



FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 14 June 2017

Minutes of the **Parish Council Meeting** held at Fernhurst Village Hall on
Wednesday 14 June 2017 at 6.30pm

82/17 Councillors Present: Mrs H Bicknell (Chairman), Mr W Black, Mr J. Buchanan, Mr G Inns, Mr A. Moncreiff, Mr J Smith, Mr C Tedd, Mrs M Timms, Mr G Williamson.

83/17 Apologies For Absence: Mrs M. Jenkins, Mr N. Rawlings.

In Attendance: K Jones (Clerk), District Councillor Norma Graves.

84/17 Public Representations: Mr Malcolm Dudman addressed the council in respect of the application by his company, Dudman-Ward Ltd, to take over the running of Post Office facilities in the village. He informed the council that he anticipates signing a contract with the Post Office in the coming weeks. The date for the transfer would be either October 2017 or January 2018.

85/17 Declarations of Interests: None.

86/17 Previous Minutes: The Minutes of the Meeting of the **10 May 2017** were agreed and signed. Proposed: Cllr Moncreiff, seconded: Cllr Timms.

87/17 Matters Arising From The Minutes: Cllr Black raised the issue of the Air Crash Memorial and informed the Council of the progress made by the committee. The committee will be applying to the Council for a grant to support its objectives. South Downs National Park Authority is deciding on Monday 19 June whether to award a grant of money to the organising committee.

88/17 County Councillor Commentary: None.

89/17 District Council Commentary: District Councillor Norma graves updated the meeting on various initiatives promoted by the district council.

90/17 Cemetery Lych-Gate: The clerk informed the meeting that Valley Builders Ltd would be installing the stabilising scaffolding the following day. It had also become apparent that renovation work would require a planning application which would delay the actual works. Cllr Buchanan was not satisfied with the proposed scheme of works and discussions with the consulting engineers were ongoing. An agreed scheme of works was essential before any planning application could be made. **Action: (Cllr Buchanan/Clerk)**

91/17 Office Refurbishment: The Village Hall Committee had agreed a budget of £1,500 to cover decoration, new carpet, new light fittings and blinds for the office. **Action: (Clerk)**

92/17 Tree Audit & Inspection – A tree audit and inspection is required for Van Common. A suitably qualified and insured arborculturalist is to be instructed. **Action: (Clerk)**

93/17 Asset Register – Photographs of council assets are to be added to the asset register to help identify them and their location. **Action: (Clerk)**

94/17 Insurance – The clerk reported that the Council's "All Risks" policy had been renewed on 8 June. Insurance cover for councillors acting in "ex-officio" roles was still required. A proposal had been received from the current insurer but it was decided to consult SSALC Ltd on possible alternatives. **Action: (Clerk)**

95/17 Fernhurst Parish Council 2016/17 Annual Return – The clerk read out to the meeting the Annual Governance Statement which was approved by the Council.

Proposed: Cllr Moncreiff, Seconded Cllr Inns.

The Accounting Statements in the Annual Return were then approved by the Council.

Proposed: Cllr Moncreiff, Seconded Cllr Inns.

96/17 Grant Applications

Grant applications for the 2017/18 financial year had been received from Chichester Home Start, Fernhurst News and Fernhurst Parochial Church Council.

The following grants were approved:

Chichester Home Start - £500: Proposed Cllr Moncreiff, seconded Cllr Timms

Fernhurst Parochial Church Council - £250: Proposed Cllr Buchanan, seconded Cllr Tedd

Fernhurst News - £510: Proposed Cllr Inns, seconded Cllr Timms.

The Council authorised immediate payment of the above grants.

97/17 Village Post Office The Council noted the comments and information from Malcolm Dudman; wished him every success, and would support to the best of its ability the continuation of Post Office facilities in the village.

98/17 Council Notice-Board – The main Notice Board had now been delivered and its size and weight did not lend itself to being located where originally envisaged. Various options were open to the Council and the most suitable was to be decided. **Action: (Cllr Bicknell, Cllr Timms, Clerk)**

99/17 Election of S.D.N.P.A. Parish Member – From the three candidates it was resolved to cast the Council vote in favour of M. Clark. Proposed: Cllr Black, seconded Cllr Buchanan. **Action: (Clerk)**

100/17 Fencing of Village Green – Three quotations had now been received and the council resolved to contract with the preferred bidder; JE Homewood.

101/17 Correspondence & Other Matters:

Councillors' Announcements:

- No Community Facilities Audit had been received in 2017. The Clerk was instructed to enquire of Chichester District Council. **Action: (Clerk)**
- The arrangements for cutting the grass on the village green had ended. A new contractor was required to cut perhaps six times a year.

Clerk's Announcements: None.

102/17 Monthly Executive & Committee Reports

- **May Bank Reconciliations:** were reviewed and agreed.
- **List of Payments and signing of cheques.** Authorisation of list of payments and signing of cheques.
Approval of the above proposed by Cllr Moncreiff, seconded by Cllr Williamson, carried unanimously.
- **Planning Committee:** Minutes of the meeting of the **8 May 2017**. Noted. Received and accepted.

103/17 Update on Local Issues

- **Services and Facilities for Young People:** Funding for the outdoor gymnasium has received poor community support to date. Cllr Moncreiff suggested councillors could help support the proposed fundraising effort on the 30 June.
The Senior Youth Club lacks a leader but the search continues.
The Junior Club has a volunteer leader for a Tuesday evening.
The Purple Bus has stopped attending the village; cause unknown.
- **Fernhurst Village Hall:** No report.
- **Policing:** It was reported that burglaries locally were on the increase.
- **Fernhurst Primary School:** No report.
- **Fernhurst Recreation Ground:** Development plans and fundraising for the new pavilion are being actively progressed.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Date of Next Meeting: 12 July 2017

Chairman Signed:.....

Date:.....