

FURNEUX PELHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 6 July 2017, at 8:00 pm in the Furneux Pelham Village Hall.

Present: Cllr S Bratt, Cllr C Cantes, Cllr R Gale and Cllr Mrs D White (from 8:10 pm).

In attendance: F Forth, Parish Clerk and 2 members of the public.

17/40) Apologies

Apologies received and approved from Cllr H Smart. Cllr Mrs D White would be slightly late.

17/41) Declarations of interest

None.

17/42) Adoption of previous minutes

RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 11 May 2017 as a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the Minutes.

17/43) Matters arising

- a. Common land - in Cllr H Smart's absence, agreed to defer this item to the next meeting. **Action: Cllr H Smart**
- b. Councillor vacancy - a candidate has been identified, Paul Watmough, who will be co-opted at the next meeting.
- c. Ford/river sign - brand new sign has been installed by Herts County Council.
- d. Car park - Cllr C Cantes highlighted that the audit of car park users had identified 5 regular users, excluding those who have paid. It was agreed that a notice would be put on these cars stating that overnight parking required a permit. In addition, the sign in the car park to be refreshed to reflect that it is a private car park, with overnight parking requiring the Parish Council's permission, a permit and that it is closed 1 day a year. **Action: Cllr C Cantes & Clerk**
- e. Planning applications - the Clerk stated that notification of planning applications had been found in her 'spam folder'. The website will be updated to include recent planning applications. The only application still awaiting a decision relates to that submitted by Mr Collins. The Chairman briefly detailed recent application decisions. **Action: Clerk**

17/44) Whitebarns Lane

Cllr C Cantes reported on the current position. It is believed that the Barclays estate own the strip in question, per Land Registry, and it is up to them to ensure access to the Whitebarn's estate is safe, which they may be prepared to acknowledge and therefore undertake repairs. It is proposed that a specific meeting is held by stakeholders (Parish Council, 2 residents, Ringway) with Barclays to seek a positive outcome of repairing the road to the extent that Highways would consider adopting it.

Prior to this meeting, Cllr C Cantes and Cllr H Smart to meet with Ted Barclay to discuss.

In terms of the emergency repairs agreed at a previous meeting, Cllr H Smart is liaising with Paul Turner.

Action: Cllr C Cantes & Cllr H Smart

Note - at a subsequent meeting with Barclay estates (31st July), it was made clear that they do not own the land.

17/45) Unauthorised gypsy development within Little Munden

Cllr C Cantes outlined the background to the unauthorised gypsy development and a letter has been sent on behalf of the Parish Council supporting the action being taken by Little Munden Parish Council.

17/46) Governance documentation

The Clerk outlined that the governance documentation had been reviewed and the results of that review had been summarised and circulated with the agenda. Some minor amendments had been identified to ensure in line with best practice. The Chairman proposed a change to the Donations policy to make it clearer that no donations would be made after the January meeting each year.

RESOLVED to approve the governance documentation as amended by the Clerk and Chairman.

17/47) Finance

a. Update on current financial position

A statement of the budget to actual comparison as at 6 July, as circulated, was received. The financial position is on target to date. Cllr R Gale requested he be notified once it is confirmed that the £800 for the footpath has been received. **Action: Clerk**

b. Expenditure

RESOLVED to approve the following expenditure:

CDA for Herts, subscription	£35.00
Village Hall, Hall hire	£36.00
Clerk's expenses	£121.55

The Clerk explained that her expenses were high due to purchasing the software for the laptop, £108.95, which is funded by the recent Transparency Code grant received.

Cheques and supporting documentation duly signed.

The Clerk confirmed that the expenses for the Annual Parish Assembly and Internal Audit were £52.04.

RESOLVED to approve the purchase of weed killer for the allotment path to a maximum limit of £50.00.

In addition, the Clerk highlighted that whilst the documentation had not been received back from the external auditor, no matters had been identified.

17/48) Allotments

Cllr Mrs White provided an update. There have been no takers for the vacant plots. A flyer is being prepared for the residents of the new houses.

17/49) Village Hall Committee

Cllr Mrs D White reported that improvement works continue. A flushing system is to be installed in the men's toilet and the Hall floor is being re-done this month.

The village community coffee morning is going well with 2 further dates. It was suggested that the Parish Council should make a donation towards this since it initiated activity. It was confirmed that there were 20 villagers at the last morning and the money received was sufficient to cover the cost of hiring the hall.

The Village Hall Committee are no longer pursuing the installation of a playground. It was agreed that the Parish Council would investigate the possibility of siting a playground at the bottom of the car park. The Clerk outlined the potential annual costs of having a playground.

17/50) Correspondence

a. Planning applications

See agenda item 17/43e) above

b. Communications to Parish Clerk

The Clerk referred to the following matters:

- London Stansted Airport have begun a local community consultation in advance of submitting a planning application to raise the passenger cap;
- Cllr G McAndrew, Herts County Councillor, had provided details of the road works being undertaken in rural areas during the current financial year which was circulated; and
- That a traffic order was coming into place from 1st August for 18 months to cover the road works but that local road signs would detail the specific timings of closures.

c. Communications to or from Councillors

Cllr D White agreed to liaise with J Pridmore regarding the allotment path for which the funding of £800 had been obtained.

Action: Cllr D White

The Chairman referred to a Land Registry issue (adverse possession) in respect of the land north of the spinney.

17/51) Residents comments

Welcome pack for new residents

A resident explained that the 'welcome pack' for new residents was progressing well, and examples of the content shown. Consideration to be given next month for the Parish Council to cover the cost of consumables, up to £30.

Action: Clerk

Fencing at Calverts Close

It was highlighted that the fencing surrounding the new houses was higher than expected.

17/52) Next meeting

Confirmed that the next meeting of the Parish Council is on the 7th September 2017 in the Village Hall at 8pm

The meeting ended at 9:35pm.