

Felsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st January 2014 in the Village Hall

- Present: Cllr Simon Garrod Cllr David Simpson
Cllr Mick Zarych Cllr Hayley Nunn
Cllr Christopher Bornett
- Cllr Penny Otton (part) Mrs. Paula Gladwell (Clerk)
PCSO Colette Denny (part)
- 2013/882 **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Harry Wragge, Cllr David Williams
2013/883 **Declarations of Interest** – None
2013/884 **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 December were signed as a true record.
- 2013/885 **Adjournment for:**
Cllr Otton’s Report – Cllr Otton gave her report, which will be circulated.
Police Report –PCSO Denny gave her report, which will be circulated.
Public Participation – No questions
Meeting resumed:
- 2013/886 **Clerks Report** – The moss on pavements in Meadow Close has been reported, some attempt to remove the worst has been carried out with a promise that the area will be treated in the spring. CAB have responded with details of their activities and information to aid council’s consideration of increasing their donation. The requote for replacement of the street lights is still awaited from SCC
- 2013/887 **Planning** – It was resolved to send the following comment to MSDC; Application 3552/13 prune overhanging branches from Sycamore on Church Road, 23 Meadow Close *"Felsham parish Council have no wish to object to this application based on the information available"*
- 2013/888 There were no MSDC decisions to note.
2013/889 **Public Defibrillator** – The clerk reported that the additional insurance premium to cover the equipment was £9.14 per annum. This added to other running costs for electricity and replacement batteries and pads suggests an estimated £120 per annum ongoing cost to take ownership of any public defibrillator purchased. It was resolved to take on ownership and responsibility for a public defibrillator should the funds be raised to purchase one based on the current estimated running cost of £120 per annum. Proposed by Cllr Garrod with all in favour.
- 2013/890 **Welcome Pack Working Group**– Deferred to next meeting
2013/891 **Finance** – The clerk’s financial report for January was approved.
2013/892 The following payments were approved. Prop by Cllr Garrod with all in favour.
Clerks salary for Dec 2013
2013/893 CPRE £29.00
2013/894 The budget for 2014/2015 was reviewed in light of the final grant and tax base confirmation from MSDC. The budget was amended and approved and has generated a precept requirement of £5185.
- 2013/895 It was resolved to set the precept for 2014/115 at £5185 and the request forms were completed and signed. Proposed Cllr Zarych, seconded Cllr Garrod with all in favour
- 2013/896 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
2013/897 **Conservation Area** - There were no matters reported.
2013/898 **Footpaths** – It was reported that the ground beneath the kissing gates out of the churchyard was very muddy and the path alongside the first of the allotments

difficult to walk due to the narrowness and mud. Cllrs Zarych and Bornett agreed to place hardcore and shingle at the kissing gates to alleviate the mud. It was suggested that the Felsham Charity be asked to cut back the bramble hedge on the allotment path to ease walking.

- 2013/899 The extremely muddy areas on footpath 4 were highlighted, the clerk will ask Rights of Way to action bark chippings, failing that bark will be sought and a work party organised to spread them.
- 2013/900 There were no other matters reported
- 2013/901 **Village Maintenance** – Quotes are still awaited for stump removal. An offer has been received by a resident to remove the stumps as part of their work schedule when possible. Council accepted this kind offer and Cllr Simpson will respond and action.
- 2013/902 Concern has been expressed regarding overhanging hedges obstructing the road visibility on adjacent to Quaker Farm, this would be investigated and reported to Highways if necessary.
- 2013/903 The clerk will continue to pressure BT regarding the removal of the phone box and report the trip hazard caused by the BT manhole cover outside the shop.
- 2013/904 **Motion – That the Parish Council instigates a campaign to plant more trees within the parish** – Discussion took place regarding the provision of trees from the Woodland Trust and various sites were considered along with discussion on planting memorial woodland to mark the centenary of WW1.
- 2013/905 **Motion – That the Parish Council contacts local landowners with a view to planting a copse to mark the centenary of the outbreak of WW1 in 1914** – It was agreed that the Playing field Management Committee be approached for an indication of their support for a project of this kind and the probability of indentifying the playing field as a suitable site. Cllr Simpson will seek the committee's thoughts at their next meeting.
It was agreed that a project of this kind should be pursued and that if the playing field proved unsuitable local landowners would be approached for their support. Cllr Bornett will proceed with an application to the Woodland Trust for a tree pack.
- 2013/906 **Proposal to close the meeting and defer any remaining items to the next meeting** – This item was not considered.
- 2013/907 **Matters to be brought to the attention of council** – None

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