Charles III Saturday 6 May. CPC party in the High Street Sunday 7th May.

CPC AGM is 18 May

## 9. Waverley borough and Surrey County Council news, Councillor Liz Townsend

Cllr Liz explained that there is approximately £19.5 million for Cranleigh Leisure Centre rebuild, and it is not possible to refurbish the current building. The new project will be a PassivHaus – using its own heat and reducing water wastage and chemicals usage.

The NHS have appointed the consultancy firm WellNorth Enterprises to explore all options along with possible further medical services. The very best use of all public spaces going forwards is being sought.

Research shows the best place to site the pool and the plans will be put to the public before being decided. Opening in 2026.

Aims include helping people to be fitter for longer. The pool plans include ability to alter the depth of the pool for particular sessions. The current leisure centre should stay open until the new one is ready to use. There will be a new skate park and opening of the stream area. The market will move to Stocklund square car park for the build time.

#### 10. Planning applications and issues - Bob Callard

Bob explained that he checks for planning applications and tells the team his thoughts. If an application is contentious CCS sent out newsletters and the website suggesting people might like to look at it on line and comment.

Individual comments that are pertinent are helpful. Objections must be along the lines that the council is legally permitted to consider – view the website for advice

The strain on the infrastructure across our area and all others is telling. In Cranleigh most facilities have not been upgraded despite approximately 1500 new dwellings recently - a 20% increase from around 4,300. However, there is a legal duty on them all to make provision to upgrade utility services eventually e.g. new fresh water and power.

Knowle Lane – a new area has come into the hands of a developer and they are asking the community about their ideas for 175 dwellings – but there isn't a planning application yet. There is only one access point onto Knowle lane and the developer's flyer shows no improvements to the lane. Serious concerns have arisen.

The site behind Manns for 38 dwellings could be an asset although there is barely any parking provision hence they will need to be lived in by people who can walk and not drive.

Knowle Park – there are 3 apartments retained where the rent subsidises the maintenance of the new country park. The new park has toilets including for disabled and parking.

Cranleigh Primary school – CCS raised serious objections along with others and the project was turned down. The schools have received money for refurbishments and replacements.

High Street consultation – Surrey County Council is conducting surveys to see how the community want money spent on the High Street. The consultants they have engaged have drawn up radical changes. The public and councillors have responded and await the results of the surveys, hopefully by end of January 2023. The project proposes improving the pavements, removing some on street parking, creating raised tables for crossing (which in turn helps with the puddles at crossings) making the Post office area fully pedestrianised, removal of 3 mini roundabouts, narrowing the road and widening the pavements in some areas, removing bus laybys, installing more seating, cameras, smart bus stops, more trees, removal of islands. The proposals have garnered significant public comment and we await the outcome and next stage of proposals. The last time major changes took place was 2004 and included making Fountain Square the way it is today.

The process for getting money for such projects take many years and involves councillors and residents suggesting improvements when developers are granted planning permissions. The monies become available when building works are completed. The councils must ensure the monies are spent as planned.

#### 11. AOB

Sale of items to support the charity's work.

Some people gave money to begin the membership of the new charity Cranleigh heritage trust.

# 12. Questions

Q. why aren't new builds required to add solar panels?

A. Developers declared that the ideas were too expensive. In WBC Local Plan Part 1 2018 the requirements were weak – due to government issues. The current 'rainbow' councillors declared a climate emergency and are trying to be stronger on these issues.

the Govt Code for Sustainable homes comes into effect in 2025, until then developers can install gas boilers. Until 2025 developers have a right to connect to gas mains.

## Questions about the cottage project

Q. re cottage – is the League of Friends helping?

A. yes but not financially, their remit since they created their Objects after the NHS took over is to use fund raised money to buy equipment.

Q. surely if the cottage gained grade II star listed status it would enhance its prospects?

A. this has been looked into and at this stage it could hinder what can be achieved.

Q. can you find mental health services such as MIND?

A. the team is about to start looking for this type of partner. The team is working with Voluntary Action South West Surrey to find partners.

The One Public Estate project is a positive influence – the consultants view the cottage project as a great asset for the village community.

Q. idea - re leisure centre – in Camberley the leisure centre runs sessions by MacMillan prior to cancer treatments.

A. thanks, yes that's the type of service that both the leisure centre and all the hospital is looking at.

Q. are you seeking Patrons and if so would you like help to find one or some?

A. had considered this, yes please.

Q. can you find other grants?

A. most grants would be too small to fulfil the work that the surveys have identified – the top 10 funds are mostly around £10k.

Q. have you tried Your Fund Surrey?

A. we have a pin in the SCC your fund map which needs to be followed up at the right time (for that fund). Please do go online and support.

Q. how do you see the upper floor being used?

A. The floors will be strengthened and made more quiet, so that 'light domestic use' - up to 6 people at a time could go upstairs — no lift can be installed. Any displays and information will also be on a website. Uses to include reading room, careers advice, small groups or one to one use. The main rooms upstairs look out over the High Street and are full of historical character.

Topics for web site, Facebook and twitter updates included Queen's Platinum Jubilee and later commemorating our Queen, proclaiming our King; advertising public consultations by 3 councils, especially High Street investment; reminder to push for medication reviews; Cranleigh Artisan market, run by Surrey Hills enterprises for businesses and others; Thames water meeting and update; Napper cottage updates; Knowle Lane developer's ideas; Cranleigh's rivers and streams health news; Patient Participation Group; Trees; Lions Carnival; Congratulating Councillor Elizabeth Townsend on receiving a BEM for services to Cranleigh – enabling the Street Champions during lockdown; February Flood forum; Dunsfold aerodrome news; Cranleigh Leisure centre updates;

This illustration is part of the WellNorth Enterprises project – One Public Estate and indicates areas of focus in the community.

