

Felsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22nd August 2019 in the Village Hall

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

- 2019/2589 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Simon Garrod
- 2019/2590 **Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensation** – None
- 2019/2591 **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 16th July 2019 were signed as a true record.
- 2019/2592 **Public Participation** – It was noted that the Butcher family had decided not to have any physical memorial, by way of a plaque at the village hall, to identify the Oak Tree on Lower Green as being donated to the village by the family and are happy that the parish council minutes acknowledge their contribution.
- Item 9 brought forward -
- 2019/2593 **Bus service** - Discussion took place regarding the imminent loss of the bus service in the village. Cllr Otton reported that Hessel and Drinkstone have petitioned SCC and other parishes facing cuts are looking to parish councils for subsidies to help continue services. It was noted that Galloways, following concerns with their service, have pulled out of the contract before the deadline date meaning that the last service for Felsham will run on 28th September.
Cllr Otton confirmed that she is awaiting a reply from Tom Barker at MSDC regarding what, if any, input they may be making to help. It was noted that Onehouse run a volunteer travel scheme as part of their Good Neighbour Scheme, they have half a dozen volunteer drivers with charges at approx 44pence a mile however this all depends on the availability of a driver. It is unclear exactly how many people in the village the loss of the bus service will directly affect. It was agreed that a notice be placed in shop and on the notice board to seek a response from anyone who will suffer hardship once the bus no longer runs to establish if any practical help is needed and can subsequently be found.
- 2019/2594 **Planning** – It was Resolved to submit the following comments to MSDC for application DC/19/03206 Erection of single story rear extension, front porch and replacement windows, 2 Lower Green Cottages, Lower Green - "*Felsham Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available*"
- 2019/2595 **Finance** – The following payments were approved. Prop by Cllr Williams, with all in favour. Clerks Salary for July
- 2019/2596 Top Garden £288.00
- 2019/2597 MSDC - Election costs £104.78
- 2019/2598 MSDC Bin Emptying £282.00
- 2019/2599 It was Resolved to pay all future invoices for grass cutting by electronic transfer. Proposed Cllr Williams, sec Cllr Simpson with all in favour.
- 2019/2600 **Footpaths** – Cllr Nunn reported on various inconsistencies between the definitive map and the routes actually walked. Following discussion on the practicalities of any changes it was agreed that paths 14, 8 and 10 should be clarified by ROW before any digital mapping takes place. It was agreed that a Working Group of Cllrs Nunn and Tavernor would create a list of issues, any actions to be taken and review the responses from ROW before reporting to next meeting.
- 2019/2601 It was agreed that a response to the Green Access Strategy Consultation would be deferred to the next meeting.
- 2019/2602 **Joint Local Plan Consultation** - Following discussion and perusal of the new policies it was agreed that no comments be submitted to the actual policy wording however concern was expressed that the place map for Felsham does not show the Open Spaces

at Meadow Close and The Orchard, the clerk will respond to MSDC to ask that these areas are identified.

2019/2603 **Local Housing Survey Working Group** - Deferred

2019/2604 **Parish Plan Working Group** - Deferred

2019/2605 **Matters to be brought to the attention of council** – It was suggested that the councils insurers be notified regarding the VAS machine as we have no news from Buxhall as to when this may be fixed or replaced.

It was noted that the landlord is in support of a letter from the Parish Council to the pub owners regarding concerns about the deterioration of the outside fabric of the listed building. This will now be drafted.

The clerk will report the road sink at The Orchard and request repair to the entrance sign. It was noted that Royal Mail have agreed to replace the Dakings Lane post box however no response has been received regarding a replacement for the shop. It was suggested that if the promised "call back" is not received from Royal Mail this week an approach will be made to media.

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