

Felsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st February 2017 in the Village Hall

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

Mrs. Paula Gladwell (Clerk) County Cllr Penny Otton
0 member of the public

2016/1759 **Apologies for Absence** — None

2016/1760 **Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensation** – None

2016/1761 **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 17th January 2017 were signed as a true record.

2016/1762 **Adjournment for:**

County & District Cllr Penny Otton's Report – Cllr Otton gave her report which has been circulated and will be attached to these minutes.

Public Participation –Details of a proposal and a request for support from the Parish Council for an application to divert Footpath 2 was presented. It was confirmed that this cross field path currently traverses livestock paddocks and a private garden as well as agricultural fields on route from Cockfield Road to its junction with FP13. During wet weather and after ploughing especially walkers are known to use an alternative, unauthorised route along the tracks as the path is often difficult to walk. The proposal to divert the path to this track and the new farm drive as an all year accessible option was welcomed and it was agreed that the new route, which will avoid the worst of the wet ground, would be a valuable addition to the footpath network in the village. An additional permissive path linking to FP6 was also proposed.

Meeting resumed:

2016/1763 **Clerks Report** – It was confirmed that the old Speed Gun from the Speedwatch Group had been donated to Felsham , the group were no longer functioning as Beyton had purchased a new Speed Gun for their sole use. The old gun is calibrated and hopefully will continue to work for some time. Cllr Wragge will arrange to test it and consideration of the purchase of signs will be included on the next agenda.

2016/1764 Hawthorne Leisure have finally responded with a refusal to enter into any discussions regarding the Parish Councils expression of interest in the land adjacent to the Six Bells PH.

2016/1765 There has been no reply to date from BT to the report regarding the safety issue of a pole too close to the highway.

2016/1765 It was confirmed that SCC will no longer replenish grit piles and will only refill bins, it was suggested that SCC be asked to confirm that our open topped wooden bins will be kept on the list.

2016/1766 It was confirmed that SCC have been chased repeatedly to push for a completion date for the street light refurbishment. Unfortunately some secured funding will no longer be available however an application in the next financial year will be welcomed.

2016/1767 **Planning** – It was resolved to send the following comments to MSDC Planning; Application 0249/17 Continuance of operations in accordance with Condition 2 of that permission granted under 3373/13 without compliance with Condition 2 of that permission (2 year time limit from 1.5.15) Rattlesden Gliding Club, High Town

Green – "Felsham Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available" Proposed Cllr Garrod with all in favour.

2016/1768 The following MSDC decisions were noted; 5002/16 Removal of four trees as shown in the attached sketch plan and photos: 1. Pine Tree, 2. Small Ash, 3. Bean Tree, 4. Apple Tree, The Old Rectory, Church Road – NO WISH TO OBJECT

2016/1769 **Finance** – The Finance Report for February 2017 was approved.

2016/1770 The following payments were approved. Prop by Cllr Garrod, with all in favour. Clerks Salary for January

2016/1771 SCC Street Lighting £189.01

2016/1772 It was resolved to contribute 50% to cost of clerks attendance at SALC Planning Conference at a cost of £37.50. Proposed Cllr Williams, Sec Cllr Nunn with all in favour.

2016/1773 **Correspondence** - There were no comments to tabled correspondence.

2016/1774 **Village Maintenance** – Tree Officer Report – It was noted that advice, sought by a landowner regarding possible work needed to an Ash Tree adjacent to the Allotments, had been provided by the Tree Officer, it was confirmed that this tree might need some minor work and was on private land.

2016/1775 It was resolved to continue with the current grass cutting contract as per the quote received. Proposed Cllr Garrod, sec Cllr Sparkes with all in favour.

2016/1776 It was noted that a Glasswells HGV had been seen cutting up the edges of Lower Green whilst attempting to negotiate the Rectory. It was agreed that compensation be sought from Glasswells for the repair once quote had been received.

2016/1777 The deteriorating condition of the road surfaces throughout the village was considered, it was agreed that this should be reported to SCC with a request for confirmation of when resurfacing would be on their schedule. It was also noted that the 30MPH roundels were in need of repainting, it was thought that this should be done after resurfacing.

2016/1778 **Conservation Area** – Conservation Officer Report – Nothing to report.

2016/1779 **Footpaths** – Footpath Officer Report – Nothing to report.

2016/1780 Consideration was given to the proposal to submit an application to divert FP2. It was resolved to fully support the efforts of the landowners seeking to divert this path as it will provide an enhanced public path network for Felsham benefiting our visitors and residents whether walking to improve their health or simply for the pleasure of exploring and being outdoors. This area has been extensively developed for conservation and wildlife by the current landowners and it was thought that a diversion such as this can only benefit this project positively. Proposed by Cllr Wragge, sec Cllr Williams with all in favour. The clerk will draft a letter to accompany the landowners application.

2016/1781 It was noted that the badger sets are now undermining the foundation of the footbridge on FP9, this will be reported to PROW.

2016/1782 **Matters to be brought to the attention of council** – None

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