



FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday 8 March 2023

Minutes of the Meeting of Fernhurst Parish Council held at Fernhurst Village Hall on
Wednesday 8 March 2023 at 7.00pm

Councillors Present: Mrs H Bicknell (Chairman), Mr W Black, Mr J Buchanan, Mr S Flatt, Mr M Giffin, Mrs M Jenkins, Mr C Lloyd, Mr J Smith.

In Attendance: Chichester District Councillor Peter Wilding, K Jones (Clerk).

41/23 Apologies for Absence: Mr G Inns, Mr G Williamson.

42/23 Declarations of Interests: None.

43/23 Public Representations: Ms Brett Burkhart introduced herself to the council as a prospective Conservative Party candidate for the Chichester District Council, Fernhurst Ward.

44/23 Previous Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting of the **8 February 2023** were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Lloyd, seconded, Cllr Flatt.

45/23 Matters Arising From The Minutes Not Covered Below: None.

46/23 County Council Commentary: No report.

47/23 District Council Commentary: Cllr Wilding advised the meeting that Cllr Norma Graves, a long-serving Chichester District councillor, representing Fernhurst, had decided to stand down at the forthcoming May election. The Chichester Local Plan was currently open to consultation until the 17 March. Chichester District Council has adopted a balanced budget for the 2023/2024 financial year.

48/23 Grants: The council had awarded £6,985 in grants to local organisations in the 2022/2023 financial year: Fernhurst Films, £500 – Fernhurst Society Archives, £685 - Fernhurst Recreation Ground Trustees, £5,000 - Fernhurst Revels, £300 – Fernhurst Lunch Club, £500.

49/23 S.106 & CIL Money: The S.106 money was designated to be spent on “Road Safety” issues and no other. There exists a current scheme to engage with a road safety consultant. The new Road Safety policies adopted by West Sussex County Council such as 40mph speed limits on rural roads may require some expenditure by parish councils.

Action: (Cllr Buchanan)

The CIL money available to the council, £4,133, had been allocated to the project to relocate the Fernden Lane bus shelter. **Action: (Clerk)**

50/23 E-Mail & Website Facilities: The clerk has continued to pursue and evaluate potential suppliers. **Action: (Clerk)**

51/23 Fernhurst Club & Fernhurst Youth Club: It was noted that refurbishment had started on the now sold residential portion of the Fernhurst Club building. Cllr Bicknell agreed to attempt to contact the Fernhurst Club Trustees. **Action: (Cllr Bicknell)**
There were no developments to report on the now defunct Fernhurst Youth Club.

52/23 Neighbourhood Plan: No report.

53/23 Coronation of Charles III: No new developments to report.

54/23 Fernhurst Water Drainage Issues: The drains on Hogs Hill/Old Glebe have been cleared by West Sussex County Council. Church Road is to be examined in an attempt to locate the final ditch outlet. **Action: (Clerk)**

55/23 May Elections: 4 April is the final date for nominations to be submitted in Chichester.

56/23 Cemetery Management & Cemetery Mapping Software: This is a two-stage project with the mapping portion arriving later. A current quotation is to be pursued with potential suppliers. **Action: (Clerk)**

57/23 Correspondence & Other Matters:

- **Christmas Party:** Guest list to be reviewed, quotations for catering to be sought.
- **Council Debit Card:** To be applied for. **Action: (Cllr Bicknell)**

58/23 MONTHLY EXECUTIVE REPORTS/COMMITTEE MATTERS

Finance and Administration

- Bank reconciliations for February were approved.
Proposed Cllr Black, seconded, Cllr Lloyd
- List of payments for March were approved.
Proposed Cllr Black, Seconded Cllr Lloyd

Planning Committee

- Chairman's Comments: None to note.

Property, Highways and Environment Committee:

- Cllr Black updated the meeting on outstanding work and projects.
- Cllr Black proposed an increase to £17:50 in the hourly rate paid to the Village Ranger.
So resolved: Proposed, Cllr Black, seconded, Cllr Jenkins.

59/23 UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES

- **Services and Facilities for Young People:** No report to note.
- **Fernhurst Village Hall:** The council understands that Julian Biggs has been appointed the new chairman of trustees.
- **Policing:** No report.

- **Fernhurst Primary School:** Advertisements for teachers have appeared on the School's Facebook site.
- **Fernhurst Recreation Ground:** The café facility is now fully functional and open for business.

Date of Next Meeting: 19 April 2023

Chairman Signed: **Date:**