



FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday 9 November 2022

Minutes of the Meeting of Fernhurst Parish Council held at Fernhurst Village Hall on
Wednesday 9 November 2022 at 7.00pm

Councillors Present: Mrs H Bicknell (Chairman), Mr N Barker, Mr J Buchanan, Mr M Giffin, Mr G Inns, Mrs M Jenkins, Mr J Smith.

In Attendance: K Jones (Clerk)

148/22 Apologies for Absence: Mr W Black, Mr C Lloyd, Mr G Williamson.

149/22 Declarations of Interests: Cllr Smith declared an interest in the grant application from the Fernhurst Village Hall as a trustee of the charity.

150/22 Public Representations: None.

151/22 Previous Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting of the **12 October 2022** were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Buchanan, seconded, Cllr Inns.

152/22 Matters Arising From The Minutes Not Covered Below: None.

153/22 County Council Commentary: None to report.

154/22 District Council Commentary: None to report.

155/22 Councillor Vacancy: The clerk advised that there had been one expression of interest and one written application for the vacancy.

156/22 Financial Regulations & HR Meeting: The revised Financial Regulations had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

Resolved: Fernhurst Parish Council to adopt the **2022 Financial Regulations**.

Proposed: Cllr Buchanan, seconded, Cllr Giffin.

The HR meeting remains to be arranged dependent upon the availability of committee chairmen. **(Action: Clerk)**

157/22 S.106 & CIL Money: Cllr Buchanan is progressing the possible installation of CCTV cameras to cover vehicles at the Fernhurst crossroads. Cllr Barker presented two possible models of additional VAS's; both mains and solar powered. The meeting expressed an opinion that the mains powered were less visually intrusive into the street scene. The signs are available in multiple display options with some regarded as more effective than others. The Vehicle Activated Sign outside of the Fernhurst Club remains inactive despite the council

being advised in February of this year that its repair was being treated as a matter of urgency by West Sussex County Council Highways Dept. **Action: (Cllrs Buchanan & Barker, Clerk)**

158/22 E-Mail & Website Facilities: The clerk has continued to evaluate new website hosting and email facilities. He was requested to add Cllrs. Barker and Giffin to the official council email account. **Action: (Clerk)**

159/22 Fernhurst Club & Fernhurst Youth Club: The council decided to attempt to contact some of the trustees of the charities responsible for both of the above clubs. **Action: (Cllr Bicknell)**

160/22 Grant Applications: The council had received grant applications in respect of the Fernhurst Films in the sum of £500 to aid the upgrading of its film offering.

Resolved: To award a grant of £500 to Fernhurst Films

Proposed: Cllr Jenkins, Seconded, Cllr Giffin

Fernhurst Village Hall had responded to the request for more information to support their grant application for £1,500 to aid the funding of new stage lights. Following discussion and due consideration the council declined to award the grant applied for.

161/22 Neighbourhood Plan: Navigus Planning is to be asked to quote to review the Neighbourhood Plan to identify any possible threats or weaknesses as it currently stands and in the context of the ongoing South Downs National Park Authority Local Plan review. **(Action: Cllr Buchanan)**

162/22 Fernhurst Christmas Tree: The clerk advised that contractors to erect the Christmas Tree and Lights had finally been engaged. The Christmas Tree supplier had been contacted but the prices on their website were “last year’s” and had not yet been updated. **(Action: Clerk)**

163/22 Fernhurst Retail Facilities: The council noted the recent developments at the former newsagents but it remains unclear if the owners intend to operate it as a convenience store or sell the property onwards.

164/22 Correspondence & Other Matters: Cllr Buchanan requested the council’s permission to scan the village green with a metal detector. Any finds would be extracted with the minimum of disturbance and reported to the council.

Resolved: To grant permission to Cllr Buchanan to scan the village green with a metal detector.

Proposed: Cllr Bicknell, seconded, Cllr Giffin.

165/22 MONTHLY EXECUTIVE REPORTS/COMMITTEE MATTERS

Finance and Administration

- Bank reconciliations for October were approved.

Proposed Cllr Jenkins, seconded, Cllr Barker

- List of payments for November were approved.

Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Barker

Planning Committee

- Chairman’s Comments: None.

Property, Highways and Environment Committee:

- In the absence of Cllr Black, Cllr Jenkins updated the meeting on the various project and maintenance initiatives in progress with reference to the Public Toilets, Cemetery and Playground.

166/22 UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES

- **Services and Facilities for Young People:** Cllr Inns reported that Hyde Housing Association had finally agreed to carry out more extensive repairs to the safety surface at the Nappers Wood playground.
- **Fernhurst Village Hall:** It was reported that the Village Hall Trustees are struggling to fill several executive posts on the committee, particularly a chairman.
- **Policing:** No report.
- **Fernhurst Primary School:** No report.
- **Fernhurst Recreation Ground:** The “Opening Dinner” to thank supporters of the rebuilding project had been successfully held. Cllr Bicknell commented on the attractive standard of the dining facilities although not significantly larger than those available previously.

Date of Next Meeting: 14 December 2022

Chairman Signed:

Date: