



FOWNHOPE PARISH COUNCIL



DRAFT MINUTES – AWAITING ENDORSEMENT AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOWNHOPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT FOWNHOPE PAVILION ON WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2009 AT 07.30 PM

Present:

Parish Councillors:

- D Colley Chairman
- J Boothman
- A Corby
- F Jolley
- J Jones
- H Mansell
- D Pascoe
- G Williams
- M Williams

M Preedy Acting Parish Clerk

Ward Councillor Pemberton was in attendance prior to the start of the meeting.
5 members of the public were present.

Prior to the Meeting:

Councillors were asked whether two additional items could be included under Finance. Approval was given.

Councillor Pemberton provided an update on several issues which were brought to her attention including problems with wheelie bins and the road repairs needed on Nash Pitch. Andrew Middlecoat from Amey had assured Councillor Pemberton that the required works had now been planned.

CSO Smith provided an update on local crime incidents including 2 assaults (2 arrests made) and 1 interference with a vehicle. The Crime Mapper facility on the West Mercia Police website was also highlighted, which can be used to compare the crime rates of different areas. Overall the crime rate in Backbury ward is below the national average. Cllr Jolley asked whether the Police newsletter could be issued earlier to enable details to be included in the Flag.

Members of the public were invited to comment without response.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Decision: Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Clark, Daines, and Hardwick.

2. Declarations of interest. F Jolley declared a non-prejudicial interest in Item 8.

ACTION

Clerk

3. Minutes of the last meeting. .

Decision: The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record.

Clerk

4. Public Consultation on agenda items.

Members of the public were asked if they wished to comment on any of the agenda items. None responded.

5. Finance.

a. Investment of Deposits. The Chairman provided details of the £25,000 in Government Bonds that had been purchased.

An investment of £25,000 of Council reserves was completed on 12th November 2009. The investment was made in 5% treasury stock dated 2025.

The Nominal Amount of stock purchased is £22,557.78. This is the value which is guaranteed to be repaid to the Council in 2025. The 5% refers to the interest which will be paid on the Nominal stock which was purchased at a price of £1.0936 per pound unit which reduces the rate of interest receivable to 4.572% but will be fixed at this rate until maturity or sale. Interest of £563.94 will be paid directly into the Council's bank account twice yearly on 7th March and 7th September until 2025.

The Share certificate is registered as: 'The Chairman and Vice chairman of Fownhope Parish Council' and the address that of the current Chairman. It would be necessary to inform the Government Debt Office via Computershare Investor Services PLC, PO Box 2411, The Pavilions, Bridgewater Road, Bristol, BS99 6 WX of changes in the posts of Chairman and Vice chairman.

Clerk

b. Budget for FY 10-11.

Decision: The budget for FY 2010-11 at **Attachment A** was approved with the precept retained at £16,000.

Clerk

c. Payment of lengthsman invoice

Decision: An invoice for £52.25 was approved for payment.

Clerk

d. Donation request from History Group

Decision: Approval was given for a £125 donation to support the work of the History Group.

Clerk

6. West Villas Pavements Project. The Herefordshire Council Project Engineer would shortly be presenting plans and details of compensation through the Council to the owners of West Villas 1 and 2.

Cllr Jolley

7. Stocks Refurbishment Project. An application for funding had been made and the outcome is still awaited.

8. FRFA activities. The recent meeting between the Parish Council and members of the FRFA was discussed. The FRFA had requested regular funding from the Parish Council for the care of the field. The Council agreed to

this but stipulated that the sums to be paid must be based on a realistic budget and not merely used as a balancing amount for any annual shortfall of income over running costs of the Pavilion.

The FRFA had been assured of Council support for the facilities on the Recreation Field there was agreement on the need for further investment in the Pavilion to improve its earning potential. The requirement for the FRFA to maintain more detailed financial records had also been discussed.

Decision: The FRFA would be asked to specify an annual charge for grass cutting and to investigate funding requirements for improvements to the Pavilion.

**F Jolley
J Jones
D Pascoe**

9. Minor items and Announcements.

A blocked drain causing flooding on the Woolhope Road had been promptly cleared by the Lengthsman. The Highways Dept had been alerted to problems on this stretch of road.

The tree planting day organised by CRAG had been a great success with a total of 350 trees planted throughout the parish. A letter of thanks to the organisers for their efficient planning was being sent.

The presence of a number of potholes at Court Orchard was being reported to the Highways Dept.

Cllr Pascoe was liaising with owners of properties in Baynams alley wall to enable the Lengthsman to cut back overgrowing vegetation.

Several litter bins around the parish have not been emptied for some time. The Highways Dept was being informed.

Cllr Williams had attended a presentation by Amey on the new system of defect reporting. A phone number had been established for the use of clerks, councillors and the general public. This, together with email contact details had already been well publicised in the Flag.

The Lengthsman had been tasked to clear the blocked drain at the bus stop.

The FRFA would be requested by Council representatives at its next meeting to organise volunteers to clear the dug outs after football.

**D Colley
Chairman
3 Feb 11**

Attachment A: Budget for FY 2011-11.