

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COUNCIL OF  
FELPHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021.**

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

**MC 88. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillor Dave Smart

No other apologies had been received.

**MC 89. ABSENCE WITHOUT APOLOGIES:**

There were no absences without apology.

**MC 90. 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 91. QUESTION TIME:**

There were no members of the public present at the meeting. No questions or issues were raised.

Councillor Andrew Fells asked if the following change could be made in that the meetings going forward could be streamlined with any typing errors advised to the clerk by email in advance of the meeting and it was agreed that this would be the process in future.

**MC 92. DATES OF OUTSIDE BODIES MEETINGS & REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES:**

Invited Staff Representatives, Jo Bell and Heike Rentel on behalf of Sussex Clubs for Young People Ltd, gave a presentation outlining the support that they can offer young people aged between 8 and 25 years, during this transitional period in their lives. The group work within Youth Clubs offering two-hour sessions at a total cost of £250. The funding that they receive is accessed from different sources and Parish Councils traditionally offer support for this. Currently, clubs are run in Bognor Regis at the 39 Club for Years 5 to 9 (sports, healthy lifestyle, and cooking) and the Phoenix Centre for Years 7 to 9+ (creative arts). There is also The Purple Mobile Bus that can be used to run sessions. Viable session sizes would be groups of fifteen or more. Councillor Graham Matthews suggested that grant-funding could be applied for, although currently none of the young people attending clubs are Felpham residents. The Clerk advised that there was the possibility of provisionally booking space at the Community Hall

to gauge interest. This could potentially be funded by the Parish Council.

Councillor Mathew Copeland advised that Worthing Homes/Together Arun also offer funding for youth programmes in Felpham.

Councillor Matthew Copeland reported that he had attended the recent Memorial Hall Committee meeting and a new committee member is currently being sought who would be willing to take on the chairman role.

It was agreed that Councillor Matthew Copeland would provide copy to be placed on the parish website in case anyone would be interested in joining the Memorial Hall committee with a view to taking up this position.

**MC 93. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MAIN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST 2021:**

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

**MC 94. MATTERS ARISING:**

**MC 72.** Councillor Andrew Fells advised that he has put forward a proposal regarding potential speed mitigation schemes in Felpham and this will be discussed at the next Finance and Administration meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> September.

**MC 77.** Councillor Glen Hewlett informed the council that both he and Councillor Dave Smart had recently attended a presentation from Protect Coastal England: a small local pressure group based in Aldwick. Maintaining the Parish Council's impartial stance on the Rampion 2 consultation, links have now been placed for both on the Parish Council website

**MC 76.** Councillor Mary Harvey asked whether there had been any developments regarding Flax Mean. An email from Phillipa Dart had been received by the Clerk which was felt not to be overly informative. **Clerk to follow up.**

**MC 79.** Councillor George Grundy wished to confirm that the throw ropes installed on Felpham beach are in addition to the life belts currently in place.

**MC 95. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

**MC 96. 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** provided the following updates:  
The cycle path on the A259 – tree maintenance has been started and this section will be included as part of the program. TROs are not possible as highways are legally usable by cyclists.  
Councillor Matthew Copeland confirmed that he had logged this issue on Love West Sussex but the cutting is only to calf level, meaning that the path width is vastly reduced and overhanging trees are at eye height causing a danger to

cyclists. The response received regarding the trees was that these do not cause an obstacle and that only safety critical work will be undertaken.

Councillor Mary Harvey advised that Worthing and Adur Council will now only be cutting verges annually and asked whether West Sussex were considering doing the same. **Councillor John Charles to follow up these concerns.**

Councillor John Charles is working closely with the Fire Brigade regarding thatched buildings in Felpham. A new booklet is going to owners, with household visits commencing in October.

Recent sewage discharge problems by Southern Water on the beaches is being addressed with County and District now being involved. A meeting is scheduled with the Summerley Estate management committee to discuss the issue and the possibility of warning signs being placed on the beach.

Councillor Graham Matthews asked whether West Sussex County Council were still planning to erect the proposed school located on Blakes Mead estate off Stanhorn Grove, adjacent to the A259, as it is two years before this land reverts to the developer. Councillor John Charles confirmed that he and Nick Gibb MP were actively seeking interest from academies in siting a school or following up the possibility of a special school being placed there as there is a lack of specialist provision in the area currently.

Councillor Anne Barker declared an interest as a teacher and union officer but advised that the previously proposed single form entry school was not a viable option for an academy chain and consequently no interest had been shown.

Primary phase pupil numbers are currently declining across the borough, although specialist schools were required.

**It was agreed that the Clerk will write a letter on behalf of the Parish Council in support of this.**

- (ii) **District Councillor Paul English** (Felpham East) advised councillors that a full face to face council meeting at Arun District Council Main Chambers would be held on 15<sup>th</sup> September and that there were several motions scheduled including Southern Water and the proposed lorry park sale. It was suggested that councillors may wish to attend virtually as there are concerns regarding the lack of ventilation and maintenance of the air circulation filters in the chambers.

Councillor Anne Barker advised that residents need to enter public buildings and she is concerned that do not have sufficient ventilation in place. **Clerk to write a letter to West Sussex County Council and Arun District Council expressing the Parish's concerns over the lack of ventilation in public places and the effect this may have on public users.**

- (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 97. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, LICENSING & NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE DATED 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2021.**

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

**MC 98. MATTERS ARISING.**

Councillor Paul English stated that he did not recollect being present at the meeting, as indicated on the minutes but had viewed FP/165/21/T and expressed a concern regarding the extent of the proposed reduction. Councillor Glen Hewlett advised that he had attended site to view the tree and clarified that the proposed reduction was actually less than was understood to be the case.

**MC 99. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE DATED 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2021.**

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

**MC 100. MATTERS ARISING.**

**F 36.** Councillor Michael Harvey expressed concerns over the potential use of handheld speed monitoring devices being used to target Felpham residents. Councillor Andrew Fells confirmed that the devices being proposed were installed and speed data collected remotely in addition to electronic speed limit reminders.

This will be discussed at the forthcoming Finance and Administration meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

**MC 101. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE DATED 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2021.**

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

**MC 102. MATTERS ARISING.**

It was noted that Councillor George Grundy was present at the meeting.

**A 26.** Councillor George Grundy advised that the putting green was not cut sufficiently regularly making it difficult to play. The grass at the Greensward huts was also not adequately maintained and just cut around the edges. Councillor Matthew Copeland had visited on 06/09/21 and reported that the area looked generally well maintained. **It was agreed that the Clerk would visit to check and monitor.**

**A 26.** Councillor Michael Harvey expressed concerns regarding Councillor Dave Smart's authority to review the terms of reference and responsibilities for each committee.

Councillor Paul English confirmed that any councillor has the right to review any council policy and that this would be subject to committee and full council approval. Councillor Anne Barker confirmed that this review was agreed by the Parish Council two years ago.

**A 34.** Councillor Jaine Wild asked whether Councillor Kevin Watson had measured the height of the fencing that had been erected. Councillor Watson confirmed that this was 1.975 m high. Councillor Paul English expressed concerns that this was not in keeping with a rural setting. The clerk had previously advised that appearance was not a planning issue, only height, as there is no style guide for rural fencing regarding planning. Councillor Bob Budd had spoken to the previous owner in a social capacity who confirmed that the land had now changed ownership (however Land Registry was not yet updated) and that the possibility of container storage being planned for this area had been discussed.

It was agreed that issues relating to planning would be discussed at the Planning, Licensing and Neighbourhood Plan Committee meetings but that Allotments and Open Spaces would continue to monitor the matter.

**Clerk to contact Arun District Council and Bognor Town Council and request that Felpham Parish Council be notified and consulted on any planning application issues regarding the whole site.**

Councillor Jaine Wild stated that she had attended the recent 'Save Aldingbourne Rife Footpaths' meeting and that the Tree Officer is scheduled to attend site Regarding the trees that have been cut down by the new owner. There have now been 74 letters of support send from residents.

The Clerk advised that Arun District Council has issued an enforcement order (ENF-304-21 Land off Brooks Lane, Bognor Regis) serving notice on the fence and possible activities taking place in the field.

**MC 103. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PROJECTS AND RESILIENCE COMMITTEE DATED 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2021.**

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

**MC 104. MATTERS ARISING.**

It was noted that Councillor George Grundy was present at the meeting.

**PR 306.** Councillor Glen Hewlett advised that the IPCC report was in fact 3949 pages long with extremely technical content. There have only ever been two Citizen's Juries in this country.

It was agreed that going forward the published agendas would identify that members of the public wishing to attend, should wherever possible, submit questions to the Clerk with as much notice as possible, ideally seven days. This would allow councillors to give a fully informed response. Questions would be limited to five minutes per person and should be in the form of a question rather

than a statement.

**PR 314.** Councillor George Grundy asked whether a decision had been made Regarding the date of Fun on the Prom (provisionally 20<sup>TH</sup> August 2022). Councillor Gloria Moss advised that contact will be made with the RNLI shortly.

**MC 105. MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE:**

The Clerk politely requested that councillors complete the WSALC Southern Water online survey prior to the deadline of September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**MC 106. BUSINESS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION:**

There was no business at the Chairman's discretion.

Cllr Anne Barker expressed her concern as to the late start of Projects and Resilience due to A & OS over running, it was agreed that practices would be put in place to avoid this from happening wherever possible and that A & OS had been longer than usual due to questions from members of the public and a number of Agenda items that required unusually lengthy discussion.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50 p.m.

Approved.....Chairman

Date .....