



FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday 15 January 2025

Minutes of the Meeting of Fernhurst Parish Council held at the Hub on Wednesday 15 January 2025 at 7.00pm

Councillors Present: Mrs H Bicknell (Chair), Mr B Black, Mr C Honeyman Brown, Mr G Inns, Mrs M Jenkins, Mr C Lloyd, Mrs S Heath-Clough

In Attendance: No other representatives or members of the public.

001/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr P Bellet, Mr J Buchanan, Mr S Flatt and Mr G Williamson. The Clerk was absent due to illness.

002/25 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

003/25 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS: None

004/25 PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on **18 December 2024** were presented for approval.

Resolved: To approve the minutes of the meeting on 18 December 2024.

005/25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None

006/25 COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENTARY: None to note

007/25 DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMENTARY: None to note at meeting.

008/25 TO CONSIDER QUOTES FOR TREE WORKS FOLLOWING OCTOBER INSPECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL TREES

A survey of Parish Council owned trees was carried out on 17th October 2024 with a significant amount of tree works being identified as required within a guidance timescale of 3-6 months. Quotes were requested from five tree surgeons but only one quote was received. The works and quote were discussed.

Resolved: To instruct Adam Gibson Treecare Specialist Ltd to carry out the tree works for a cost of £4,950 exc VAT

009/25 TO CONSIDER QUOTES FOR PLAYGROUND WORKS

The annual playground inspection was carried out 20 June 2024 and identified a range of works with a risk based assessment to define whether the works were necessary in the short term, medium term or the issues arising should just be monitored. The Council had also separately looked at replacing other items. Quotes for a range of works were requested from three playground contractors and two quotes were received. The works and quote were discussed.

Resolved: To instruct Sawscapes Play Ltd to carry out the works included in the quote for a cost of £7,596 exc VAT

010/25 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR THE SCATTERING OF ASHES IN THE CEMETERY

This item was deferred.

011/25 REVIEW OF COUNCIL POLICIES & REGULATIONS

This item was deferred.

012/25 CORRESPONDENCE & OTHER MATTERS

Discussion of the January meeting of Chichester District Association of Local Councils was deferred. Mr B Black would attend the CDALC Chairs meeting on behalf of the Chair on 23rd January 2025

013/25 MONTHLY EXECUTIVE REPORTS/COMMITTEE MATTERS

A) Finance and Administration;

It was noted that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council had approved, as bank signatories, a internal transfer of £25K from Parish Council notice deposit to the current bank account. The money would be received into the current account on 27 January 2025.

- Bank Reconciliations approval.

Resolved: to approve the December 2024 bank reconciliation

- To approve the January payment schedule

Resolved: to approve the January 2025 payment schedule

- To receive the interim internal audit report

It was noted that the report on the interim internal audit, which was carried out in November 2024, had been received and circulated to Councillors for review.

- Chairman's comments – New Clerk

B) Planning Committee

The last meeting of the Planning Committee was on Monday 13th January 2025.

- Chairman's comments – None

C) Property, Highways and Environment Committee

The last meeting of the Property, Highways and Environment Committee was on Monday 13th January 2025. The meeting made a recommendation to Council to accept the quote from Adam Gibson Treecare Specialists Ltd to carry out the work on the Parish Council trees. Discussion of the Council policy for the scattering of ashes in the cemetery had been deferred.

- Chairman's comments – update on projects and maintenance programmes was deferred.

014/25 UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES

- a) Services and Facilities for Young People – nothing to report
- b) Fernhurst Village Hall – nothing to report
- c) Policing – nothing to report
- d) Fernhurst Primary School – nothing to report
- e) Fernhurst Recreation Ground – nothing to report

Date of next meeting – 19 February 2025

The meeting ended at 8.10pm

Chairman Signed:

Date: