

Felsham Parish Council

Minutes of the MEETING of FELSHAM PARISH COUNCIL **held on 25th July 2023 in the Village Hall**

Present: Cllr Simon Garrod (Chair), Cllr Ken Sparkes, Cllr Paul Kearney Cllr, Mark Tavenor,

In attendance: SCC Cllr Penny Otton,
MSDC Cllr Nicky Willshire
Isabelle Reece (Clerk & RFO)

Apologies: None

2023/037 Welcome & to receive apologies – Cllr Garrod welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was with great sadness that the meeting was informed of the death of Cllr Jell, after a short illness. His Funeral was scheduled for 4th August: the Parish Council would be represented by a Member of Council or the Parish Clerk.

2023/038 Declarations of Interest & requests for dispensation – Cllr Sparkes for the Felsham Charity

2023/039 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 13th June were considered, approved, and signed by Cllr Garrod as a true record.

2023/040 To receive reports from SCC & MSDC Cllrs

a. SCC Cllr Penny Otton – Cllr Otton's report, previously circulated, was noted and is available on this website. She highlighted the forthcoming Public Libraries Consultation; her Group's concern over the Administration's refusal to discuss national policy on speed limit strategy

b. MSDC Cllr Nicky Willshire – Cllr Willshire's Report, previously circulated, was noted and is available on this website. She highlighted the renewal of the affordable housing strategy for Felsham via Community Led Housing. (Cllr Sparkes had already established contact with the local Community Housing Enabler, Ms Sue Downs.)

2023/041 Public Forum – There were no members of the public in attendance

2023/042 Clerk's report

Official notification of Exempt Status had been received from PKF Littlejohn; contact details for Community Housing Enabler passed to Cllr Sparkes; SAR completed; Registers of Interest complete & linked to PC website

2023/043 Finance & Governance

a. To receive Internal Auditor's Report

This was received and noted

b. To receive the amended Annual Accounts 2022/3

This item was removed, as there had been no error in the original Annual Accounts

c. To review & approve the amended Accounting Statements 2022/23 (AGAR Section2)

This item was removed, as there had been no error in the original Statements

d. Orders requested for payment – Clerk's Salary £434; TGS Grass Cutting £422.40

The above orders for payment were approved

e. To consider any other urgent Finance & Governance Matters

There were no other such matters

2023/044 Planning

a. To consider Applications: DC/23/03009 LISTED BUILDING CONSENT - Great House, Cockfield Road, Felsham, maintenance – **NO COMMENTS/OBJECTIONS**

b. Any Planning Applications since the issue of this Agenda

None had been received

c. To note any decisions received since the issue of this Agenda

None had been received

d. To consider any other planning matters

There were no other such matters

2023/045 Village Maintenance

a. To receive a report from the Tree Officer

There was nothing to report

b. To consider matters reported & updates

Cllr Tavernor noted that TGS had been mowing well as per the new specifications with experimental 'layering' of heights; and reported that he had sown grass suppressing *yellow rattle* seed at the allotments, to favour the establishment of a greater variety of wild flowers

2023/046 Conservation Area

a. To receive a report from the Conservation Office

There was nothing to report

b. To consider any matters reported

Nothing had been reported

2023/047 Footpaths

a. To receive a report from the Footpath Officer

There was nothing to report

b. To consider any matters reported

Cllr Tavernor reported vegetation overgrowth on Footpaths 3 & 4 – Cllr Kearney would walk them and arrange cutting

2023/048 Correspondence - To note correspondence tabled & to consider any action necessary

No further action required

2023/049 Local Housing Needs – update

See Item 2023/040b; also Cllr Sparkes suggested the need to reassess previously identified sites as well as to identify potential new ones in Felsham **ACTION** – a 'Walkaround' planned with Ms Downs

2023/050 Village Sign – update

None was available

2023/051 Matters to be brought to the attention of the council/future agenda items

It had been reported that new batteries were needed for the VAS. **ACTION** – Clerk to contact the relevant parishioners to organize ordering & payment arrangements; Cllr Sparkes reported escalating parking issues at The Orchard; Cllr Tavernor suggested investigating the possibility of 'Quiet Lanes' in the parish **ACTION** – Clerk to circulate information; the Clerk enquired as to the copy deadline of the F & G Village News – Cllr Tavernor informed her that it was 20th of the month; Cllr Kearney expressed concern as to the status of the Council: since the death of Cllr Jell, there are only four Members, which jeopardizes the certainty of a Quorum for every meeting **ACTION** – Notice in F & G News and on website

2023/052 To confirm date of the next Meeting – Tuesday 12th/19th September

The Meeting was closed by Cllr Garrod at 20.39hrs

Signed_____ Chairman Dated_____