

## **FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Fernhurst Village Hall on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. J. Cottam (Chairman)  
Mrs. H. Bicknell (from 7.15 p.m.)  
Mr. I. Brown  
Mr. R. Chapman  
Mrs. S. Ogilvy  
Mr. J. Self  
Mrs. E. Tyler  
Mrs. M. Timms

### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Mrs. C. Barnes  
Mr. M. Bishop  
Mrs. N. Braithwaite

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. D. Bleach (Clerk & Executive Officer)  
Mrs. H. Caird (District Councillor)  
Mrs. N. Graves (District Councillor) (from 7.35 p.m.)  
3 members of the public  
1 member of the press

## **1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEEETING**

It was proposed by Mrs. Ogilvy and seconded by Mrs. Timms that the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011 be signed as correct. Carried.

## **2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **a) Crossfield**

The Clerk reported that the Highways Manager would ask the County Council Highways Engineering Team to inspect the site and give its views on what could be done to improve the pathways and the likely cost.

### **b) Fernhurst Public Toilets**

Mr. Chapman had reported that some local people had offered to unlock, lock and clean the toilets for £12.00 per day, but it was considered that the overall cost of running the toilets would still be too high for the parish Council to meet, as rates, repairs and maintenance, electricity and water would bring the total annual cost to around £8,000 per annum. Chichester District Council is still discussing the matter with the South Downs national park to ascertain whether it would make any contribution towards the cost.

2.

**c) Allotments**

Nothing to report.

**d) Parish Boundary Review**

The request for a boundary review had been sent to Chichester District Council but they would not be in a position to consider it until after the elections in May.

**e) Snack Wagon/Youth Facilities**

The facility would start date of 28<sup>th</sup> April. More volunteers are needed to run the project.

**f) Play Area – Fernhurst Recreation Ground – Cricket balls**

A revised quotation in the sum of £5,342 had been received for the erection of safety fencing around the play area and a quotation in the sum of £82.00 for a warning sign to be placed on the gate. It was proposed by Mr. Self and seconded by Mr. Brown that both the fencing, subject to obtaining planning permission, and the sign be obtained. Carried. The Clerk would also obtain a further quotation for the fencing.

It was agreed that the Braithwaite partnership be asked to prepare a planning application.

**3. COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENTARY**

In the absence of Mr. Brown, there was no report.

**4. DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMENTARY**

**Mrs. Caird** reported that there had been a cross-border meeting, involving officers from East Hampshire District Council, Chichester District Council, Waverley Borough Council, Surrey County Council, the Police and Fly Tipping Officers to discuss anti-social behaviour in the area. They will share information on incidents in all those areas, including the theft of lead, etc..

Fly tipping in the Chichester area had escalated.

The District Council's Corporate Plan is being revised, including the housing allocation strategy which will be amended to make local connection one of the main criteria and a change that tenancies will not be lifetime ones. Downsizing by those in accommodation that is too large for their needs will be encouraged. Clean Neighbourhood work has been given a higher priority to discourage fly tipping and graffiti.

The LDF Core Strategy from Waverley has been passed to Chichester District Council for review. Chichester is concerned to ensure that Waverley's assessment of housing needs will not put pressure on CDC's housing.

Football in the Community will be running again this coming weekend, run by Brighton and Hove F.C. Also, football training is to be run at the recreation ground each Saturday, starting soon.

The Syngenta design brief is still under discussion between the South Downs national park Authority and the District Council. It will be put out to public consultation in due course.

The King Edward VII site planning application will go before the Development Control Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> April. Planning officers are recommending refusal of the application.

**Mrs. Graves** reported that the District Council is keeping a watchful eye on the effects on services due to the budget cuts.

Unemployment in West Sussex is 2.5%.

423 affordable homes had been achieved in the District and homeless housing applications in February were 23. Over 4,000 people in total are on the housing register.

## 5. CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER MATTERS

From	Subject
Mr. P. Hudson	Saturday Football Club. <b>Noted.</b>
Clerk	Annual Parish Meeting – 10 <sup>th</sup> May. <b>Noted.</b>
South East Water	Possible water leak – cemetery. <b>Noted.</b>
WSCC	Bereavement Guide 2011. <b>Noted.</b>
Chichester District Council	Glass Recycling Banks. <b>Noted.</b>
Mr. J. Cottam	SDNP Planning Seminar – 10th March. <b>Noted.</b>
Mr. J. Cottam	Housing Needs Forum. <b>Noted. Mr. Cottam commented that the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan needs to be prepared before the District Council's Core Strategy.</b>
Mr. D. Wells	Metal Detecting 'find'. <b>Noted.</b>
Fernhurst Rec. Ground Trust	Minutes of meeting held on 13 <sup>th</sup> March. <b>Noted.</b>
WSCC	Community Libraries. <b>Noted.</b>
Mrs. J. Turner	Broken fence at The Green. <b>This had been repaired.</b>
Clerk	Neighbourhood Plan. <b>Noted.</b>
Action in Rural Sussex	West Sussex Community Action Pilots: Evaluation. <b>The Parish Council is unaware of the Community Action Pilots.</b>
WSCC	Public Rights of Way Service. <b>Noted.</b>
Chichester District Council	Result of Parish Council Election. <b>Those candidates that had stood for election had been returned unopposed. This will leave the</b>

4.

**Parish Council one Member short, so there will be a need to co-opt another person to serve on the Council.**

WSSC	Public Rights of Way Routine Maintenance. <b>Noted.</b>
WSSC	Review of Mobile Library Service. <b>Noted.</b>
Carers Support Service	Change of Address. <b>Noted.</b>
Journal of Local Planning	Budget Special Edition. <b>Noted.</b>

#### **Items Available for Reading**

WSSC	Forward Plan of Key Decisions.
South Downs Joint Committee	20 Years of Achievement & 2009/10 Annual Review.
Open Spaces Society	Spring newsletter.
Sussex Area Ramblers Assoc.	April newsletter.
Cowdray Estate	Newsletter – March 2011.
Sussex Police	District Commander's message.
SALC	Spring Bulletin.

#### **6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

#### **7. MONTHLY EXECUTIVE REPORTS/COMMITTEE MATTERS**

##### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

##### **a) Payments**

(Mrs. Bicknell declared a personal interest in this item.)

It was proposed by Mr. Chapman and seconded by Mr. Brown that the list of payments and cheques shown at Annex 'A' be approved and signed and also a revised standing order for the monthly payment for cemetery maintenance, in the sum of £570.00 per month. Carried.

##### **Receipts**

See schedule attached at Annex 'A'.

##### **c) Bank Reconciliation**

The Clerk presented a bank reconciliation report, attached at Annex 'B', which was accepted.

##### **d) Monthly Budget Report**

The Clerk presented the report, shown at Annex 'C', which was accepted.

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Chapman that the minutes of the meetings held on 28<sup>th</sup> February and 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March 2011 be signed as correct. Carried.

## **PROPERTY, HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

It was agreed that the County Council should be asked to remove the remaining salt bags that had been left around the parish during the winter.

## **FERNHURST RECREATION GROUND**

Nothing to report.

### **8. UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES**

#### **a) Services for young people and the Youth Club**

Nothing to report.

#### **b) Fernhurst Village Hall**

Mr. Taylor is retiring as Chairman, to be replaced by Mr. Self.

#### **c) Policing**

Mr. Cottam reported that the Neighbourhood panel is gradually winding down and will be replaced by a ten minute presentation at the Annual parish Meeting.

#### **d) Fernhurst Primary School and Pre-School**

No date has yet been fixed for the next parents' forum meeting.

### **9. QUESTIONTIME FOR PARISHIONERS**

Mrs. Turner stated that more volunteers are needed to help run the Revels in May.

Mrs. Turner informed the parish Council that there had been a request for junior tennis evenings but that it would result in loss of income to the tennis club. She was advised to apply to the parish Council for funding.

Mrs. Bicknell advised that the Fernhurst Club would be holding a barn dance on the same day as the Revels.

Mrs. Tyler reminded that the planting that had been promised to hide the new gas regulator at Kingsley Green had still not been carried out.

Mr. Brown, who is retiring from the Council, thanked all his fellow Councillors and the Clerk for their camaraderie and wished the Council well for the future.

6.

Mr. Cottam thanked all the retiring Members, who include Mrs. Barnes, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Tyler and Mr. Bishop for all their work and service to the parish and its residents over the many years they have given between them.