

Felsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th October 2017 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Simon Garrod Cllr Harry Wragge
Cllr David Simpson Cllr Hayley Nunn

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

- 2017/1939 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Mark Tavernor, Cllr Ken Sparkes, Cllr David Williams
2017/1940 **Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensation** – None
2017/1941 **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 19th September 2017 were signed as a true record.
- 2017/1942 **County & District Councillor Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report which had been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2017/1943 **Public Participation** – No questions.
2017/1944 **Clerks Report** – It was confirmed that for insurance purposes the Defib cabinet does not have to be locked.
- It was noted that in previous years the Government has threatened to impose precept referendums on local councils who increase their precept demand over and above a certain %. Last year they restricted this to "larger" councils. There is no mention in this years consultation that any decision to impose referendums will be restricted to a particular size of council so ALL COUNCILS are potentially affected by the outcome of the consultation. At the present time, in the lead up to the setting of the precept in Jan 2018, no precept referendum is in force however we await the Governments decision this time around.
- The Local Government Boundary Commission draft recommendations show that Onehouse Ward remains with one councillor and consists of the same parishes as currently but with Little Finborough and Combs added. This is exactly what the parish council proposed in their response and this has been acknowledged however any further comments on the recommendations are welcomed now.
- A Press release has been received regarding MSDC & Babergh Joint Cabinet Session to consider a Potential Merger. There will be Town and Parish Liaison meetings to cover these proposals which representatives from the PC would be advised to attend if possible.
- 2017/1945 **Planning** – It was resolved to submit the following comments to application DC/17/04764 and DC/17/04841 - Infil of existing space between laundry and kitchen walls to rear of building with flat roof and mono roof light. External walls painted render to match existing, The Old Rectory, Church Road "*Felsham Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available*"
- 2017/1946 There were no MSDC decisions to note.
2017/1947 **Finance** – The Finance Report for October 2017 was approved.
2017/1948 The following payments were approved. Prop by Cllr Garrod, sec Cllr Wragge with all in favour. Clerks Salary for September
- 2017/1949 HMRC Q2 Payment
2017/1950 Tree Guards MT £60.84
2017/1951 **Correspondence** – Resident correspondence regarding Footpath issues was noted.
2017/1952 There were no further comments to tabled correspondence.
2017/1953 **Village Maintenance** – Tree Officer Report – No report.
2017/1954 There were no further maintenance matters reported.
2017/1955 **Conservation Area** – Conservation Officer Report – nothing to report.
2017/1956 There were no further Conservation matters reported.

- 2017/1957 **Footpaths** – Footpath Officer Report – It was noted that no action had been taken by SCC to reports of damage to the bridge on FP9 caused by the badger set. A request for an additional handrail at the very least would be submitted again.
- 2017/1958 **Creation of a Steering Group to carry out a 5 year review of the Parish Plan** – Following discussions around the Parish Plan and Neighbourhood Planning it was agreed that the original Steering Group be asked for their views on whether the group would carry out a 5yr review or whether a completely new process would need to be actioned. It was suggested that a representative from MSDC be invited to a meeting to provide information on the process and budgeting of a Neighbourhood Plan.
- 2017/1959 **SCC report by Simon Barnett regarding the identification of village bus stops.** – The report was noted with further discussion of signage and hard landscaping deferred in Cllr Tavernor’s absence.
- 2017/1960 **Welcome Pack** – Further discussion deferred until printing costs have been established.
- 2017/1961 **To consider the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan Consultation** – Following discussion on the various recommendations within the draft consultation it was agreed that a further meeting be arranged before the deadline date to complete the questionnaire as per the discussions.
- 2017/1962 **Motion to exclude temporarily the Public and Press** - It was resolved to exclude the Public and Press pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed concerning staff salaries and personal information.
- 2017/1963 Following a review of the clerk’s salary it was resolved to increase hours by 2 per month. Proposed Cllr Garrod, sec. Cllr Wragge with all in favour.
- 2017/1964 **Matters to be brought to the attention of council** – None

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on
Tuesday 21st November 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**