

# **FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at Fernhurst Village Hall  
on Wednesday 11 March 2015 at 6.30 p.m.

**PRESENT Cllrs:** Mr. A. Moncreiff (Chair)  
Mrs. H. Bicknell  
Mrs. M. Timms  
Mr. R. Chapman  
Mr. G. Walls  
Mrs. C. Randall  
Mr. K. Harding  
Mrs. S. Ogilvy

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**  
County Cllr, Mr. M. Brown  
Mr. J. Cottam  
Mr. J. Smith  
Mrs. N. Braithwaite

**INATTENDANCE:**  
Mrs. R. Knifton (Clerk)  
District Cllr, Mrs. N. Graves  
Mrs Judith Turner (Press)

## **19/15 INTERESTS**

None

## **20/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEEETING**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 February 2015 were **AGREED** as being a true record.  
Proposed by Cllr Chapman and seconded by Cllr Timms. **RESOLVED**

## **21/15 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Cllr Timms confirmed that the caterer had been booked for this year's Christmas Event for the second Friday in December. The pavilion has also been booked.

**NOTED** that FPC had been contacted by Shona Turner at CDC with a request for FPC to hold the North West Forum in Fernhurst. The Clerk had attempted to arrange a booking but the Village Hall was booked solidly until mid-May.

**ACTION:** The Clerk to contact Shona Turner and inform her that SDNPA had mentioned that their building could be used for such events.

**NOTED** that FPC have passed on the funfair enquiries to the Recreation Ground Committee.

## **22/15 COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENTARY – Mr. M. Brown.**

County Cllr Brown sent his apologies.

## **23/15 DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMENTARY – Mrs. N. Graves**

District Cllr Norma Graves presented the following report:

**Financial Report** presented at the Council meeting yesterday outlined a balanced budget for the coming year. Front line services are protected from cuts, we have reserves for Emergencies and our Council Tax is the second lowest in Sussex.

**Transit Site:** is to be opened at Easter. It will have 9 short stay pitches with toilet and shower facilities and an office for the Site Manager. It will be managed by WSCC. £630,000 funding for this has come from the Homes & Communities Agency and £620,000 from eight Councils across West Sussex.

In the last 2 years Chichester District had 72 unauthorised encampments so the opening of the site will be most welcome. It gives Police the powers to move the encampments on.

**Recycling Improvements:** At present we have 41% of waste recycled. CDC is working with the County Council and other West Sussex districts to expand the recycling service in April this year. They will be working with Viridor who are the recycling contractor. It will enable residents to recycle more plastics and will include clean pots, margarine tubs, yoghurt pots and vegetable and meat plastic trays.

**Housing:** January figures: No of homeless applications 14

No of households seeking advice 35

No of new applications in January 2015 194

However, in Fernhurst numbers have improved.

In March 2014 Fernhurst had a need for 29 Affordable homes, now the total is 16: 1 Bed from 15 to 9, 2 bed from 8 to 4, 3 bed from 5 to 2 and the same need of 1 4 Bed. 9 of the 16 applicants are in bands A-C, which means they are in priority bands.

**Planning Enforcement:** The team is now fully staffed having employed two new members and all targets are now being met, which is good news.

**Sport in the Community:** 475 young people enjoyed the various sports over half term, with football at Fernhurst now a well-established activity. Further courses are planned for the Easter holidays.

**New Homes Bonus:** New Homes Bonus of £2.6m has been set aside for community use and Parish Allocations have been sent out to all Parish Councils. Applications to be in by July for the September Grants Meeting.

**CDC Grants & Concessions** awarded the Weald & Downland Museum £25,000 towards their £5m Gateway project to improve all their facilities and visitor experience.

**Community Works Project** – this is supported by Chichester in Partnership and part financed by CDC. Chichester College is offering to undertake small construction projects for local communities and organizations. The Project Site Manager is keen to offer what is described as an outstanding service delivered by his students. Projects need to offer 2-3 weeks work. Ideal for freshening up spaces, work, retail or community and this work will help the students to obtain a qualification and subsequently a job.

**Choose Work:** The Chose Work team came to the Fernhurst Centre this Tuesday and they will come on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, giving those in the north of the district opportunities that have been available in Chichester. They are run in partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions. Contact Steve Hill on 01243 534752.

**Chichester Community Safety Partnership** is working across the district to reduce Repeat Victims, Supporting Vulnerable People, Think Family, Safeguarding and Community Tensions. All working to make a stable community.

## **24/15 CORRESPONDENCE & OTHER MATTERS**

- Wallgate – contract. **AGREED** to purchase the soap but defer the contract for 6 months in order to ascertain its need.  
Proposed by Cllr Moncreiff and seconded by Cllr Ogilvy.  
**RESOLVED**
- End of year close down and Internal Audit. **NOTED**

- Royal British Legion Events Brochure. **NOTED**
- Advertising for New Councillors. **NOTED** that the Clerk has created a poster which has been displayed around the Village. She has also sent it to the Fernhurst News which goes to print in the next few days.
- Footpath from Haslemere Road to Old Glebe. **ACTION:** Cllr Moncrieff will check ownership before the Clerk contacts WSCC.  
**NOTED** that the path to the play park is impassable. **ACTION:** The Clerk to contact WSCC to clear.
- Annual Meeting of Electors. **NOTED** that the Annual Parish Meeting is booked for the 28<sup>th</sup> of April.
- Crossfield – **NOTED** that the site visit to Crossfield will be taking place on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> of March. To be an agenda item for the next meeting of Council.
- Request from the Clerk to bring over her SCC pension to WSCC – **AGREED** that the Clerk should bring her pension over from SCC. **NOTED** that this must be advertised again at the next meeting of Council.
- War Memorial – **AGREED** that FPC will apply for the grant in partnership with the War Memorial Trust. Proposed by Cllr Moncrieff and seconded by Cllr Chapman. **RESOLVED**
- Comer Homes – **NOTED**
- Hoppa Shoppa – **NOTED** that the bus will now be coming to Fernhurst. **ACTION:** The Clerk to write to Mike Hydon to thank him.

## **25/15 MONTHLY EXECUTIVE REPORTS/COMMITTEE MATTERS**

### a) Finance and Administration:

- Approval of the bank reconciliation. Proposed by Cllr Chapman and seconded by Cllr Bicknell. **RESOLVED**
- List of payments and signing of cheques. Proposed by Cllr Chapman and seconded by Cllr Bicknell. **RESOLVED**

**NOTED** that an application for a grant for the Fernhurst News has been submitted to FPC. **AGREED** on principal and will form part of the next agenda for approval.

b) Planning Applications Committee, including approval and signing of minutes. The minutes were agreed en mass. Proposed by Cllr Chapman and seconded by Cllr Bicknell. **RESOLVED**

c) Property, Highways & Environment Committee. **Nothing to report.**

d) Fernhurst Recreation Ground. **Nothing to report.**

e) Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group.

**NOTED** that the SG have sent a number of revised documents to the SDNPA. All action is now with them.

**26/15 UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES**

a) Services and facilities for Young People. Cllr Smith sent in the following report:

On updates on services facilities for young people, the senior club on Wednesdays continues with 11/13 young people and a good atmosphere with new faces still coming along. Juniors continue on Tuesdays and last I heard up to 20 children were coming along. Flyers are being printed & circulated in village promoting the youth club activities.

On Fernhurst & Lynchmere Community Action Projects, there is a meeting on 17th March where we will discuss the proposal for a BMX/Skateboarding facility in Fernhurst and I will be report back at April's PC meeting.

Confirmation from Graham Inns some time ago that the Highways department did agree to provide a warning sign to traffic approaching Nappers Wood Play Area which was requested then. This matter is ongoing.

b) Fernhurst Village Hall. **Nothing to report.**

c) Policing. **Nothing to report.**

d) Fernhurst Primary School. **Nothing to report.**

**27/15 QUESTIONTIME FOR PARISHIONERS**

**A couple of questions were raised by Judith Turner:**

- Can FPC please move the Public Representations to the beginning of the meeting?
- The requests for use of the Village Green for a funfair – **NOTED** that Fernhurst used to have one. Further **NOTED** that the applications have been passed to the recreation committee.

Cllr Bicknell requested use of the Village Green for the Revels. Unanimous vote in favour. **AGREED**

Cllr Harding informed FPC that he had attended a presentation at the old King Edward VII hospital site the previous evening, 10<sup>th</sup> of March. He reported that the proposals submitted showed a distinct overcrowding of properties, combined with removal of aesthetic shrubbery to provide limited parking facilities. He informed members that on Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March there will be an 'Open House'. **AGREED** that this should form part of the agenda for the next meeting.

District Cllr Norma Graves confirmed a recent conversation that both herself and the Clerk had received from a Mrs Wilson, resident of Hawksfold Lane East. There had been a number of complaints raised about the increase in dog faeces and careless dog owners not bagging it up. Cllr Graves confirmed that a dog waste bin costs around £500. **ACTION:** To form part of the agenda for the next meeting.

**Meeting Closed 8.18**

Signed.....

Date.....