



FOWNHOPE PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOWNHOPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT FOWNHOPE PAVILION ON WEDNESDAY 2ND JUNE 2010 AT 07.30 PM

Present:

Parish Councillors:

- G Williams Chairman
- D Clark
- D Colley
- A Corby
- P Daines
- J Hardwick
- F Jolley
- J Jones
- H Mansell
- D Pascoe
- M Williams

J Bateman Parish Clerk

Ward Councillor Pemberton was in attendance.

Five members of the public were present.

CSO Smith had sent his regrets at being unable to attend.

Prior to the start of the meeting Councillor Pemberton congratulated the previous Chairman, Derek Colley, on his outstanding contribution during his term in office. She advised the meeting that there appeared to be little road maintenance work scheduled to take pace in Fownhope in the future and would be requesting through the Clerk details of any which were considered necessary by the Council.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Decision: Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr J Boothman.

2. Declarations of interests. Cllrs Jones, Jolley and Pascoe all declared a non-prejudicial interest in Item 8.

3. Minutes of the last meeting. .

Decision: The reference to Ferry Lane having been deleted from Item 13, the minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting were confirmed as an accurate record.

4. Public Consultation. The Chairman of St Mary’s School PTA outlined the case for financial support to increase the quantity of staging held in Fownhope New Memorial Hall for the benefit of pupils of St. Mary’s School and

ACTION

Clerk

for other community groups.

5. Community Staging at St Mary's School.

Decision: The sum of £142.61 was approved for payment to St Mary's School PTA for additional staging for the benefit of both the school and the community at large.

Clerk

6. External Audit Report.

Decision: The External Audit return for FY 2009/10 was approved.

Clerk

7. Payment of Invoices. The invoice which had been received from Thomas's Forge for work on the Stocks was far higher than the quotation which been agreed for the work. This was being investigated.

Decision: Approval was given for the payment of £20 for Scotch Firs grass cutting, £15 to HALC for meeting posters and £200 for cost of room-hire.

Clerk

8. Financial Assistance to the FRFA. The FRFA had appealed for financial assistance for the costs of grass mowing of the Children's Play Area and to improve the soak-away of the Pavilion septic tank. The FRFA was investigating with Welsh Water the possibility of connecting the Pavilion to with the main drainage system.

Decisions:

£84 was approved for financial assistance to the FRFA for grass mowing around the play area.

Clerk

If it proved unviable to connect with the Welsh Water drainage system the most effective means of improving the soak-away would be investigated in conjunction with the FRFA. **Ongoing.**

FRFA Reps

9. Planning Applications. Two Planning Applications were considered:

DMCE/100992/FH - Orchard House HR1 4PZ

Reinstatement of pitched roof over 2-storey structure. Construction of mono pitched roofs and alterations to single-storey structures. Change windows back to timber and form additional windows in existing buildings.

DMCE/101058/FH - Pump Cottage, Common Hill HR1 4QA

Construction of ground and first floor extension to cottage.

Decisions: Both applications were recommended for approval.

Clerk

10. Stocks memorial Plaque. It would cost £3-400 for a metal plaque to be placed on the church wall commemorating the reopening of the Stocks. The wall was a listed monument and it was likely that planning consent would be necessary for any plaque to be mounted on it. The wall was Church property.

Decision: The project would not go ahead.

11. Court Garden Bench. The existing bench, which had been installed in March 2009 at a cost of £320, needed replacing following vandalism. A metal one might be a better choice. This was being investigated. **Ongoing.**

Cllr Colley

12. Tourist Information Notice Board.

Decision: <£50 was approved to meet the costs of giving the Board a good clean and replacing it in situ with the display information sealed inside it.

Cllr Colley

13. Footpath Between Luckshall and the Holme Lacy Bridge.

Decision: The Lengthsman would carry out an initial tidy up of the path to determine what further actions were necessary. Following this, the owners of the adjacent camp-site would be contacted to determine what joint action could be carried out to clear the footway.

Cllrs Colley & Daines

14. Sports Award.

Decision: The Sports Award for 2010/2011 would be awarded to Mrs Betty Barnett for her bowling exploits. The trophy would be recovered from its current holder and arrangements made to present it to her on a suitable occasion.

**Cllr Daines
Chairman**

15. FRFA Representatives.

Decision: Mr M Symonds, the Council's Webmaster, would be approached and, if willing, would be appointed as the Council's third representative to the FRFA.

Cllr Colley

13. Minor items and Announcements.

A number of complaints had been received about the ramp which had recently been installed in Biggs Lane, with allegations that it was both dangerous and unfit for purpose. The ramp would be inspected as a matter of urgency and any actions found necessary to make it safe implemented immediately.

A proposed update to the Financial Regulations to tighten up the way in which contracts were being awarded would be presented to the Council at the next meeting.

The CSO had advised that 2 car break-ins had recently occurred in Fownhope and advised that extra vigilance was necessary.

The Perspex covers on the notice board required attention. This would be on the next agenda.

There was some confusion over whether the FRFA was content for the Council to go ahead and modify the posts around the Play Area. This was being clarified.

The footpath between the Hall and the Medical Centre required clearing of obstructions from overgrown hedges.

Parishioners would be reminded in the Flag of their responsibility as landowners to keep paths adjacent to their property clear of overgrowing vegetation.

A dangerous manhole cover in Common Hill Lane and at the bus stop near West End Stores had been reported and was being pursued as a matter of urgency.

A meeting between the Council and the FRFA was being scheduled to discuss

finances.

A number of plants had been stolen from Court Garden. Their replacement would be on the next agenda.

The Webmaster had sportingly agreed to consider ways of upgrading the Village Web-site.

The minutes of the recent Memorial Hall Committee meeting were available from the Clerk for anyone interested.

Jem Bateman

Clerk to the Council