



Fittleworth Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
16th January 2023 at 7.00pm in Sports Pavilion.

Present: Parish Councillors: Jane Claxton (Chair), Mike Allin, David Brittain, Robin Dunstan, Sally Tanner and Chris Welfare.

In attendance: County Councillor: Janet Duncton, District Councillor: Alan Sutton

Also Present: Rachel Gorvin (Clerk).

Members of public: 6

The Chair reminded members of the public of the requirement that they limit their participation to the Public Question section of the meeting.

22-201	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Tony Broughton.
22-202	Minutes of the last meeting The minutes of the meeting held on 21 st November 2022 were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chair. Proposed: Cllr Dunstan, seconded Cllr Houlden and agreed by the meeting.
22-203	Crime - there will no longer be a report from the local PCSO but a monthly all Parish meeting – Cllr Brittain will attend the January meeting. The Clerk has arranged a meeting with PCSO Ford and will raise the criminal damage in Lower Street again.
22-204	County Councillor reports – A report was received prior to the meeting from Cllr Janet Duncton. Cllr Duncton has chased the repair of the Lower Street railings again. WSCC have 28-day target to fix potholes. Councillor Allin reported that cars and lorries are moving into the middle of the road to avoid the potholes at Hallelujah Corner, it's an accident waiting to happen, he wants it recorded that it's so dangerous. Clerk will report it again saying how dangerous it is. Cllr Duncton will ask for a warning sign to be put up. New Speed Policy has been agreed, but we still must apply to have speed limit reduced. Support from a representative County Councillor is required for a successful application, under the terms of the new policy, and as our Local County Councillor, Cllr Duncton said she would support us if we meet the criteria.
22-205	District Councillor reports Cllr Sutton joined the meeting at 19.45. Most time being taken up with local plan review (CDC not SDNP). CDC have avoided a bin strike. Cllr Sutton is the cabinet member for housing; the recent report on a child death has been a trigger for reviewing mould and damp. All HA's have been written to asking how many properties affected and what they are doing about it. Rough sleepers were 37, now down to 2/3. Anyone who doesn't want to be housed has access to shelter and meals in poor weather. New temp housing has reduced use of B&B to absolute minimum. CDC are to sell off some poorer properties and reinvest in better more suitable housing, e.g. for single people. Supporting you program identifying people getting into difficulties, captures them early in the process with an early intervention. Rural levelling up funding information should be coming out. Cllr Allin asked about numbers of Ukrainians in district. CDC have been given funding

	<p>for Ukranian and Afghan refugees, to get more permanent arrangements for them. Refugees are separate from residents and it won't affect anyone currently on the housing list. Funded by Central Govt through WSCC.</p>
22-206	<p>Public questions</p> <p>Question from floor – traffic on The Fleet – couldn't the police put a speed trap there? Cllr Claxton JC advised that the Fittleworth speed watch group have a monitoring spot there and we will have the SID soon. Clerk to speak to PCSO about whether we can have a speed gun there.</p> <p>Chris Linford – Bridleway 677_2 – would the Parish Council assist in adding a missing section of bridleway to the definite map? There is a document available from Ramblers association – 12 people need to claim that they have walked or ridden horse on that path for 20 years. The Clerk to follow up Chris's email to the Stopham Estate. Also need residents who use it now. There was broad agreement from the meeting that the Parish council are supportive of this. Cllr Claxton will put it in the Parish Magazine/Nextdoor/Website asap and ask residents to fill the form in from Ramblers.</p> <p>Aimee Felus gave a brief outline on the Future Proof Playground Project at Fittleworth Primary School, which focuses on Sustainable Drainage Systems. These systems are effective in terms of water management and can help reduce flooding and pollution. Does anyone from the Parish Council want to work with them? Cllr Claxton advised that we have Flood resilience group who would be interested and the Community Hub working group are looking at redevelopment of village hall etc and would like to do something about the tarmac from School Lane to rear of old tennis court to reduce run off into the ditch at rear.</p> <p>Aimee explained that the first phase is at the front of the school. Holly and forsythia will be removed as part of the scheme, in addition it is encroaching onto pavement and pushing kids out into road.</p> <p>Mr Bullock, next door to the recreation ground – leaves fall from the trees alongside his house, so he wants to have the trees lopped. The Trees were reduced in 2020. Cllr Allin explained that if you cut them too hard, they may not survive. MA will visit Mr Bullock to discuss.</p> <p>Mrs Scott – pavement by St Richards terrace – this was reported to WSCC Highways in August 2022 and we have been told that a Contractor has been instructed.</p> <p>Footpath finger post sign at Alley Dick has fallen over.</p> <p>An email from Ines Garcia voicing concerns about extending the Village Hall car park leading to flooding. This will form part of the Community hub project. The aim will be to improve the drainage situation, not aggravate it.</p>
22-207	<p>Declarations by Council Members of personal or prejudicial interest</p> <p>The Chairman reminded councillors that previous declarations still stand (as defined under the Localism Act 2011).</p>
22-208	<p>Parish Clerk Report – A report was circulated prior to the meeting.</p>
22-209	<p>Traffic Calming Projects - The meeting was requested to note progress on traffic calming, current funding and to agree to additional funding of £500 to allow the SID to be installed and moved from 1st February 2022. Proposed by Cllr Scott and seconded by Cllr Tanner and agreed by the meeting.</p>
22-210	<p>Sculpture Poll – The meeting was requested to note the results of the poll and agree to install the sculpture near shop. Proposed by Cllr Scott and seconded by Cllr Dunstan and agreed by the meeting.</p>

22-211	Tree Works – the meeting was requested to agree to carry out works recommended by Cllr Allin which are within the remaining tree work budget. Proposed by Cllr Dunstan and seconded by Cllr Scott and agreed by the meeting.																																																
22-212	Archive Cupboard – the meeting agreed to form a working party to sort out the cupboard. The Clerk will send out some possible dates.																																																
22-213	Review of Standing orders, Financial Regulations and Policies – The Councillors agreed to review the documents circulated by the Clerk, so these can be agreed at the February meeting.																																																
22-214	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) Grants and Donations Policy – the applications for grants were discussed and the following awards agreed. 4sightvision - £100, Air Ambulance KSS - £200, St Marys Church Dormer Window repairs- £200, Fittleworth and Stopham Magazine - £100, Sylvia Beayfoy Centre - £100.</p> <p>b) Financial Reporting – reports for December 2022 were noted.</p> <p>c) On-Line Banking - most January payments were made online and the statement for current account available – NatWest still to add Cllr Claxton as a signatory.</p> <p>d) Payments The list of payments totalling £4181.92 was agreed in accordance with Financial Regulations.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="245 965 1407 1809"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">FPC Current Account</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>01/12/2022</td> <td>CloudyIT</td> <td>Fees Dec</td> <td>70.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>01/01/2023</td> <td>CloudyIT</td> <td>Fees Jan</td> <td>70.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11/01/2023</td> <td>Mike Allin</td> <td>Materials for gate repair</td> <td>15.78</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11/01/2023</td> <td>St Mary's PCC</td> <td>COIF Investments Dividend</td> <td>157.22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20/12/2022</td> <td>The Play Inspections Company</td> <td>Play equipment safety inspection</td> <td>175.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28/11/2022</td> <td>WSCC</td> <td>Payroll Nov 22</td> <td>1,431.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29/12/2022</td> <td>WSCC</td> <td>Payroll Dec 22</td> <td>1,152.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>09/12/2022</td> <td>Grasstex</td> <td>Leaf Clearance</td> <td>652.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28/11/2022</td> <td>Mulberry & Co</td> <td>Interim audit</td> <td>287.22</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: right;">Total Approved for payment</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: right;">16/01/2023</td> <td>4,012.62</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	FPC Current Account				01/12/2022	CloudyIT	Fees Dec	70.20	01/01/2023	CloudyIT	Fees Jan	70.20	11/01/2023	Mike Allin	Materials for gate repair	15.78	11/01/2023	St Mary's PCC	COIF Investments Dividend	157.22	20/12/2022	The Play Inspections Company	Play equipment safety inspection	175.08	28/11/2022	WSCC	Payroll Nov 22	1,431.80	29/12/2022	WSCC	Payroll Dec 22	1,152.92	09/12/2022	Grasstex	Leaf Clearance	652.20	28/11/2022	Mulberry & Co	Interim audit	287.22	Total Approved for payment				16/01/2023			4,012.62
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	Hesworth Common Account		
	Oct/Nov/Dec	Mike Allin	Ranger/Volunteer expenses 54.30
	10/12/2022	Mustard Mowing	Conservation Work 115.00
	Total Approved for payment		
	16/01/2023		169.30
22-215	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) <u>Planning Committee Agenda</u> – the minutes for the planning committee held on 8th December 2022 were received and noted.</p> <p>b) <u>Planning Committee Recommendations</u> Limborne Lane, all design changes agreed by SDNPA. The site is currently flooded. Waltham Park Road Camp site application was included in the Barlavington Whole Estate Plan which SDNPA have endorsed. FPC submitted a representation but had no feedback. Letter of broad support for The Swan Inn Pre-app was agreed by the meeting to be sent to SDNPA by the Clerk on behalf of FPC.</p>		
22-216	<p>Action List</p> <p>The updated action list was circulated prior to the meeting and outstanding items were reviewed.</p>		
22-217	<p>Working Groups</p> <p>a) Community Hub Working Group – Cllr Claxton has received revised plans and the Architect will be looking at the car parking possible solutions. Useful to tie in with Fittleworth School project to see if they can help us. Cllr Claxton will circulate the proposals and set up a Community Hub Working Group meeting</p> <p>b) Communications Working Group – The Clerk reported that only herself and Margaret Welfare remain on the working group and have insufficient resource to do Communications justice. Cllr Claxton will put something in the magazine to see if a volunteer outside of the PC can be found.</p> <p>c) Save The Swan Working Group – Cllr Houlden reported that CDC missed the pre-app deadline by a month and the target date is now 24th Jan to have have looked at it. CAMRA want to do something for Good Beer Guide, meeting next month. Picture room work ongoing, currently believe from available records that 6 or 7 pictures are missed, possibly sold.</p> <p>d) Maintenance Working Group – Cllrs Allin and Broughton have replaced the post and lock at the culvert grille and will carry out minor repairs to the playground. Wizard Windows coming to look at the doors in Pavilion again as still an issue.</p> <p>e) Highways & Traffic Working Group – work to install the SID ongoing. Cllr Tanner reported that the Shop would like to contribute to the gates. Permissions being sought from landowners to install. Information to be sent onto Cllrs Scott and Claxton who are working on a bigger CIL application based around the Serpent trail and traffic calming.</p> <p>f) Hesworth Common Management Committee Cllr Allin reported the Working Day end Dec had 12 volunteers. He is meeting the lead ranger from SDNPA tomorrow. A new application for funding needs to be submitted as the Stewardship Grant has come to an end – likely to be a cost for help with the bid.</p> <p>g) Birchwood Walks Cllr Welfare has been contacted by Birchwalk’s owner who wants some trees reduced/removed. Cllrs Welfare and Allin will arrange to see him.</p>		

	<p>h) Footpaths – Cllr Welfare reported that Alley Dick in poor state. The Clerk to contact relevant bodies to see if can be improved.</p> <p>i) Village Hall & Outside Bodies - Village Hall trustees interested to see the proposal from the architect – Cllr Claxton will circulate plans</p> <p>j) Flood Resilience Working Group</p>
22-218	Sports Pavilion- Electrician coming tomorrow to look at installing spur for Fire Alarm. Wizard windows. Busy over Christmas but suffering now as no football being played due to weather conditions.
22-219	Correspondence – letter from school head about traffic monitoring, Cllr Tanner will raise with the Traffic Group.
22-220	Chair’s Announcements None
22-221	Matters Raised by Councillors – CIL bid. Coronation funding. Attracting new Cllrs.
22-222	Date of next meetings: 20th February 2023

There being no other business the meeting concluded at 21:40

Signed:

Date:

