

Felsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th February 2014 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Simon Garrod Cllr David Simpson
Cllr Hayley Nunn Cllr Christopher Bornett
Cllr David Williams
Cllr Penny Otton (part) Mrs. Paula Gladwell (Clerk)

2013/908 **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Harry Wragge, Cllr Mick Zarych, PCSO Colette Denny

2013/909 **Declarations of Interest** – None

2013/910 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** – It was agreed that acknowledgement of the correspondence from Mr Copping be included in the minutes. The letter from Mr Copping sharing his memories and history with Felsham has been forwarded to the Village News team, Cllr Bornett has replied and conversed with Mr Copping whose contact with us is very much appreciated.

2013/911 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 21st January 2014 were signed as a true record.

2013/912 **Adjournment for:**

Cllr Otton's Report – Cllr Otton gave her report, which will be circulated.

Police Report – The clerk read PCSO Denny's report, which will be circulated.

Public Participation – Concern was expressed that the dustcart was damaging the road surface at the new homes in The Orchard whilst collecting rubbish. Cllr Otton will report this to Refuse Collection at MSDC.

It was reported that the interceptors from the new properties in The Orchard were pumping out on a timer and this was affecting the flushing of toilets in the sheltered bungalows. It was confirmed that problems such as these must be reported to the warden so that MSDC contact could be made with Orwell Housing to remedy any snagging problems.

It was suggested that the Welcome Pack being created by Felsham Parish Council became a joint project with Gedding Parish Meeting.

Meeting resumed:

2013/913 **Recommendation from the Environmental Working Group** – A case was put forward by Jeremy Head for a project to provide a safe pedestrian route linking Felsham, Gedding and the playingfield, which is in direct recognition of the results from the Parish Plan. The group are looking for both councils to support the plans by adopting a campaign to tackle the existing dog poo problems on our public footpaths and to educate walkers in the rules and regulations of public footpath use before any new paths are created. Concerns have been expressed regarding people walking on land that is not public footpath and requests for additional dog bins have been made. Council agreed that they support safer access to the playingfield and are committed to tackling irresponsible and disrespectful use of existing public footpaths. It was agreed that further investigation into the procedure for creating public footpaths was needed and the working group would report back to a future meeting with further recommendations. Articles would be put into Village News regarding dog mess on the footpaths and trespass on land that was not public Right of Way together with signage for erecting on the footpaths. The Environmental Working Group were thanked for their work so far to action the recommendations arising from the Parish Plan that were within their remit.

- 2013/914 **Clerks Report** – It was agreed that all perceived breaches of planning be reported to Planning Enforcement to ensure consistency; it was acknowledged that MSDC Planning would ultimately be the judge of whether breaches had taken place.
- 2013/915 The annual litter pick has been promoted by MSDC. A village litter pick was arranged for Saturday 22nd March, meeting at the village hall at 10am.
- 2013/916 Following the receipt of resident complaints regarding an increase of litter within the village it was suggested that a campaign to encourage people to take their litter home be actioned.
- 2013/917 It was confirmed that the role of History Recorder for Felsham was vacant. The post will be advertised.
- 2013/918 It has been confirmed that, Stage 5 of the Women’s Cycle Tour will be coming through Felsham on Sunday 11th May. The Tour is a five day women’s elite International stage race with Suffolk having been chosen to host the final stage. Consideration of holding a village event to coincide with the race will be added to the next agenda.
- 2013/919 **Planning** – It was resolved to send the following comments to MSDC; Application 0265/14 Hawthorne tree (1) Trim back overhanging branches from neighbouring property, Willow Tree (2) to be re pollarded, 23 Meadow Close *"Felsham parish Council have no wish to object to this application based on the information available"*
- 2013/920 and application no 0220/14 Erection of a 1.5m high willow fence at Spinney House, Bury Road, *"Felsham parish Council have no wish to object to this application based on the information available"*
- 2013/921 It was agreed that the parish council should continue to try and achieve what the Planning Inspector stated in the appeal decision for this site as concerns were expressed that MSDC Planning was not monitoring some conditions closely enough.
- 2013/922 There were no MSDC decisions to note.
- 2013/923 **Welcome Pack** – Cllr Williams reported on the draft leaflet and confirmed that he will continue to work on its content and any additional inserts. A trader’s register was suggested and the clerk will compile this. Consideration was given to Gedding Parish Meeting’s request that this should be a joint document for both villages and it was agreed that although all help and assistance with the sharing of the template would be given it was advisable that Gedding produced and distributed its own Welcome Pack in order to provide essential individuality to new residents.
- 2013/924 **Finance** – The clerk’s financial report for February was approved.
- 2013/925 The following payments were approved. Prop by Cllr Garrod with all in favour.
Clerks salary for Jan 2014
- 2013/926 SCC Lighting £286.28
- 2013/927 Village Hall Hire £118.00
- 2013/928 **Correspondence** – It was resolved to provide a letter of support for the Village Hall for their funding applications for the provision of energy efficient improvements.
- 2013/929 The Open Spaces questionnaires from MSDC were discussed and the clerk will complete them and return.
- 2013/930 There were no comments to further tabled correspondence.
- 2013/931 **Conservation Area** – It was noted that the pub sign had not yet been replaced. Cllr Simpson will contact Greene King to establish the whereabouts of the original and a date for replacement.
- 2013/932 **Footpaths** – There were no matters reported
- 2013/933 **Village Maintenance** – There were no matters reported
- 2013/934 **Speedwatch** – Consideration of the provision of permanent signage was deferred in the absence of Cllr Zarych.
- 2013/935 **Street Lights** – Consideration of a replacement programme for Street Lighting was deferred to the next meeting.

- 2013/936 **Provision of a Memorial Copse** – It was confirmed that the Playingfield Committee felt they could not accommodate a small copse on the playingfield. Further consideration of a suitable location was deferred to the next meeting.
- 2013/937 **Proposal to close the meeting and defer any remaining items to the next meeting** – It was resolved to continue with the agenda.
- 2013/938 **Review of Standing Orders** – It was resolved to adopt the new Model Standing Orders with the addition of the existing Felsham specific items. The clerk will amend and circulate to all councillors.
- 2013/939 **Matters to be brought to the attention of council** – It was agreed that consideration of a new format for the Annual Parish Meeting would be added to the next agenda.

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 18th March 2014 at 7.30pm