

1.

FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at Fernhurst Village Hall on Wednesday 11th
July 2012 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. J. Cottam (Chairman)
Mrs. H. Bicknell
Mr. K. Harding
Mrs. S. Ogilvy
Mrs. H. Pezier
Mr. J. Smith
Mrs. M. Timms
Mr. G. Walls

APLOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Mrs. N. Braithwaite
Mr. R. Chapman
Mr. M. Brown (County Councillor)
Mrs. H. Caird (District Councillor)
Mrs. N. Graves (District Councillor)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. D. Bleach (Clerk & Executive Officer)
1 member of the public

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEEETING

It was proposed by Mrs. Bicknell and seconded by Mrs. Timms that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th June 2012 be signed as correct. Carried.

2. VACANCY ON COUNCIL

Following an expression of interest by Mr. Andrew Moncreiff to be co-opted on to the Parish Council, he had been invited to attend the meeting to explain his interest in so doing.

Mr. Moncreiff advised that he had previously been a Member of the Parish Council and the District Council but had given up both roles due to his work at that time. He felt that since then he had become detached from what was going on in the parish and wanted to re-engage with village life. He is a Trustee of the Recreation Ground and the tennis courts and has experience in both planning and financial matters.

Asked by Mrs. Ogilvy whether he had any issues he would like to see addressed, Mr. Moncreiff replied that he considered that with the other improvements being carried out in the recreation ground, there was a great need to build a new pavilion, which would be enormously expensive. The present pavilion is not up to standard which precludes the recreation ground from getting grants from the Football Association. It would cost probably around £0.5m to build a new pavilion and lottery grants were increasingly difficult to obtain.

2.

Mr. Harding suggested that it may be possible to build a new pavilion that incorporated new premises for the Youth Club, whereupon the present Youth Club site could be sold to raise funds for the pavilion. Mr. Moncreiff replied that he would suggest the idea to the Recreation Ground Trustees.

Mr. Moncreiff then left the meeting so that Members could decide whether or not he should be co-opted on to the Council.

It was proposed by Mr. Walls and seconded by Mrs. Ogilvy that Mr. Moncreiff be co-opted as a Parish Councillor. Carried.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Fernhurst Public Toilets

No further progress. It was agreed that the Clerk should try to negotiate with the District Council with a view to bringing the toilets back into use and also with a view to taking over the grass cutting at Crossfield. Mrs. Caird (District Councillor) to be involved in these matters.

b) Allotments

Mr. Harding reported that there are now 25 people who would like an allotment plot.

c) Play Area – Fernhurst Recreation Ground – Cricket balls

Awaiting a decision on a planning application for the approval of materials to be used for the safety fencing at the play area.

d) The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Mrs. Ogilvy said that they need to contact the school to arrange a suitable day and time for planting the tree and a decision needs to be made as to where it will be sited, as it will become quite large over the years. Mr. Chapman to be involved in the decision. The tree would cost between £60 and £150, depending on the size.

A firm in Haslemere could produce a commemorative plaque for £65.00 in laminated plastic or a slate one could be obtained for around £75.00. Mrs. Ogilvy would contact Mr. Andrew Lawes regarding the building of a suitable plinth on which to mount the plaque.

e) Neighbourhood Plan

Mr. Cottam reported that the questionnaire had been printed and was being delivered around the parish by the Fernhurst News delivery team. There had been a good response so far, with around 50 having been returned. The forms can be completed and submitted on-line.

Mr. Hudson would analyse the Social Cohesion questionnaires and the Youth Issues questionnaires will be analysed by Mr. Smith.

The analysis of the main questionnaires would take place at mid to end of August, followed by another public meeting in early September.

3.

The draft Neighbourhood Plan would then go to the South Downs national Park Authority and then to an independent examiner, with a referendum in the Spring.

Mr. Bowden of Navigus Planning had written to Comer Homes and Savills asking them to respond to what they had heard at our Syngenta group meetings.

Mr. Cottam and Mr. Self had met with Mr. John Forsyth to discuss the future of the Hurstfold Industrial Estate and are awaiting his proposals.

f) Local Bus Services

It had been reported that the local bus service had been saved but that the timetable is to be reviewed.

g) Broadband

The Clerk had spoken again with a representative of BT Openreach who was still confident that he can achieve broadband for Fernhurst. Awaiting a timetable of works from BT Openreach.

h) The Future of The Revels

Mrs. Ogilvy reported that the sub committee had met with Mr. John Turner. Whilst it was pointed out that many people had enjoyed this year's event, Mr. Turner said that The Revels does raise a lot of money for local organisations.

It is now suggested that on a trial basis that an 'intimate' village party should be held with the best parts of The Revels, at a reduced level, incorporated into a similar event next year. There would be no commercial traders at the event. They would like the Parish Council to again sponsor a jazz band and for the event to be run under the umbrella of the Parish Council and thus be covered by its insurance. A committee would be set up, chaired. By Mrs. Bicknell and which would include some Members of the parish Council and some of the existing Revels committee.

Mr. Cottam commented that the event should as far as possible be self-financing.

Mr. Walls offered to be responsible for the finances and Mrs. Ogilvy would produce the committee minutes.

It was proposed by Mrs. Ogilvy and seconded by Mrs. Bicknell that the new arrangements for running The Revels be approved in principle. Carried.

4. COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENTARY

No report.

5. DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMENTARY

Mrs. Graves' report is attached at Annex 'A'.

6. CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER MATTERS

From	Subject
Chichester District Council	Register of members Interests. Noted.
South Downs National Park	Planning Administration System. Noted.
The Royal British Legion	Poppy Appeal Summer Draw.
Clerk	Annual leave. Mrs. Bicknell to provide cover in the Clerk's absence.
Cmdr. T. K. Evans	Diamond Jubilee Plaque. Noted.
Mr. & Mrs. Parry	Hedge between 'The Willows', Glebe Road and the cemetery. Mrs. Pezier, Mrs. Timms and Mr. Smith to inspect the hedge on Monday 16th July at 3.00 p.m.
Chichester District Council	Council Tax Support – Effects on Parishes –Briefing 23 rd August 3.00 to 5.00 p.m. Mrs. Bicknell to attend.
Chichester District Council	Briefing on Members' Code of Conduct – Wednesday 3 rd October 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon. Chairman and Clerk to attend.
Clerk	Re-adoption on an interim basis of existing code of conduct. Proposed by Mr. Smith and Seconded by Mrs. Pezier that the existing Code of Conduct is re-adopted as an interim measure until a new code has been prepared by the District Council. Carried.
WSCC	Consent to plant on highway. Proposed by Mr. Cottam and seconded by Mrs. Pezier that the Clerk be authorised to sign the agreement on behalf of the Parish Council, subject to insurance. Carried.
The Midhurst Community Part.	Launch of 'Getting Around Midhurst' leaflet. No-one able to attend.
Fernhurst Centre	Fernhurst Calendar 2013. Noted.
WSCC	Broadband. Noted.
Item Available for Reading	
Open Spaces Society	'Open Space' – Summer edition.
'Clerks and Councils Direct'	July 2012 issue.
SLCC	'The Clerk' magazine – July 2012 issue.

7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

8. MONTHLY EXECUTIVE REPORTS/COMMITTEE MATTERS

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

a) Payments

It was proposed by Mr. Walls and seconded by Mrs. Timms that the list of payments and cheques shown at Annex 'B' be approved and signed. Carried. (Mrs. Bicknell declared a personal interest in this item.)

Receipts

See schedule attached at Annex 'B'.

d) Bank Reconciliation

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

e) Monthly Budget Report

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

PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The following planning applications were considered:

SDNP/12/00218/FUL – 4, The Crossways, Vann Road, Fernhurst. Change of use of ground floor premises from shop to office.

It was proposed by Mr. Cottam and seconded by Mrs. Bicknell that the Parish Council recommends approval of the application. Carried.

SDDNP/12/00162/HOUS - Appletrees, Fernden Lane, Fernhurst. Raising ridge height to provide additional first floor accommodation and demolition of existing and construction of new ground floor extension.

It was proposed by Mr. Cottam and seconded by Mr. Smith that the parish Council recommends approval of the application, subject to the window to bedroom 1, on the south-east side, being omitted to avoid overlooking of 'Wheelwrights', Fernden Lane. Carried.

PROPERTY, HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

FERNHURST RECREATION GROUND

Mr. Cottam reported that the planned new cricket nets would cost over £30k.

9. UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES

a) Services for young people and the Youth Club

Mr. Smith reported that in June Mr. Graham Inns had conducted a survey of 20 young people that will feed into the Neighbourhood Plan. A skateboard park was a popular project.

b) Fernhurst Village Hall

Nothing to report.

c) Policing

A number of emails had been circulated regarding rural crime.

d) Fernhurst Primary School and Pre-School

Nothing to report.

10. QUESTIONTIME FOR PARISHIONERS

Mrs. Timms had received a complaint about the position of the Millennium sign which is obscured by trees on Crossfield green. The Clerk would make enquiries of WSCC as to whether it could be re-located in front of the Post Office.