



FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday 11 October 2023

Minutes of the **Meeting of Fernhurst Parish Council** held at Fernhurst Village Hall on
Wednesday 11 October 2023 at 7.00pm

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

In Attendance: Chichester District Councillor Eleanora Newbery, K Jones (Clerk).

163/23 Apologies For Absence: Mr M Giffin, Ms S Strongman, Mr G Williamson.

164/23 Declarations of Interests: None.

165/23 Public Representations: A resident at Copyhold Lane has written to the council requesting the installation of a Grit Bin at the exit of the road onto the A286 Haslemere Road. After discussion the council agreed to the request. **Action: (Clerk)**

166/23 Previous Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting of the **13 September 2023** were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Jenkins, seconded, Cllr Inns.

167/23 Matters Arising From The Minutes Not Covered Below: None.

168/23 County Council Commentary: None.

169/23 District Council Commentary: Chichester District Councillor Eleanora Newbery had provided a written report on CDC activity at the District level on a range of issues. In the Parish the complainants of speeding traffic in Vann Road showed no appetite for a Community Speedwatch Group despite the offer of parish council support.

170/23 Review of Council Standing Orders: The review being incomplete the matter was deferred. **Action: (Clerk)**

171/23 Review of External Auditors Report: The External Auditors Report had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. The non-compliance points were noted and related mainly to the council's website issues.

172/23 S.106 & CIL Money: The Council's CIL Reserve has been completely spent on the Ferden Lane Bus Shelter project. has been completed in a very satisfactory manner. No change was reported in the plans on Road Safety items. **Action: (Cllrs Buchanan, Lloyd & Giffin)**

173/23 E-Mail & Website Facilities: Official e-mail addresses to be created for Cllrs Strongman and Williamson. The clerk was instructed to produce an updated Councillor Contact list. **Action: (Clerk)**
Website review is ongoing. **Action: (Clerk)**

174/23 Fernhurst Club & Fernhurst Youth Club: Cllr Jenkins reported that Mr David Lawes, one of three trustees, was taking the lead in conduct of the affairs of the charity. Cllr Bicknell advised that the trustees of the Fernhurst Club were hoping to be open to members by Easter.

175/23 Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Buchanan advised that after due consideration he did not think the current Neighbourhood Plan warranted the time, effort and expense of amendment. Cllr Buchanan agreed to draft and circulate a response to the SDNPA request on Public Open Spaces, deadline, 20 October. **Action: (Cllr Buchanan)**

176/23 Christmas Arrangements: Cllr Buchanan is to organise the Choral singers via Penny Sydenham. **Action: (Cllr Buchanan)**

A licence for the Christmas Lights is to be obtained from CDC. **Action: (Clerk)**

Rev. Nick Haigh to be contacted.

Guest List to be reviewed. **(Action: Cllrs Bicknell, Buchanan & Jenkins)**

Christmas tree: Cllr Giffin offered to source a suitable tree. **Action: (Cllr Giffin)**

177/23 Grant Applications: A preliminary approach had been received from Fernhurst Pre-School to whom a Grant Application Form had been forwarded.

A Grant Application had been received from the Fernhurst Hub. Cllr Jenkins agreed to contact Liz Rawlings to discuss the application. **Action: (Cllr Jenkins)**

178/23 Bank Deposit Accounts: A new Bank Deposit Account with NatWest Bank, paying a higher rate of interest, is to be opened. **Action: (Clerk)**

179/23 Public Toilets Water Meter: Castle Water continue to fail to provide information about the location of this meter despite constant prompting. The bills against the alleged meter are suspiciously high and are disputed. The clerk will continue to pursue. Cllr Black suggested contacting A Ball plumbers who had carried out work at the site: they may know. **Action: (Clerk)**

180/23 Clerk's Salary: Negotiations between the Local Government Association and three unions representing local government staff on the 2023/2024 pay settlement remain unresolved. The LGA offer was made in February 2023 and remains to be accepted. The clerk requested this pay offer be implemented in respect of his salary with immediate effect.

Resolved: To implement the Local Government Association 2023/2024 pay offer in respect of the clerk's salary with immediate effect.

Proposed: Cllr Buchanan, seconded, Cllr Flatt

181/23 Bus Shelter – Kingsley Green: The option of a bespoke wood shelter is being progressed. **Action: (Cllr Jenkins & Clerk)**

182/23 Correspondence & Other Matters: The Post Office was reported as organising an opening of its new extension.

183/23 MONTHLY EXECUTIVE REPORTS/COMMITTEE MATTERS

Finance and Administration

- Bank reconciliations for September & October were approved.
Proposed Cllr Black seconded, Cllr Buchanan
- List of payments for September were approved.
Proposed Cllr Buchanan, Seconded Cllr Lloyd

Planning Committee

- Chairman’s Comments: None to note.

Property, Highways and Environment Committee:

- Chairman’s Comments: Cllr Jenkins proposed the acceptance of the quotation from Haven Memorials for memorial restoration work in the Fernhurst Cemetery.

Resolved: To accept the Haven Memorials Quotation For Restoration Work in the Fernhurst Cemetery.

Proposed: Cllr Jenkins, Seconded: Cllr Black

184/23 UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES

- **Services and Facilities for Young People:** No report to note.
- **Fernhurst Village Hall:** No report to note.
- **Policing:** No report.
- **Fernhurst Primary School:** No report to note.
- **Fernhurst Recreation Ground:** None to note.

Date of Next Meeting: 8 November 2023

Chairman Signed:

Date: