

# **FERNHURST PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at Fernhurst Village Hall on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> of February at 6.30pm

**PRESENT Cllrs:**

Mrs. H. Bicknell (Chair)  
Mrs. M. Timms (Vice Chair)  
Mr. C. Tedd  
Mr. J. Buchanan  
Mr. G. Inns  
Mr. J. Smith  
Mr. A. Moncrieff

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Mrs. E. Black  
District Cllr, Mrs. N. Graves  
County Cllr, Mr. M. Brown

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

District Cllr, Mrs. P. Hardwick  
Mrs. R. Knifton (Clerk)  
Mrs J. Turner (Press)

**Newly elected:**

Mrs. M. Jenkins & Mr. B. Black

David McFarlane and Catherine Mason  
(SP Broadway: Agents for Comer Homes)

11 members of the public

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## **10/16 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS**

There was a public representation by David McFarlane of SP Broadway and Catherine Mason of Savilles, the Agents for Comer Homes regarding the old Syngenta Site.

They stated that they are aware of the up and coming NP Referendum due on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March and the various drop-in sessions that had been organised by the SG.

It was noted that they had met with the SG and local representatives at a public exhibition on March the 13<sup>th</sup> 2015 where discussions had taken place regarding proposed numbers of units at the Syngenta site. The new proposals have been drafted by a new architect and with greater integration with the village. Water supply, parking at Haslemere train station, traffic and access have been scrutinised. The key comments covered were community facilities, density of housing, design, affordable housing, parking and traffic. A new masterplan has been drafted, headed 'Place Design'.

Cllr Inns asked about the numbers of affordable housing units in the new scheme. Catherine Mason of Savilles explained that the numbers had not yet been set but that when the application is submitted, a viability study will be set highlighting numbers. Noted that FPC's NP had stated 50%.

A discussion took place regarding the SDNPA's stipulation of providing a 'green space'. It was noted that reducing the quantum of housing will provide this and will allow a further space for allotments.

Pedestrian access was highlighted and it was noted that the new proposals will include installing a footpath along the Midhurst Road.

The potential impact on the local school was discussed and that there will have to be a sizable contribution made by WSCC in this regard.

It was also noted that the 400 new homes at the old King Edward the VII site will add a huge stress on local infrastructure in conjunction with the proposed 210 new homes at Syngenta.

It was noted that there will be at least 2 parking spaces allocated per flat with possible additional allocations for the houses. Comer Homes are proposing to run a shuttle bus at peak hours to assist with parking and congestion which is hoped to run for around 20 years. It was further noted that the shuttle bus will also be carrying existing local residents. Comer Homes will maintain a management company to deal with any

associated projects such as this. The Hoppa service was mentioned in relation to those who have difficulty with public transport. It was agreed that this facility will remain to be supported.

A rough timeframe was presented as between 4 to 6 weeks before submission of the plans with a further 16 week timescale in which to undertake the consultation whereby the Environmental Impact Assessment will be presented. Other documents will include a Planning Statement and a Design and Access Statement.

Noted that the proposed new Community Hall will not compete with the Village Hall. The proposed speed limit on the development will be 20mph, ensuring safety of children and other pedestrians.

A concern was raised by the Chairman of Lynchmere Parish Council with regards to the design of the 3 storey town houses being out of keeping with the local environment. These concerns were noted.

The Chairman thanked David McFarlane and Catherine Mason for their representation and for the associated documents supplied to the Council. FPC will await submission of the application.

### **11/16 CO-OPTION OF CLLRS**

There followed a brief representation by Mr Bill Black. He mentioned that he had been a Parish Cllr for another Parish Council. He had also been a member of voluntary groups such as a community Association and the PTA. He is a Chartered Surveyor. He feels strongly about giving something back to the Parish and wishes to take an active role in the community.

A further representation was heard from Mrs Margaret Jenkins. She spoke of how she had lived in the Parish for 30 years and had been the Clerk to FPC from 1976 to 2000. She is due to retire and would like to offer her spare time to the Parish Council.

The Chairman asked members to vote on whether they wished to co-opt.

Mr Black was proposed by Cllr Buchanan and seconded by Cllr Smith.  
**RESOLVED** that Mr Black is co-opted onto the Parish Council.

Mrs Jenkins was proposed by Cllr Inns and seconded by Cllr Moncrieff.  
**RESOLVED** that Mrs Jenkins is co-opted onto the Parish Council.

### **12/16 INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of Pecuniary, non-Pecuniary or Prejudicial interests in relation to any items included on the agenda for this meeting in accordance with **THE LOCALISM ACT 2011** and the **Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012**.

### **13/16 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 19 January 2016 were **AGREED** as being a true record.  
Proposed by Cllr Tedd and seconded by Cllr Inns. **RESOLVED**

### **14/16 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**NOTED** that the Village Hall Caretaker had approached the Clerk as he was interested in applying for the role of Village Handyman.

**ACTION:** Cllr Bicknell to speak with Paul Hind.

**NOTED** that the grant for the War Memorial repairs has now been paid into the correct account.

**NOTED** that the locks of the Public Toilets have been changed.

**NOTED** that external lighting has now been fixed.

**NOTED** that Wettons have presented a quote for the upkeep of the toilets which was much more expensive than Veolia.

**AGREED** that the existing contract will be managed and cleanliness will be monitored.

Cllr Smith raised further concerns that the toilets are still being left open.

**ACTION:** Cllr Smith to monitor.

**ACTION:** The Clerk to draft a contract specification document.

### **15/16 COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENTARY**

An apology was received from County Cllr Michael Brown.

### **16/16 DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMENTARY**

District Cllr Philippa Hardwick reported that herself and fellow District Cllr Norma Graves had met with Comer Homes regarding the proposed redevelopment at the old Syngenta site. A key concern that was raised is that the local schools are already oversubscribed and although Fernhurst Primary now has 7 classes, it still won't suffice.

CDC are holding a meeting on Thursday 11 February to discuss the proposed Ward Boundary changes.

Last month, CDC agreed to outsource their leisure facilities. The Tender had proved better quality and has enabled CDC to make further savings.

**NOTED** that the line painting in the car park had still not been completed by CDC. Cllr Hardwick will investigate further.

### **17/16 CORRESPONDENCE & OTHER MATTERS**

- Clerk vacancy – **NOTED** that there had been in excess of 20 applications for the role. The closing date for applications will be Monday 15 February.
- Toilets – already minuted in 14/16
- Crossfield – Valley Landscapes have been instructed and are due to commence work in March.
- Cllr's announcements – Cllr Tedd informed members of the issues experienced by the Clerk in being unable to access the FPC email. This had been due to the domain provider shutting down access to Fernhurst's emails and other neighbouring Parishes, including Milland. The problem had been caused by the need to direct the domain to a website but as it had been CDC that had set up the email addresses in the first place, no Parish Councils had been contacted. Cllr Tedd has laid the blame at the door of the hosting company and they have finally rectified the problem. Cllr Tedd has also been assisting Milland.

Cllr Buchanan spoke of his intention to follow up on contacting the Dog Warden.

**ACTION:** Cllr Buchanan to deal.

Boundary Review. **ACTION:** The Clerk to resend the email.

- Clerk's announcements – it had been **AGREED** that the Council would be instructing SSALC to assist in the interviewing process when selecting a replacement for the current Clerk. The Clerk stated that as Proper Officer, as there would be a hand over process and due to the current Clerk being responsible for any financial irregularities that may occur for a further 6 years after leaving, she needed to be directly involved in the interview process.

**AGREED**

### **18/16 MONTHLY EXECUTIVE REPORTS/COMMITTEE MATTERS**

A) Finance and Administration;

- Approval of the bank reconciliation. Proposed by Cllr Inns and seconded by Cllr Buchanan.  
**RESOLVED**
- List of payments and signing of cheques. Proposed by Cllr Timms and seconded by Cllr Smith.  
**RESOLVED**

B) Planning Applications Committee, including approval and signing of minutes. Proposed by Cllr Buchanan and seconded by Cllr Timms. **RESOLVED** as being a true record.

C) Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group:

**NOTED** that there had been a meeting the day before, Tuesday 9 February. The polling cards have been sent out for the Referendum which is taking place on Wednesday 2 March.

D) Property Highways and Environment Committee:

**ACTION:** Cllr Smith has liaised with Tristan Parks regarding the procedure with distribution of the salt.

**NOTED** that WSCC provide the salt.

**NOTED** that the water leak from behind the Club was still a mystery and that CDC Car Parks should investigate the matter. Strathmore had claimed the water is coming from a French Drain on the boundary. Cllr Smith has contacted CDC to remind them about their promise to repaint the parking bays.

### **19/16 UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES**

a) Services and Facilities for Young People – Cllr Inns reported further disappointment that the purple bus had been twice and no-one has attended. The bus will come a further two times but if no-one attends, it will relocate to Midhurst.

b) Fernhurst Village Hall – Cllr Smith reported that the new cooker had been repaired.

c) Policing – Nothing to report bar reference to the recent neighbourhood watch email informing of a local burglary in broad daylight.

d) Fernhurst Primary School – Nothing to report.

Meeting Closed at 8.22pm

Signed .....

Date.....