

Felsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th July 2019 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr David Williams (chair) Cllr Ken Sparkes Cllr Hayley Nunn
Cllr Mark Tavernor
Mrs. Paula Gladwell (Clerk) County & District Cllr Penny Otton
0 member of the public

- 2019/2562 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Simon Garrod, Cllr David Simpson
2019/2563 **Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensation** – None
2019/2564 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** – It was proposed by Cllr Williams that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 18th June 2019 were signed as a true record.
2019/2565 **County & District Councillor Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report, which had been circulated, and is attached to these minutes. Discussion took place regarding the loss of village bus services with a suggestion that numbers of users be surveyed.
2019/2566 **Public Participation** – No questions
2019/2567 **Clerks Report** - It has been confirmed by SALC that the current councillor vacancy does not have to be notified to MSDC therefore co option can take place at any time going forward. Two people who have expressed an interest will be contacted before further advertising is carried out.
Joint Local Plan - draft is out for consultation, all councillors encouraged to read it and consider any effects on Felsham before a response is drafted for submission.
It was agreed that the clerk will try to establish an update on the replacement of post boxes.
2019/2568 **Planning** – There were no MSDC application to consider.
2019/2569 The following MSDC decisions were noted - DC/19/02775 Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - T1 (Sycamore) - Thin out regrowth by 50% and to reduce the overall height by 30%, Lower Green Barn, Lower Green - NO WISH TO OBJECT
2019/2570 **Finance** – The Finance Report for July 2019 was approved.
2019/2571 The following payments were approved. Prop by Cllr Williams, with all in favour. Clerks Salary for June
2019/2572 HMRC Q1 Payment
2019/2573 **Correspondence** – Green Access Strategy Consultation closes 20th Sept. Consideration of a response to this will be added to the next agenda.
2019/2574 There were no comments to any tabled correspondence.
2019/2575 **Village Maintenance** – Tree Officer Report – Cllr Tavernor reported that people should be on the lookout for Oak Moth which has been imported into the UK on medium sized trees. There are no suspect trees known of in the village.
2019/2576 Council have received a further request from a resident for some form of marking to acknowledge the Oak Tree on Lower Green as a memorial. It is believed that the Oak Tree is one donated by the Butcher Family and it was agreed that some form of plaque or certificate could be sited at the village hall to commemorate this. It was confirmed that a plaque on the tree or at Lower Green would not be possible.
2019/2577 Concern was expressed that grass verges in the village had not yet been cut and areas along Bury Rd and into Gedding were especially dangerous for pedestrians. It was confirmed that Felsham was on the cutting schedule for late July so this issue would hopefully be addressed in the next couple of weeks. It was suggested that if in future an earlier cut was preferred that this would need to be sourced via volunteers, local landowners would be asked if this was something they may be willing to help with, further consideration of additional verge cutting would be added to the next agenda.
2019/2578 Concern was expressed regarding the many potholes around Upper Green, these would be reported once photos were available.
2019/2579 There were no further maintenance matters reported.

- 2019/2580 **Conservation Area** – Conservation Officer Report – No report.
- 2019/2581 There were no further Conservation matters reported.
- 2019/2582 **Footpaths** – Footpath Officer Report – Cllr Nunn reported that the waymarker for FP 8 was missing and that no update on the issues with FP8 had been received. The clerk will seek clarification from ROW on progress with this dispute.
- 2019/2583 It was noted that FP13 had again not been included in the scheduled cutting. This will be reported.
- 2019/2584 It was suggested that a proper review of footpaths be undertaken with copies of the definitive map made available. Confirmation of the route of the churchyard paths was needed now that vegetation clearing had taken place before any waymarking is installed. Consideration of a review will be added to an August meeting agenda.
- 2019/2585 There were no further Footpath matters reported.
- 2019/2586 **Local Housing Survey** - It was agreed that a Working Group be established to progress the schedule and advertising of the Questionnaire. Further consideration deferred to next meeting.
- 2019/2587 **Village Sign** - Decisions regarding the design and costings were deferred to the next meeting.
- 2019/2588 **Matters to be brought to the attention of council** – It was agreed that an additional meeting during August be called to consider a response to the Joint Local Plan and to action a Footpath review.

Next meeting of the Parish Council - Tuesday 17th September 2019 7.30pm