

## **FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council  
held at Fernhurst Village Hall on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>  
March 2013 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. J. Cottam (Chairman)  
Mrs. H. Bicknell (Vice Chairman)  
Mrs. N. Braithwaite  
Mr. R. Chapman  
Mrs. S. Ogilvy  
Mrs. H. Pezier  
Mr. J. Smith

APLOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Mr. K. Harding  
Mr. A. Moncreiff  
Mrs. M. Timms  
Mr. G. Walls

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. D. Bleach (Clerk & Executive Officer)  
Mrs. N. Graves (District Councillor)  
Mr. M. Brown (County Councillor)

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

It was proposed by Mrs. Ogilvy and seconded by Mrs. Mrs. Braithwaite that the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2013 be signed as correct. Carried.

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

#### **a) Fernhurst Public Toilets**

The Clerk reported that Chichester District Council had declined to meet the rates on the toilets.

Mr. Cottam asked whether Members considered that parishioners would be prepared to meet the cost of running the toilets if the Parish Council was to take them on. It was generally considered that they would. The Clerk was asked to explore further the costs and budget implications and to advise the District Council that we are seriously considering taking them on.

#### **b) Allotments**

Nothing to report.

2.

**c) Neighbourhood Plan**

The Chairman reported that the Steering Group had met last week and has approved four or five draft policies for publication on the website. These deal with affordable, market and older persons housing and sites. There are still further policies to be developed.

The SDNPA planners had persuaded WSCC education department to discuss with us the possibility of moving the primary school to the Syngenta site but had been told that it was impractical and would not fit in with its policy on where primary schools are located.

**d) St. Cuthman's School Bus Route**

Item to be removed from future agendas.

**e) Broadband**

Nothing to report.

**f) Fernhurst Millennium Sign**

Nothing further to report.

**g) Code of Conduct**

A revised version of the code is being assessed.

**3. COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENTARY**

Mr. Brown reported that as elections will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May for the new council this would be the last time before the elections that he could attend parish council meetings.

The WSCC budget for 2013/2014 was approved last month with Council Tax being frozen for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running. In real terms, this amounts to a reduction in Council Tax.

The distribution of salt bags next year should be better organised.

Mr. Smith raised the question of the water main replacement in Vann Road which South East Water had originally said would not be until June but has now been brought forward to April/May. Mr. Cottam considered that the job had not been well planned or communicated to the public. A meeting had been held with S. E. Water, WSCC and Clancy Docwra yesterday and some issues had been resolved. 3.

**4. DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMENTARY**

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

## 5. CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER MATTERS

<b>From</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Sussex Heritage Trust	Awards 2013. <b>Noted.</b>
Mrs. H. Caird	Land west of Willards, Vann Road. <b>Noted.</b>
Chichester District Council	Meeting with the parishes – Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2013 6.00 p.m. Chichester. <b>Mr. Cottam and Mr. Smith to attend.</b>
Chichester in Partnership	AGM 25 <sup>th</sup> March, 1.00 p.m. at Chichester. <b>Noted.</b>
South East Water	Road closures for new water main – Vann Road. <b>Noted.</b>

### **Items Available for Reading**

SALC	March newsletter.
'Clerks and Councils Direct'	March 2013 issue.
NALC	Local Council Review – Spring 2013.
Open Spaces Society	'Open Space' – Spring 2013.
SLCC	'The Clerk' magazine – March 2013.

## 6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that Comer Homes have decided to submit a planning application for the Syngenta site. There will be a public exhibition on site and a preliminary presentation to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

The developer of the King Edward VII site has said that he has not got the money to do the scheme. He is now asking SDNPA if they will change the terms of the planning permission so they can build houses before doing the restoration work to the original building.

## 7. MONTHLY EXECUTIVE REPORTS/COMMITTEE MATTERS

### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

#### **a) Payments**

It was proposed by Mr. Chapman and seconded by Mrs. Bicknell that the list of payments and cheques shown at Annex 'B' be approved and signed. Carried

#### **Receipts**

See schedule attached at Annex 'B'.

4.

**b) Bank Reconciliation**

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

**c) Monthly Budget Report**

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

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Mr. Chapman and seconded by Mrs. Bicknell that the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2013 be approved and signed. Carried.

**PROPERTY, HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the committee will be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

**FERNHURST RECREATION GROUND**

There will be a Trustees' meeting soon. Although he is unable to attend, Mr. Cottam will send them his comments on the paper work they have issued. The new football pitch is successful and will be in use next season.

**8. UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES**

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

Mr. Smith reported that there is a shortage of staff but that some people were helping out temporarily.

**b) Fernhurst Village Hall**

Nothing to report.

**c) Policing**

Nothing to report.

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

Mrs. Timms had informed the Clerk that the school has received a level 2 award for its travel plan.

**9. QUESTIONTIME FOR PARISHIONERS**

Mrs. Pezier asked what was happening with the new Code of Conduct and was advised that a revised version had been given to the Clerk who had examined it. A hard copy would be sent to all Members to consider.

Mrs. Turner asked various questions about the budget which were answered.