

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COUNCIL OF
FELPHAM PARISH COUNCIL 9TH JANUARY 2024.**

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear, Vice Chair: Councillor Rick Parker
Councillors: Antony Bassett, Steve Baker, Jacki Burton, Kirsty Halls, Martin Harvey, Glen Hewlett, Tom Harty, Graham Page, Jane Parker, Pat Young

County Councillor: Jaine Wild

MC 142. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors: Emma Aylward, Bob Budd, Emma Carrick, Jules Verhulpen

MC 143. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None

MC 144. QUESTION TIME:

No questions from the public.
Councillor Jane Parker read a statement to the meeting.

MC 145. DATES OF OUTSIDE BODIES MEETINGS & REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES:

None

MC 146. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MAIN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5TH DECEMBER 2023

The minutes were APPROVED as a true and accurate record.

MC 147. CLERK'S REPORT:

See attached Clerk's Report

MC 148. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Clerk reported on the following correspondence:

- A letter from a parishioner challenging the West Sussex County Highways response to the Bognor Regis Golf Club development. FP/274/21/OUT. **Councillor Glen Hewlett sought agreement from councillors to request that the Clerk ask Mr. Townsend directly to respond in writing to the points raised. In addition, this response should be copied to the four Felpham District Councillors asking for their support and requesting that they write to Neil Crowther as Head of Planning, the Executive Head of Planning (Karl Roberts) and the CEO of ADC asking that planning request a review of the WSCC response. The Clerk confirmed that the letter had already been sent to County Councillor Jaine Wild who had also**

requested a response from Mr. Townsend. Councillors supported this suggestion.

- A request from the Felpham Horticultural Society to place their banners on the Grassmere Parade noticeboard for two weeks prior to shows. Councillors supported this with the request that the banners may have to be removed earlier in August.
- An email complaining regarding PROW 3041 where a resident's trees were obscuring the streetlights. The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been delivered to the address some time ago requesting work. In addition, arrangements had been made for Arun District Council officers to attend and cut the King George V trees and with West Sussex County Council to clear the footpath. It had been confirmed that private landowner's growth will not be cut as part of this process. As this is a safety issue, the Clerk advised that a quotation will now be sought for the works from a Tree Surgeon.
- The Clerk reported that the defective streetlights in St. Mary's and Old Rectory Gardens had now been repaired.

MC 149. REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- (i) **District Councillor Joan English** (Felpham East) – Not present at meeting and no reports received.
- (ii) **District Councillor Tom Harty** (Felpham East) Councillor Tom Harty reported on comments from MP Andrew Griffith regarding Arun District Council planning decisions and land supply in Barnham and Eastergate. Councillor Glen Hewlett advised that the 5-year housing land supply had been set by the government.
- (iii) **District Councillor Gill Madeley** (Felpham West) – Not present at meeting and no reports received.
- (iv) **District Councillor Elaine Stainton** (Felpham West) – Not present at meeting and no reports received.

(v) County Councillor Jaine Wild submitted the following report:

- WSCC readiness for winter updates – 5 new officers have been dedicated to the Drainage Team with Riparian Officers to work with landowners.
- The Head at Downview Primary School has decided not to pursue cut outs at this time, although there is a meeting due on Friday 12/01/24 to discuss.
- Durban House is closed for two years following flooding.
- The continued flooding at a Felpham bus stop now has a works number for drainage investigation.
- Recycling Centre booking system will continue and has been extended to other sites.
- WSCC no longer provide 'No Through Road' signage.
- Limmer Lane Community Highways Application will not proceed due to insufficient room for build outs.
- Double yellow lines are now in place in Drygrounds Lane.
- A provisional TPO is now in place for trees on Bognor Golf Course.

MC 150. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE DATED 5TH DECEMBER 2023.

The minutes were APPROVED by the members present of the Finance and Administration Committee as a true and accurate record.

MC 151. CLERK'S REPORT

See attached Clerk's Report

MC 152. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE DATED 12TH DECEMBER 2023.

The minutes were APPROVED by the members present of the Allotments and Open Spaces Committee as a true and accurate record.

MC 153. CLERK'S REPORT

See attached Clerk's Report

MC 154. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE DATED 12TH DECEMBER 2023.

The minutes were APPROVED by the members present of the Projects and Community Involvement Committee as a true and accurate record.

MC 155. CLERK'S REPORT

See attached Clerk's Report

MC 156. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, LICENCING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE DATED 12TH DECEMBER 2023.

The minutes were APPROVED by the members present of the Planning, Licensing and Neighbourhood Plan Committee as a true and accurate record.

MC 157. CLERK'S REPORT

None

MC 158. GRANT AWARDS

This agenda item was brought forward in the meeting.

Councillors were pleased to present grant awards to:

2351 Sqn (Bognor Regis) Air Cadets
Arun Counselling Centre
Bognor Regis Local History Society
Friends of Downview Primary School

MC 159. TO RATIFY UPLIFT TO COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCES

The RFO updated councillors on recent communications from Arun District Council regarding the recommended uplift in Councillor allowances in line with recent Arun District Council allowances.

Councillor Steve Baker proposed that councillors ratify the decision of the Finance and Administration Committee to approve the uplift to councillor allowances. This was seconded by Councillor Rick Parker and approved by councillors with 8 votes for, 2 against and 2 abstentions.

MC 160. FELPHAM CAR PARKS

Councillor Steve Baker advised councillors that a meeting had been held with representatives from Arun District Council's Car Parks Team and that further information is awaited from ADC before the next Main Council meeting in February when this will form an agenda item.

MC 161. NEW YEAR'S HONOURS LIST

Councillors discussed the recent British Empire Medal (BEM) award (given to mark the achievements and service of extraordinary people across the UK) bestowed on ex Felpham Parish Councillor Gloria Moss for her volunteering work with the British Red Cross for over 40 years. **Councillors requested that the Clerk write to Gloria Moss congratulating her on this remarkable achievement and thanking her for her years of work with Felpham Parish Council particularly regarding her initiatives including the Felpham Emergency Resilience Group, defibrillators, and Fun on the Prom. Clerk/RFO to investigate Freedom of Felpham award.**

MC 159. MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE:

None

MC 160. BUSINESS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION:

A request was made from the public gallery for further information on the adoption of roads on Site 6/ Blake's Mead Estate. This will form an agenda item for Main Council February 2024.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 6th February 2024 18:15 hrs.

Meeting finished 7pm

Approved.....Chairman

Date

MAIN COUNCIL CLERK'S REPORT

JANUARY 2024

Precept

Precept of £116,885 has been requested from Arun District Council. This represents a £23.65 Band D contribution, slightly up from £23.19 in 22/23. This represents inflationary cost increases and price rises.

MC. 138

Following email contact and photographs sent to Lead Local Flood Authority a response has now been uploaded to the Planning Portal objecting to this application.

MC.139

Response from Environment Agency to West Sussex County Councillor Jaine Wild:

The Aldingbourne Rife outfall is primarily a gravity system with pumped back-up at high tide. Your constituent is right that as sea levels increase over time, the window for discharging via gravity will reduce and the need for pumping (or something else) will increase.

The Aldingbourne Rife Integrated Flood Risk Management Study identified two key locations where options for fluvial flood risk need to be further investigated: Barnham and Felpham. We undertook some additional modelling/assessment work to confirm the scale of flood risk reduction that could be achieved in Barnham, and to help us assess the impact on flood risk of making changes to the pumping regime at Felpham.

We are currently making plans to undertake wider engagement with local communities and stakeholders including Southern Water, Arun District Council and West Sussex County Council. Building on our recent flood recovery work with partners, we plan to gather further information, data and the views of local residents by mid-2024. This is necessary prior to a thorough options appraisal to determine the preferred option(s) which will be provided by the early stages of the schemes. We will also need to review the previous catchment study and modelling to identify any wider catchment benefits that could be delivered through this investment.

Finance and Administration Committee

Community Highways Application Limmer Lane was unsuccessful. West Sussex County Council advised that the reason the application could not be considered was because most traffic calming features are typically used to resolve speeding issues or encourage road users to use alternative routes should such a route exist. They generally do not consider buildouts or speed humps unless there is evidence of a significant safety issue. If buildouts were to be installed, then it could increase pedestrian conflict with vehicles or in the case of speed humps cause noise and vibration and other issues.

Allotments and open Spaces Committee

West Sussex County Council have advised that:

- We have not identified any RAAC in school premises after completing Stage 1A and Stage 1B surveys on Council Maintained schools.
- DfE have also undertaken some additional surveys and they have not confirmed to date the presence of RAAC.
- There are 114 Council maintained schools of which 102 were surveyed in accordance with DofE guidance (Stage 1A) and 12 where we undertook Stage 1B surveys.
- Should RAAC be identified as a result of activities outside of this cycle of surveys we will of course address the issue.
- As far as we know there is only one case of RAAC evident in an academy in Horsham which was identified some time ago.

Projects and Community Involvement Committee

Butlins have advised that they do not offer specific discounts. Updates and special offers are sent out to local residents who have joined the database over the years as well as attending the local residents' meetings. There is not a list of specific postcodes.