

## **FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Fernhurst Village Hall on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. J. Cottam (Chairman)  
Mrs. C. Barnes  
Mrs. H. Bicknell  
Mr. I. Brown  
Mrs. N. Braithwaite  
Mr. R. Chapman  
Mrs. S. Ogilvy  
Mr. J. Self  
Mrs. E. Tyler  
Mrs. M. Timms

### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Mr. M. Bishop  
Mr. M. Brown (County Councillor)

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. D. Bleach (Clerk & Executive Officer)  
Mrs. H. Caird (District Councillor)  
Mrs. N. Graves (District Councillor)  
1 members of the public

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

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

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

### **a) Crossfield**

Nothing to report.

### **b) School Governors**

Mrs. Tyler had attended a meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> February. She has been told that she can only attend one meeting per year and that she is not permitted to speak, so there is little point in attending. The Parents Forum meeting would be more appropriate for a representative of the Parish Council to attend, as they would be able to have some input. Mrs. Tyler would establish the date of the next meeting of that group.

**c) Fernhurst Public Toilets**

It was reported that the mobile library and the skip man were horrified to learn of the closure of the toilets and as a result both had been invited to use those in the Fernhurst Centre. There had been no response to an article in the Fernhurst News, asking for ideas on how the toilets might be maintained for the future. Whilst the Parish Council might be prepared to make a contribution of, say, £2-3,000 per annum towards the running costs, there are no offers from elsewhere to meet the shortfall. The Parish Council is still seeking a solution.

**d) Allotments**

Nothing further to report.

**e) Parish Boundary Review**

The residents of Vann Road having voted against a change in the parish boundary, it was agreed the Parish Council would not pursue that possibility. The Parish Council would now approach the District Council to consider a change in the parish boundary, already agreed in principle by Lynchmere Parish Council, to move the Marley Common area into Lynchmere parish.

**f) Parking at Nappers Wood**

Nothing to report.

**g) Snack Wagon/Youth Facilities**

The project leader had confirmed a start date of 28<sup>th</sup> April and to then run the facility weekly.

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

A quotation in the sum of £3,700 had been received for the erection of safety fencing around the play area, although, on examination, the quotation did not provide for the height of fencing needed. The contractor would be asked to provide a further quotation. Once the cost has been established, an approach would be made to the Recreation Ground Trustees to discuss the funding of the fence.

**3. COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENTARY**

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

**4. DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMENTARY**

**Mrs. Caird** reported that whilst the responsibility for concessionary fares had passed to the County Council, the County would pay the District Council for the issuing of the passes on its behalf.

The District Council Youth Council has been stopped and they are looking for other means of youth engagement.

Agreement has been reached with the South Downs National Park for the funding of the delivery of development control services, but future years are uncertain.

3.

Commercial and Industrial Waste Recycling is to be promoted, at a cost to the users of the service, to reduce the amount going to landfill sites. The service would still be free to schools, hospitals and village halls.

A planning framework document, in relation to the Syngenta site, put together by the District Council and the South Downs National Park, would be put out to formal consultation.

A meeting of the Fernhurst Community Action Team is to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> March, followed on 30<sup>th</sup> March by a visit to problem areas within Fernhurst and Lynchmere.

Mrs. Bicknell asked whether the bottle banks in Crossfield car park are to be retained and was advised that they are.

Mr. Shaw enquired as to the amount the District Council will receive from the South Downs National park for planning services and was advised that the sum had not yet been decided, but would be soon.

**Mrs. Graves** reported that plans for the new Midhurst Community and Leisure Centre had been announced, to replace the Grange Centre. Some activities on the site would be run by the Westgate Leisure Centre.

In connection with Industrial and Commercial Waste, mentioned above by Mrs. Caird, Mrs. Graves added that it is hoped that in the future some of it would be used as land conditioner and for heat production.

Football in the Community is to be run again at Fernhurst on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> April.

Mr. Brown expressed concern that the District Council used its funds for running events such as triathlons and was informed that such schemes are cost-neutral due to entrance fees and volunteer help to run the events.

## 5. CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER MATTERS

<b>From</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Chichester District Council	Election nomination papers. <b>Noted.</b>
Clerk	Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 p.m. <b>Noted.</b>
Mr. J. Cottam	Recreation Ground matters. <b>Mr. Self to speak to Mr. Howe about the drainage problems near the recreation ground.</b>
Sussex Police	District Commander's message. <b>Noted.</b>
Chichester District Council	Local Housing Requirements Study – Presentation for Town and Parish Councils – Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March at 12 noon. <b>Mr. Cottam and Mrs. Braithwaite attending.</b>
Neighbourhood Watch	Criminal damage at Fernhurst – 20th February. <b>Noted.</b>
SDNP Authority	Planning Seminar – Chichester – 10 <sup>th</sup> March – 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. <b>Mrs. Braithwaite and Mr. Chapman had attended.</b>

4.

SDNP Authority	Minutes of Local Councils Engagement Meeting held on 16 <sup>th</sup> February. <b>To Mr. Cottam.</b>
Clerk	Royal Wedding Mugs. <b>The Clerk advised that Royal Wedding Commemorative mugs for primary school and pre-school children had been received.</b>
WSCC	Public Rights of Way Service. <b>Noted.</b>
NHS	Service Redesign for Quality in West Sussex – Consultation. <b>To Mrs. Tyler.</b>
Darren Wells	Metal Detection ‘find’ on Van Common. <b>Noted.</b>
Iain Brown	Kingsley Green Society – winding up? <b>Noted.</b>
Dept. Communities & L. G.	Consultation on publication of data. <b>It was agreed that a response prepared by the Chairman and Clerk should be sent.</b>
SALC	Decentralisation and Localism Bill – Seminar – Henfield – Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March. <b>Mr. Cottam, Mr. Self and the Clerk to attend.</b>
WSCC	Transport Plan – 2011 – 2026. <b>Noted.</b>
WSCC	Concessionary fares. <b>Noted.</b>
<b>Items Available for Reading</b>	
WSCC	Forward Plan of Key Decisions.
Chichester Rural Housing Part.	Newsletter.
‘Clerks and Councils Direct’	March issue.
NALC	Local Council Review – Spring 2011.
Chichester District Council	Presentation slides from Community Forum Meeting held on 2 <sup>nd</sup> March.
Ramblers Association	‘Now Open’ – March 2011.
Journal of Local Planning	Spring 2011 issue.
Chichester District Council	Media Release – ‘Zero Tolerance on Dog Mess’.
Chichester District Council	Local Development Framework – News Update – February 2011.
Action in Rural Sussex	Newsletter – March 2011.
SLCC	‘The Clerk’ – March 2011 issue.
Chichester District Council	Media Release – Car Parking machines Arrive in Rural Car Parks.
Chichester District Council	Media Release – Plans revealed for new community and leisure centre at Midhurst.

5.

**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 Mrs. Barnes that the list of payments and cheques shown at Annex 'A' be approved and signed. 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. Chapman and seconded by Mrs. Braithwaite that the minutes of the meetings held on 31<sup>st</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February 2011 be signed as correct. Carried.

Mr. Self reported that he had attended the presentation on the proposals for the King Edward VII site. The developer wants to get the application in to the District Council before 1<sup>st</sup> April, in the hope that the South Downs national Park would allow the District Council to deal with it. The project is likely to take some 7 to 10 years. This site, together with the Syngenta site would create around 700 new housing units in the area.

**PROPERTY, HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Self reported that potholes in Church Road had been repaired.

**FERNHURST RECREATION GROUND**

Nothing to report.

**8. UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES**

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

No interest had been shown in the Parish Council's offer to pay the joining fees for young people wanting to join Fernhurst Club.

**b) Fernhurst Village Hall**

Nothing to report.

**c) Policing**

Nothing to report.

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

Mrs. Tyler had attended a Pre-School Forum Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March. The next meeting will be in June.

**9. QUESTIONTIME FOR PARISHIONERS**

Mr. Brown commented that he thought that the boundary changes for Marley Common and Vann Road were linked and that one would not go ahead without the other, but was advised that was not the case.

Mr. Morgan asked, in view of the problem of cricket balls landing in the play area, whether the cricket club has insurance. Mr. Self replied that the Cricket Club, the Recreation Ground and the Parish Council all have insurance.

Mr. Shaw stated that whilst Marley Common residents had found the outcome of the January Parish Council meeting disappointing, the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Mrs. Moore, had visited St. Magnus and was fairly happy with what she had found and some arrangements had been made with them to inform residents of future incidents.

Mr. Morgan added that whilst the unit had been created with the knowledge of the Care Quality Commission, no other public bodies were informed. It had been hoped that the CQC would have its terms of reference reviewed, but this had been refused.

Mr. Cottam commented that the Parish Council's report into the matter had not been finalised nor received the approval of St. Magnus. The Parish Council had therefore been advised that it should not publish the report and that it could be sued if it did so.

Mr. Shaw suggested that the report could be released to the local Member of Parliament under Parliamentary Privilege rules. This would be looked into.

Finally, Mr. Shaw thanked the Parish Council for the grant it makes each year to help maintain the part of the common that is in Fernhurst parish.