

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COUNCIL OF  
FELPHAM PARISH COUNCIL 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2024.**

**PRESENT:**

Chair: Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear, Vice Chair: Councillor Pat Young  
Councillors: Emma Aylward, Steve Baker, Bob Budd, Kirsty Halls, Tom Harty, Glen Hewlett,  
Graham Page, Jane Parker, Rick Parker, Jules Verhulpen

County Councillor: Jaine Wild

**MC 47. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors: Antony Bassett, Jacki Burton, Emma Carrick, Martin Harvey

**MC 48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None

**MC 49. QUESTION TIME:**

The Clerk advised that a number of questions had been raised in advance of the meeting:

1. Excessive noise from Butlins –

The Clerk advised that contact had been made with Butlins regarding this matter. The live music performances have not been altered and normally run from 1-6pm outside over weekends. A sound limit is automatically applied to all events. A 'Noughties Weekender' was held on 22/23 June and the nature of the music may have caused more disturbance than usual. Any residents who would like to be included in the Local Residents Newsletter and meetings where matters such as these are discussed, should email [Nancy.Joy@butlins.com](mailto:Nancy.Joy@butlins.com)  
The telephone number for noise concerns is 01243 810020 or email: [bncontrol@butlins.com](mailto:bncontrol@butlins.com)

Noise enforcement at Arun can be contacted via:

<https://www.arun.gov.uk/noise-complaints>

2. For Southern Water and equally to EA:

The following questions were raised by a resident and relate directly to the ARUN areas listed below which were affected by the floods over the past 12/18 months. The areas include, but are not limited to: The Aldingbourne Rife, its catchment areas, identified flood zones and associated infrastructure.

- (i) With regard the above areas please advise at what level of designed/planned capacity was the Southern Water waste network operating at the point of its privatisation in 1989.
- (ii) Please detail what investment there has been which has been specifically focused on improving capacity in any of the Southern Water waste network since 1989 to present day.
- (iii) To what extent has the capacity of watercourses, impacted directly by Southern Water and its capacity to deal with waste (treatment works), overflows and flood water, been increased or decreased in the areas mentioned above since 1989?

- (iv) What plans are in place, or proposed, to increase capacity to take account of the planned development, both residential and business, over the next 20 years.
- (v) What studies have been undertaken since privatisation to inform Southern Water of its performance, specifically in terms of its infrastructure and its ability to deal with the developments mentioned above.
- (vi) What impact has stage 1 of the SALT BOX development had on the rife and what records, observations have been made regarding discharges into the rife from this site. Stage 2 of this development is imminent so also please indicate what mitigation works you will be undertaking to minimise any impact this stage of the development will have on the rife.

An FOI has been sent to both organisations and the outcomes will be shared.

- 3. A representative of the Felpham Belles attended to thank councillors for the money donated to causes in the community from unused councillor allowances. Among other items made, were heart cushions for breast cancer patients and a letter of appreciation from a recipient of a cushion was shared.

**MC 50. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES:**

None

**MC 51. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Russ Marsden-Sear reported on recent official business undertaken by the Chair/Vice Chair, who last month attended:

Election Hustings: A parish council question was submitted but not addressed.

Arun Community Transport AGM in Littlehampton: Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear outlined the work of this organisation where volunteer drivers take people to appointments. 35 Felpham residents regularly use this service, taking 210 journeys last year. Volunteer drivers are being actively sought.

Bognor Regis Armed Forces Day: Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear extended his thanks to the organisers for a fantastic day.

**MC 52. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE THE MAIN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024.**

The minutes were APPROVED as a true and accurate record.

**MC 53. CLERK'S REPORT:**

No outstanding actions.

**MC 54. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The Clerk outlined correspondence received from Arun District Council Property and Estates advising of planned works to remove defective railings along Felpham promenade. The railings are beyond repair and below the shingle in places. Where there is a need to replace defective railings, these will be installed with railings similar to those near the Lobster Pot. As the current railings are cast into the sea defence wall, advice has been taken from RoSPA and the Coastal & Flood Defence Manager.

**MC 55. 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 – no report this month.
- (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:
  - Further progress is being made into the possible moving of the bus stop at Firs Avenue due to flooding issues, but drainage at the current site is under investigation.
  - Manor Close – a TRO is in progress to extend double yellow lines.
  - Planning enforcement officers are attending the footpath at Rabbit Island where some places are being blocked by the landowner.
  - WSCC are voting on 23<sup>rd</sup> July regarding car parking schemes in Felpham.
  - Land opposite Bognor Hospital is for sale and TPOs have been requested on existing trees.
  - Travellers at KGV – ADC are looking into possible security improvements in conjunction with WSCC.
  - Downview School parking – a Travel Plan is being created.
  - A visit to WSCC Highways to see how potholes are filled is planned.
  - £3M has been spent on electric charge points by WSCC which will soon be installed throughout West Sussex.

**MC 56. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE DATED 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024**

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

**MC 57. CLERK'S REPORT**

None

**MC 58. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE DATED 11<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024**

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

**MC 59. CLERK'S REPORT**

Fun on the Prom 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024 – use of the Putting Green has been authorised by Arun District Council for a Circus Workshop.

**MC 60. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, LICENCING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE DATED 11<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024**

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

**MC 61. CLERK'S REPORT**

None

**MC 62. COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES**

Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear advised residents in the public gallery that councillors work in a voluntary capacity and that the councillor allowance, if taken, is used to cover expenses such as travel, printing and costs associated with the role. Currently, several councillors elect not to take their allowances which become Felpham Parish Council funds and are donated to good causes suggested by those councillors.

Councillor Rick Parker stated that declarations should be made to the relevant government department if allowances are not taken, and councillors are in receipt of benefits. The Clerk advised that this would be a personal/private tax matter for individual councillors. Questions were also raised as to whether those councillors not taking allowances should be identified in minutes. It was agreed that further information will be obtained and sent to the RFO by Councillor Rick Parker and that this will form an agenda item at the next Finance and Administration Committee if required.

**Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear proposed that councillors agree that those councillors who choose not to take their allowances and wish to have their names included in minutes should be able to do so, and that it be further agreed that they should also be able to recommend which good cause receives a grant of these funds. This was seconded by Councillor Kirsty Halls and ratified by a vote of 8 for, 3 against, with one abstention.**

**MC 63. TO APPROVE A RECESS FOR FELPHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS DURING AUGUST**

**Councillor Steve Baker proposed that councillors approve a recess for Felpham Parish Council meetings during August. This was seconded by Councillor Glen Hewlett and unanimously agreed.**

**MC 64. WORKING PARTY MEETINGS DURING AUGUST**

Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear advised that the Projects and Community Involvement Committee will meet as normal in August, inviting other councillors to attend as public gallery/guests.

**MC 65. MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE:**

None

**MC 66. BUSINESS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION:**

Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear reminded councillors that:

- Fun on the Prom will be held on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024 and that the time slots available to assist in a voluntary capacity will be 9-12 am, 12-3 pm, 3-6 pm, 6 pm-end. Councillors who would be willing to assist, should email the Clerk by 16<sup>th</sup> July.
- Felpham Parish Council will have a stall at Old Rectory Gardens Fete on 13<sup>th</sup> July where there will be a map game and handouts available of information compiled by Councillor Bob Budd and created to assist residents in times of need.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 6.15pm

Approved.....Chairman

Date .....