

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COUNCIL OF
FELPHAM PARISH COUNCIL
3rd AUGUST 2021.**

PRESENT: Councillors: Dave Smart, George Grundy, Graham Matthews, Gloria Moss, Kevin Watson, Paul English, Ros Kissell, Anne Barker, Matthew Copeland, Michael Harvey, Mary Harvey, Jaine Wild Glen Hewlett, Bob Budd & Andrew Fells.

MC 69. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

No apologies had been received.

MC 70. ABSENCE WITHOUT APOLOGIES:

There were no absences without apology.

MC 71. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest at the outset of the meeting. These, the meeting was advised, could be made as and when necessary, during the meeting.

MC 72. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

There were three members of the public present at the meeting and three questions were raised:

Liz McCallum asked the following:

1. What plans and strategies do the council have in place to combat climate change?
2. When building new houses how will the sewage system cope with the new houses in Felpham?

Councillor Glen Hewlett responded to advise that as a Parish Council we were aware of new developments and the impact on climate change.

- ★ As a Parish Council, we have solar panels fitted on the Community Hall roof.
- ★ The promenade lights have recently been replaced by solar lights.
- ★ The Parish Council have worked with Southern Water in part, on water testing.
- ★ Regarding planning, central government currently have no policy on carbon neutral housing.
- ★ Regarding sewage systems, Southern Water are a statutory consultee on all planning applications. Ultimately, if they are happy with the applications and their systems can cope with these new developments, then that is their decision. They have a statutory right to ensure that systems are in place to cope with all contingencies.
- ★ Councillor Paul English gave a brief outline of how the Parish Council had supported tree planting across the Parish and that this is something we wish to continue. Felpham Parish Council recently responded to the Arun District Council consultation on the tree policy and the response indicated that we looked forward to taking every opportunity to work with them.
- ★ Councillor Paul English also stated that ADC had now appointed a new Climate Change person and that we look forward to hearing what ADC's plans are.

- ★ Councillor Jaine Wild reported that recently, along with Councillor Kevin Watson, they had worked with the Tesco store in tidying up the area surrounding the store carrying out a litter pick.
- ★ Councillor Dave Smart confirmed that climate change was a standard agenda item on the Projects Committee.

Mr Ansell raised concerns over repeated speeding along Limmer Lane and asked what the Parish Council were going to do about it. It was pointed out that road matters are usually the responsibility of WSCC. There was discussion about who was responsible and what could be done. He indicated that he may attend future meetings to discuss the matter.

Councillor Dave Smart stated that some months ago the Parish Council had started to look at what relatively small road safety projects might be available given there is still an element of S106 money available to spend for schemes that qualify. The latest notes would be circulated to Councillors.

MC 73. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MAIN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4th JULY 2021:

The minutes were **APPROVED** as a true and accurate record.

MC 74. MATTERS ARISING:

MC 58 Councillor Anne Barker noted that two roundels were missing from the solar lights on the promenade.

Councillor Glen Hewlett advised that the roundels will be replaced at the same time as other fittings are placed on all nine council promenade lights.

There were no other matters arising.

MC 75. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There was no Correspondence or Announcements to report, that had not already been circulated to Councillors prior to this meeting.

MC 76. REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS:

All County and District Councillors for Felpham had been sent agendas for this meeting:

(I) County Councillor John Charles was absent from the meeting.

The Clerk was requested to contact the County Councillor regarding the overgrowth on the cycle path on the A259 from Felpham to Littlehampton. District Councillor Paul English further requested that the Clerk request a TRO to stop cyclists using the road where there was a designated cycle path.

(ii) **District Councillor Paul English** (Felpham East) updated the Parish Council on the situation regarding Flax Mean, which had recently had a lot of coverage on social media.

Arun District Council have had discussions on whether to 'bulldoze the whole lot' or to consider a refurbishment programme (people in residence to be moved out during refurbishment which could take up to a year). There are concerns over the wellbeing of the residents.

The discussions, and the meeting held on this, at Arun District Council, are available to view online.

Councillor Mary Harvey was very concerned over the future of Flax Mean and its residents and felt that Arun District Council had allowed this situation to deteriorate.

District Councillor Paul English advised that £6M had been earmarked by a previous administration for social housing.

Councillor Jaine Wild advised that it was the flats that were the issue, as the bungalows had shower facilities in place. She also raised concerns regarding protecting the ancient pond on the site.

Councillor Graham Matthews had watched the meeting and his main concern was the lack of involvement with others outside of the District Council, including the Parish Council. He believed that they should now involve the Parish Council and Arun District Council should be invited to a meeting of the Parish Council.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Arun District Council regarding this and ask to see the Impact Risk Assessment that addresses the health implications in terms of both physical and mental wellbeing of the residents, as well as the Equality Assessment that should have been carried out.

(iii) **District Councillor Gill Madeley** (Felpham West) – no report or update had been received.

(iv) **District Councillor Elaine Stainton** (Felpham West) - no report or update had been received.

(v) **District Councillor David Edwards** (Felpham East) – no report or update had been received.

MC 77. DATES OF OUTSIDE BODIES MEETINGS & REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES:

There were no new meetings to report, nor meetings that had taken place since the last Main Council Meeting.

Councillor Glen Hewlett provided an update on the Rampion Wind Farm development and advised that all plans could be viewed on the Rampion2 website. Councillor Glen Hewlett also suggested that the Parish Council do not formally respond as we could not hope to offer a fair representation of the people of Felpham. There have been comments both for and against the scheme and therefore felt it was best that individuals respond directly via the website consultation. It was confirmed that the link (Rampion2.com) was on the Council web page.

MC 78. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE DATED 20th JULY 2021:

The minutes were **APPROVED** as a true and accurate record.

MC 79. MATTERS ARISING:

Councillor George Grundy reported that he had attended a meeting regarding the throw ropes being installed on the beach in the week commencing 2nd August. These will be replacing the life belts that are currently being removed as they are now obsolete as the beach is now higher than the promenade.

The Clerk was asked to contact the Foreshore Manager to ascertain the rationale behind the removal of the life belts.

The quote for replacement of planters from Bognor Town Council has been approved.

The Clerk will contact Erica Adams to arrange works.

There were no other matters arising.

MC 80. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MAIN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27th JULY 2021:

The minutes were **APPROVED** as a true and accurate record.

MC 81. MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising.

MC 82. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 27th JULY 2021:

The minutes were NOTED.

MC 83. STANDING ORDER 7 – PREVIOUS RESOLUTION MADE BY THE COUNCIL, AT ITS JUNE MEETING, WITH REGARD TO THE NUMBERS OF TABLES AND CHAIRS TO BE ALLOWED ON FISHERMAN’S GARDENS FOR THE LOBSTER POT CAFÉ.

The Clerk had received prior to the meeting, and within the time frame stipulated under Standing Order 7, the requisite number of written representations from Councillors to revisit/reverse the decision made at the Main Council meeting, held on the 2nd June 2021, regarding the above.

Councillor Glen Hewlett stated that although he was sympathetic to the request from The Lobster Pot, in the past, numbers of tables had been determined by following the Government Covid Road Map. In this respect, it was necessary to discuss and determine when it is was going to be safe to revert to the original numbers as per the agreement/contract between the Parish Council and The Lobster Pot Café.

District Councillor Paul English requested that the Allotments Committee deal with this issue entirely and draw up a new contract.

Councillor Mary Harvey requested an immediate vote on a proposed six-month extension to the current agreement, up to 3rd February 2022.

Councillor Anne Barker proposed that the Parish Council revert to the seating arrangements pre the Parish Council's decision made at the June Main Council Meeting.

Councillor Mary Harvey therefore proposed a six-month extension to the Lobster Pot Café agreement to 3rd February 2022 for 9 tables and 36 chairs. This was seconded by Councillor Gloria Moss. On a vote of 12 for with one against, the proposal was agreed.

MC 84. TO AGREE THE CCTV POLICY OF THE COUNCIL (DEFERRED FROM APRIL 2020):

Councillors had been sent with their agendas, for this meeting, copies of the proposed CCTV Policy for the Council which had been previously circulated in 2020 and initial discussions held, but later deferred from further discussion due to the pandemic.

Councillor Matthew Copeland proposed that the policy be agreed (subject to the rewording of the terminology referencing the Hall Manager to Clerk). This was seconded by Councillor Kevin Watson. The policy was agreed by a unanimous vote.

MC 85. TO RECEIVE A QUOTE FOR EQUIPMENT FOR FUTURE REMOTE AND HYBRID MEETINGS:

Councillors had been circulated with their agendas, for this meeting, the quote received for the above equipment.

Councillor Glen Hewlett questioned whether it would be prudent to wait for the outcome of the NALC and government discussions on the way forward for meetings, in the future.

Councillor Matthew Copeland confirmed that the equipment could be used by hall users as well as for Parish Council meetings.

Councillor Dave Smart made it clear that the purchase of any equipment would be for the Hall and available to both hall users and the Council. He also advised that the monies to pay for any equipment would be paid for out of the monies received from Arun District Council for Hall equipment and therefore would not have an impact on the council's budgets.

District Councillor Paul English agreed with Councillor Glen Hewlett and requested that two/three further quotes be obtained.

It was noted that the quote obtained was from our normal preferred supplier of IT equipment and any alternative quote may result in that equipment not having the level of IT support currently available to the Council. It was therefore decided to vote on the proposal.

Two proposals were made:

- 1. The first rejecting the purchase, proposed by District Councillor Paul English, and seconded by Councillor Mary Harvey.**
- 2. The second accepting the purchase (excluding the laptop), proposed by Councillor Matthew Copeland, and seconded by Councillor Anne Barker.**

A vote on the two proposals were taken in reverse order.

For acceptance of the quote (excluding laptop) there were 7 votes for, with 4 against.

On the first proposal, for rejecting the quote, there were 5 for with 6 against. Therefore, the proposal to accept the quote was moved and resolved.

MC 86. MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE:

There were no matters of urgent public importance.

MC 87. BUSINESS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION:

There was no business at the Chairman's discretion.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 7th September 2021.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10 p.m.

Approved.....Chairman

Date