1. <u>Dr. Fred Meynen, Steward at the Leatherhead Methodist Church will speak a few</u> words of welcome first

- 2. Why we are here: Welcome to everyone and I do hope it was not too difficult to find somewhere to park and that the extra walk was not too strenuous. The reason we are not in the ADH (which I much regret) is that our numbers have been growing and G6 is now far too small. 35 was the permissible number there and we were averaging about 45. When I went in to book, I found that another hirer, a commercial one who could be asked to pay a lot more than us, had booked almost every Monday in the year just a few days earlier. I did try to discuss that situation with the new hirer, but they did not wish to talk. I have also had meetings with members of the committees running the Institute and the LCA but we have been unable to change the situation. So, we must just appreciate what we have here which is actually very good!
- 3. <u>Waterworks:</u> You will all be aware of the fact that after our vigourous campaign last year, led by Roy Allen, SES Water were not allowed to build bigger, more elaborate treatment works and thus thoroughly degrade that attractive part of the Mole valley. They did send back what they called a Courtesy Letter but which seemed to us to be rather petulant and slightly threatening. They accused us of preventing their doing something useful something that we would later regret, saying that they had offered to camouflage but that they were now going deal with their problems via re-purposing what they already have and that this comes under Permitted Development and so no objection is possible.
- 4. <u>Highlands Farm:</u> This site is to the south of Ashtead, just above the motorway, and to the east of Leatherhead, south of the motorway and to the east of the A24, the by-pass. At the moment it is all speculation but is being promoted by Countryside and Wates in advance of the Local Plan and housing review. The promoters state some obvious advantages for both sides: its projected 900 homes would solve MV's housing target almost in full for two years, it could secure funds for local road improvements and provide economic benefits for Leatherhead. Nevertheless, if you think of Leatherhead as having a population of some 10,000 and 900 homes as sheltering some 8,00 people, it is not hard to see that this development is very large indeed.
- 5. <u>Gatwick:</u> Martyn Williams attended a presentation of their hopes and fears: in spite of their not being chosen for an extra runway, they have still got to plan for more passengers and flights. They now handle 46m passengers a year which is up from 31m some 10 years ago and is achieved by flights being more evenly spread throughout the year and with more destinations. Even using just the existing runway, they think they can get the numbers up to 67m pa. The biggest problem is noise and air pollution, but apparently new planes are quieter and cleaner so the numbers affected could drop from 11,000 to 8,000.
- 6. <u>Claire and James House:</u> Most of you will have received an email from me about this Planning Application and I am delighted to say that by Friday evening 30 letters of Representation (or, in this case, Objection) had been received. We are worried, not only about the aspects brought out in the letters but also regarding the precedent that could be set: i.e. the developer who was refused permission to add a storey to the building to the

right of the Running Horse would, I am told, certainly apply again and I am sure that plenty of other buildings in Leatherhead could head the same way, without even mentioning the ideas for the park.

- 7. <u>Kingston House Gardens:</u> The plans for this site have been amended but it is still 37 homes. One first floor flat at the end of no. 1 Park Rise has been eliminated and some more elaborate brickwork has been introduced but the view from the back windows of most of the houses in Park Rise seems to be untouched.
- 8. Parking review: As I am sure you know, there has been an extensive parking review over the whole of MV, but, as regards Leatherhead, possibly the most noteworthy is the replacing of casual parking on Gimcrack Hill with permit controlled parking only. However, as it stands at the moment only certain flats in Church Street and certain homes in Highlands Road are eligible for these permits and I have already received an anxious note from a resident of Church Walk who must have been using Gimcrack Hill.
- 9. Community Infrastructure Levy: This is a small to medium sized pot of money designed to improve certain aspects of the relevant town or village. It is for infrastructure and general items that need repair or replacement. It has to be applied for and we would be in competition with Ashtead and Fetcham. We did try once before but met too many difficulties. The sum involved is around £35,000 of which £5000 is already earmarked for improving the Waterless Feature, i.e. ramp outside the Post office. We need to think of some smallish tasks and get them approved. Any ideas?
- **10.** Sue's update on the High Street petition. There is to be a Safety Review in January.