



FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday 11 October 2017

Minutes of the **Parish Council Meeting** held at Fernhurst Village Hall on
Wednesday 11 October 2017 at 6.30pm

145/17 Councillors Present: Mrs H Bicknell (Chairman), Mr W Black, Mr J. Buchanan, Mr G Inns, Mrs M. Jenkins, Mr A. Moncreiff, Mr J Smith, Mr C Tedd, Mr G Williamson.

146/17 Apologies For Absence: Mr N. Rawlings, Mrs M Timms.

In Attendance: K Jones (Clerk), County Councillor David Bradford, District Councillor Philippa Hardwick .

147/17 Public Representations: Mr Peter Hudson addressed the council in respect of financial support for parishioners' children participating in local "football in the Community" projects. The clerk was instructed to forward a grant application form to Mr Hudson.

Action: (Clerk)

148/17 Declarations of Interests: None.

149/17 Previous Minutes: The Minutes of the Meeting of the **13 September 2017** were agreed and signed. Proposed: Cllr Inns, seconded: Cllr Jenkins.

150/17 Matters Arising From The Minutes: Grit Bins – the five grit bins ordered had been delivered, installed and filled with grit/salt. **Post Office:** the council understands the transfer date to Dudman-Ward Ltd has been set for 1 February 2018. **Cycle Rack** – It was resolved for the Council to purchase a cycle-rack, with a 6 cycle capacity, for installation in Cross Field, at a cost of £140. Proposed: Cllr Moncreiff, seconded: Cllr Buchanan. **Action (Cllr Bicknell)**

151/17 County Councillor Commentary: Cllr Bradford informed the meeting that highway issues, particularly potential safety improvements on the A285, were taking most of his time. Any improvement to ease traffic flows on the A27 will be further delayed.

152/17 District Council Commentary: District councillor Philippa Hardwick updated the meeting of developments at Chichester District Council. These covered cycle maintenance and internet use courses. The internet course could be repeated at the Fernhurst Centre. The District Council is hoping to have the Chichester Local Plan adopted by the end of 2019. The lack of any agreement on improvements to the A27 was proving a major handicap, particularly in identifying land for housing development. The District Council was promoting "Your Energy Sussex" to provide lower cost energy to Sussex residents.

A campaign against fly-tipping, thoughtless littering and dog-fouling is being undertaken on a "no-cost" basis using enforcement officers from East Hampshire District Council. Planning enforcement officers were currently investigating possible breaches of planning conditions on land at Lower Lodge Farm.

153/17 Cemetery Lych-Gate: The draft, “all-wood” stabilisation scheme submitted by Hockley & Dawson was approved by the council. The clerk was instructed to request Hockley & Dawson to provide drawings to enable a planning application to be made and quotations for the work sought. **Action: (Clerk)**

154/17 Office Refurbishment: Further progress had been delayed by the inability to install the large filing cupboards. Smaller cupboards will have to be ordered. **Action: (Clerk)**

155/17 White House Wall - Planning Application 17/02188 – The council’s representations of the 5 September have been posted to the SDNPA web-site by the clerk. These representations were not included in the agenda for the Chichester District Council meeting of the 11 October where the matter was to be decided. The Clerk had attended this meeting to make these representations but they had been included in a later addendum. *Subsequent to the meeting the council was informed the planning application had been approved against the council’s wishes.*

156/17 Tree Audit & Inspection – A tree audit and inspection still required. **Action: (Clerk)**

157/17 Approval and Adoption of Updated Financial Regulations. These were approved subject to the review and update of the risk assessment policy. Proposed Cllr Moncreiff, seconded: Cllr Inns. **Action: (Cllr Moncreiff / Clerk)**
The council was advised that variable direct debits are allowed subject to the approval of their payment in advance.

158/17 Insurance – Insurance cover for councillors acting in “ex-officio” roles was still required. A proposal had been received from the current insurer but it was decided to consult SSALC Ltd on possible alternatives. **Action: (Clerk)**

159/17 Council Notice-Board – The village-map was still awaited. The village handyman had provided a quotation for providing hard-standing in front of the notice-board which was considered expensive; competitive quotations to be sought. **Action: (Clerk)**

160/17 Fencing of Village Green – The application for a New Homes Bonus payment for 2017/18 has been approved. The contractor may now be given the go-ahead on the fencing. **Action: (Cllr Timms)**

161/17 Public Toilets – Cllr Bicknell advised she had met a specialist contractor at a recent training seminar who was willing to give initial advice on refurbishment. An appointment will be arranged. **Action: (Cllr Bicknell)**

162/17 Correspondence & Other Matters:

Councillors’ Announcements:

- **Air Crash Memorial Service:** The council was reminded of the service at Fernhurst St Margaret of Antioch on Saturday 4 November at 12 noon.
- **Change of Meeting Start Time:** It was agreed to start Full Council meetings at 6.45pm until further notice.

Clerk’s Announcements:

- **New Homes Bonus 2017/18 –** The agreement from Chichester District Council had to be formally adopted by the Council. Resolved: To accept and sign the New

Homes Bonus 2017/18 agreement submitted by Chichester District Council:
Proposed Cllr Inns, seconded Cllr Smith **Action: (Clerk)**

- The contractor responsible for cemetery maintenance was currently indisposed but expected to be fully recovered in the next 7-10 days.
- Councillors were reminded of the dedicated e-mail facility which they are strongly advised to use. Cllr Tedd will advise on technical issues. **Action: (All)**
- The Council is currently not utilising its internet banking facility. Cllr's Moncreiff and Black are to be added as users. **Action: (Clerk)**
- A wreath for the Remembrance Day Service is to be purchased from the Royal British Legion. **Action: (Clerk)**
- A request for a matching cemetery headstone that did not meet current cemetery regulations was granted. **(Action: Clerk)**

163/17 Monthly Executive & Committee Reports

- **September Bank Reconciliations:** were reviewed and agreed.
- **List of Payments and signing of cheques.** Authorisation of list of payments and signing of cheques.
Approval of the above proposed by Cllr Inns, seconded by Cllr Black, carried unanimously.
- **Planning Committee:** Minutes of the meeting of the **29 August 2017**. Noted. Received and accepted.

164/17 Update on Local Issues

- **Services and Facilities for Young People:** Cllr Inns reported that the Senior Club had a new interim leader with five regularly attending.
- **Fernhurst Village Hall:** No report.
- **Policing:** It was reported that construction and maintenance plant of all types was regularly being targeted by thieves.
- **Fernhurst Primary School:** No Report.
- **Fernhurst Recreation Ground:** It is understood Charles Scott is the new chairman of Fernhurst Recreation Ground Trust following the resignation of Barry Wood.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Date of Next Meeting: 8 November 2017

Chairman Signed:.....

Date:.....