

# Felsham Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Simon Garrod Cllr Harry Wragge Cllr David Simpson  
Cllr Hayley Nunn Cllr Mark Tavernor Cllr Ken Sparkes

Mrs. Paula Gladwell (Clerk) County & District Cllr Penny Otton  
7 members of the public

- 2017/2018 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr David Williams - late
- 2017/2019 **Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensation** – None
- 2017/2020 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** – It was proposed by Cllr Garrod that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017 were signed as a true record.
- 2017/2021 **County & District Councillor Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report which had been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2017/2022 **Public Participation** – Concerns were expressed regarding the sale of the post office stores and the possible threat of loss. It was confirmed that a public meeting will be scheduled for February in order to discuss the future of the shop and post office. A request for lighting in the Cockfield Road cul de sac was noted. Concerns were expressed regarding the rapid growth of bamboo plants adjacent to footpath 14, the Footpath Officer will monitor this for encroachment onto the path.
- 2017/2023 **Clerks Report** – It was confirmed that the external painting of Maple Cottage was being dealt with by MSDC Planning Enforcement. It was confirmed that a site visit to assess the viability of a street light adjacent to the pub and church was pending, that the connection for the Upper Green light was scheduled for w/c 15<sup>th</sup> Jan and that the village hall lamp has been reported as burning during the day. The replacement chevron sign on Catta Corner will be chased again.
- 2017/2024 **Provision of a Village Sign** – It was agreed that in order to progress a project to provide a Village Sign a design must be put forward so that costings and funding can be organised. It would be preferable if a working group of interested residents could be established to take this forward or design proposals suggested.
- 2017/2025 **Planning** – It was Resolved to submit the following comments to MSDC for application no. DC/17/06225 Notification of works to trees in a Conservation Area – Fell Christmas Trees in rear garden, 7 Church Road – *"Felsham Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available"* and
- 2017/2026 DC/17/06272 Erection of a porch, 23 Meadow Close – *"Felsham Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available"*
- 2017/2027 There were no MSDC decisions to note.
- 2017/2028 **Finance** – The Finance Report for January 2018 was approved.
- 2017/2029 The following payments were approved. Prop by Cllr Garrod, sec Cllr Wragge with all in favour. Clerks Salary for December.
- 2017/2030 HMRC Q3 payment
- 2017/2031 Grass Cutting £299.80
- 2017/2032 ICO Renewal £35.00
- 2017/2033 Two quotations for printing the Welcome Pack were considered, it was agreed that it would be preferable to use Lavenham Press as the art work for the Parish Plan might then be used for the Welcome Pack. Lavenham Press will be asked to amend their quotation to cover 50 copies on 300gsm.
- 2017/2034 It was agreed that any additional funds over and above the budget reserve needed for printing the Welcome Pack would come from reserves. There were no further amendments proposed to the budget and it was resolved to approve the budget for 2018/2019, Proposed by Cllr Garrod, seconded Cllr Sparkes with all in favour.

- 2017/2035 It was noted that the precept requirement raised by the budget process of £6550 showed a slight increase over the previous year resulting in an additional £1.51 per Band D household for the year. It was resolved to set the precept for 2018/2019 at £6550 and the request forms were duly completed and signed. Proposed Cllr Williams, sec Cllr Wragge with all in favour.
- 2017/2036 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2017/2037 **Village Maintenance** – Tree Officer Report – It was noted that the rails for the trees on Lower Green would be installed soon. It was thought that the response to our request for action on the trees in Meadow Close was purely based on a safety perspective and that any work to reduce the canopy for light reasons would probably not be funded by MSDC. The Tree Officer suggested that permission might be sought for the work if the funding came from the community.
- 2017/2038 It was Resolved to sign the 2017 Charter for Trees, Woods and People, promoted by The Woodland Trust to show support for the project. Proposed by Cllr Tavernor with all in favour.
- 2017/2039 It was noted that the pathway between the shop and church had been cut back to give as much width as possible.
- 2017/2040 **Conservation Area** – Conservation Officer Report – Nothing to report
- 2017/2041 There were no further Conservation matters reported.
- 2017/2042 **Footpaths** – Footpath Officer Report – It was confirmed that FP13 is on the MSDC cutting list and would need to be monitored once the season began.
- 2017/2043 There were no further Footpath matters reported.
- 2017/2044 **Neighbourhood Planning** – Deferred
- 2017/2045 **Community Asset Working Group** – The report and recommendations from the working group were noted. It was agreed that a Public Meeting be held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in the Village Hall, starting at 7.45pm to gauge the community response to the possible closure of the shop and PO.
- 2017/2046 **Matters to be brought to the attention of council** – None

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**