DRAFT ***SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF MAIN COUNCIL ON 6TH SEPTEMBER 2022.***

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COUNCIL OF FELPHAM PARISH COUNCIL 2nd AUGUST 2022.

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

Jo Bell, Sussex Clubs for Young People was present in the public gallery.
Bryony Lawless, Worthing Homes, joined the meeting virtually.

MC 68. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor Dave Smart

MC 69. ABSENCE WITHOUT APOLOGIES:

None

MC 70. 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 71. QUESTION TIME:

There was one member of the public present at the meeting. No questions or issues were raised.

MC 72. TO SEEK APPROVAL OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE DECISION TO COMMIT TO A THREE-YEAR FIXED PREMIUM AGREEMENT WITH HISCOX INSURANCE.

The RFO/Deputy Clerk outlined the three-year fixed premium agreement which is index linked to the CPI at the time of renewal.

Councillors voted unanimously to approve the decision of the Finance and Administration Committee to commit to a three-year fixed premium agreement with Hiscox Insurance.

Deputy Clerk/RFO to action.

MC 73. PROPOSAL FOR FELPHAM YOUTH PROGRAMME

Councillor Gloria Moss welcomed Jo Bell (Sussex Clubs for Young People) and Bryony Lawless (Worthing Homes) to the meeting.

Jo Bell, outlined the details of the work of Sussex Clubs for Young People and advised that although the proposal is specific to Felpham it is also currently offered in ten or twelve other parishes including Bersted, Tangmere, Billingshurst, Pulborough and through detached projects in Worthing and from the 39 Club in Bognor.

Approximately fifty sessions operate weekly throughout East/West Sussex.

Classes such as arts and crafts, cookery, sports, workshops such as upcycling are offered, with activities to engage positively as well as issue-based workshops. The choices offered are those responding to young peoples' interests.

Councillor Anne Barker advised that a programme had run at Easter and that the proposal was based on experience gained in the immediate area. A consultation was undertaken following the short programme and 27 young people responded from the Blake's Mead Estate.

Councillor Michael Harvey expressed disappointment at the lack of funding for youth projects from West Sussex County Council.

In response to questions, Jo Bell advised that:

- The programme would be an open access universal club promoted throughout Felpham, for the ages of 8 to 18 years old. Staffing would be in line with NSPCC guidelines of 1: 10 which can be built on dependant on demand. The programme would start with an anticipated adult child ratio of 2:20. All volunteers are DBS checked, have two references, and undertake safeguarding and additional training.

- Success criteria would be based on attendance, participation, accreditation, and feedback from parents. Additional clubs could then follow. There would be a termly report but a report on each sitting with attendance numbers can be provided.

- A review would take place in Dec 2022 and if deemed not sustainable would be subject to 90-day cancellation terms. Payments would be made quarterly in advance. This would therefore require a 26-week commitment from Felpham Parish Council.

Councillor Glen Hewlett advised councillors that although the proposal states that the funding offer is '£4,000 towards the SCYP project worker costs to match funding from Felpham parish council', this does not take into account the £195 per quarter potential loss of revenue for the Community Hall space that should be accredited in the business case.

Councillor Mary Harvey enquired how salaries are paid in the charity and Jo Bell confirmed that the fund-raising team write bids and are supported by Children in Need, Bognor Town Council etc. Salaries are paid from this.

Councillor Anne Barker stated in her view, councillors should focus on the proposal as there was a need to provide something for young people and that following increasing problems in the area, a programme needs to be in place for September.

Councillors expressed a concern that the programme should be advertised to all young people throughout Felpham and not just those on the Blake's Mead Estate. Jo Bell confirmed that this would be the case and that the programme would be advertised on social media, through posters in notice boards, a press release and leaflets. If there were available venues, the programme could also run out of different locations.

If successful, Councillor Glen Hewlett enquired about funding for subsequent years and whether this would then move onto revenue budgets. Bryony Lawless confirmed that Worthing Homes have lottery funding until Jan 2024 and could possibly match fund for the next year. Councillor Matthew Copeland commented that if the programme were a success, it would be precepted for in the future.

Councillor Matthew Copeland proposed that Felpham Parish Council go forward with the trial period of the first quarter with a 90-day cancellation period, match funded by Worthing Homes. This will be reviewed at the end of the 13-week period to see whether we progress. This requires an obligation to pay £2400 and after the first term there will be the opportunity to review thoroughly. This was seconded by Councillor Glen Hewlett. 8 councillors voted for the proposal, 2 against and there were 3 abstentions.

It was RESOLVED that the Felpham Youth Programme commence with a trial period of the first quarter subject to a 90-day cancellation period, match funded by Worthing Homes and subject to a review after the initial 13-week period.

Councillor Gloria Moss thanked Jo Bell and Bryony Lawless for their time and wished them every success with the project.

MC 74. MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE:

None

MC 75. BUSINESS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION:

None

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 6th September 2022 at 18.15 hrs.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19:30 hrs

Approved……..Chairman Date ……