



FOWNHOPE PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7th SEPTEMBER 2011

Present:

Gareth Williams (Chairman), David Clark (Vice-Chairman), Ben Straker, John Hardwick, Fred Jolley, Peter Davis, Mike Simmons, Dave Shuker, Derek Colley, Hilary Mansell, Margret Rolls

In attendance:

M Preedy (Parish Clerk)
Five members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Resolved: Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr A Corby and the Local Policing Team.

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr Jolley declared a prejudicial interest in items 16 a) & b)

3. Approval of the Minutes from the last meeting

Resolved: Minutes from the meeting held on the 6th July 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. To receive brief verbal report from ward member

Councillor Hardwick highlighted the outline Planning Permission which had been approved at Hampton Bishop for a Rugby Club centre of Excellence and 190 houses. Cllr Hardwick would be involved with the s.106 obligation negotiations. A ward meeting for Backbury and Hagley will be arranged to discuss the Local Development Framework. Councillor Hardwick was pleased to inform the Council that the proposed scheme to widen the pavement at West Villas is likely to be programmed for Spring 2012. Thanks were expressed to Councillors Colley and Jolley, as well as Councillor Hardwick.

6. Public Forum

Nothing raised

7. Highways

a) A letter received regarding parking around West End Stores was discussed with the author. Solutions to the perceived problem were debated.

Resolved: views would be sought from the owners of the shop before any further comments are made.

b) Pedestrian safety around Lucksall caravan site was discussed following a letter from a concerned resident.

Resolved: continue negotiations with Ray Wallace, Amey Herefordshire and write to resident informing her of progress.

Action

Clerk

Clerk

c) The feasibility of a Pedestrian crossing near West End Stores was discussed. It was felt that it was important to progress the widening of the pavement at West Villas before a further highway project was initiated.

Resolved: Seek highway criteria for pedestrian crossings.

Clerk

7. Finance

a) **Resolved:** the finance report was approved

b) **Resolved:** a date for next finance group meeting was agreed

Finance Group

c) **Resolved:** current expenditure against the budget was noted

d) **Resolved:** quote from Hereford Glass (£673.85 plus VAT) for glazing bus stop was approved

Clerk

8. Planning

a) **Resolved:** between meetings the Planning Group had made the following comments;

- The Plumtrees, Fownhope, HR1 4PJ – Conversion of existing garage to create additional self-contained living accommodation. *The Parish Council support the application* APPROVED
- Fownhope VA school, Fownhope, HR1 4PG. Proposed additional working area together with storage and WC facilities. *The Parish Council support the application.* APPROVED

The following decision notices had been received:

- Building at Mill Farm, Fownhope, Herefordshire, HR1 4NT. Extant planning permission to extend time limit of previous application DCCE2008/0052/F – proposed change of use from agricultural storage to storage of non-agricultural products. APPROVED
- 18 Scotch Firs, Fownhope, Herefordshire, HR1 4NW. Extension and alteration of garage area to form first floor ancillary room. APPROVED

b) **Resolved:** Cllrs Shuker, Straker, Simmons and Williams to attend Local Development framework meeting

**Cllrs Shuker, Straker,
Simmons and Williams**

c) **Resolved:** the following priorities were set under the Joint Housing Strategy most important to least important –

- lack of affordable housing
- suitable housing for vulnerable people to live independently and prevention of homelessness
- high levels of fuel poverty
- condition of housing stock

Clerk

9. Cllr Clark updated the Council on the new bus timetable which is a slight improvement to the previous timetable. A monthly shopper bus service to Ross was discussed, as raised at previous bus user meetings.

Resolved: Clerk to contact Dormington/Mordiford, How Caple and Woolhope to seek support with financing of service. Cllr Clark to talk to operators and County officers for detailed costs.

**Clerk
Cllr Clark**

10. Cllr Clark reported back on the meeting he had had with the Library Services manager at Herefordshire Council and Cllr Rolls and the Clerk. An appropriate venue for the voluntary run library was still to be finalised and

issues such as storage of books would be need to be discussed further. Several volunteers have come forward with interest in running the library.

Resolved: Cllr Clark to arrange a meeting of the volunteers and visit Peterchurch library to investigate their voluntary-run library.

11. Resolved: Cllr Clark gave an update on current P3 work and issued a revised work schedule.

**Cllr Clark
Cllr Rolls**

12. Resolved: the lengthsman would complete the following work within the next month;

Cllr Clark

- work in Biggs Lane
- further work in the Play Area following the safety report
- weed killer on the pavements
- unblocking gulley on the B4224
- unblocking the catchpit on Capler Lane

Cllr Colley

13. Resolved: feedback from brainstorming session would be discussed at the next meeting

Cllr Williams

14. Highways

a) **Resolved:** no defects reported

b) **Resolved:** Cllrs Williams, Clark and Colley would complete application for Community self-help winter maintenance project

**Cllrs Williams, Clark
Colley**

15. A successful Jubilee meeting had been held with representatives from many of the groups within the village.

Resolved: Next meeting 19th October 7.00pm. Parish Council to consider commemorative mugs for children in the parish.

**Cllr Williams
Clerk**

16. Recreation field

a) Feedback had been received from the FRFA that the soakaway was not working properly. After inspection there didn't seem to be a problem.

Resolved: Clerk to write to the FRFA asking if they could monitor the usage and assess the condition of the field. Also to state that if large events are to be held separate portloos should be hired.

Clerk

b) **Resolved:** Cllr Jolley reported back from the recent FRFA meeting. Clerk to arrange meeting between FRFA and Parish Council.

Clerk

c) **Resolved:** Parish Council not to pursue Fields in Trust scheme

d) Cllr Colley had kindly followed up the recommendations of the RoSPA safety report on the Play Area.

e) **Resolved:** letter of thanks and cheque for £100 to cover mowing expenses to be sent to Mr Davies who voluntarily mows the play area.

Clerk

17. Correspondence

a) **Resolved:** The following comments were put forward in response to the Compact partnership working consultation; *'Document could have been reduced and written in Plain English. Content seemed common sense and*

intuitive. If the goal is to ask Parish Councils to sign up to an agreement then it needs to be explained in a more relevant and clear manner.'

Clerk

b) Cllr Mike Simmons had agreed to be the Broadband Champion for the area and encouraged people to return the broadband survey which would be shortly distributed.

c) **Resolved:** the Chairman encouraged members to attend forthcoming training events. It was agreed that the training budget could be exceed if necessary.

18. Resolved: current list of on-going projects was noted.

19. Resolved: the following items were put forward for the next meeting;

- to consider re-position the rubbish bin outside the Pavilion
- to consider approaching Welsh Water regarding the trees surrounding the sewage plant
- to acquire map offered by Mrs Corby to position in Lych gate

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed:

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Chairman

Date

FOWNHOPE PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2011

Payments approved:

Payee	Details	Budget heading	Excluding VAT	VAT	Total amount
M. Preedy	Salary – Aug/Sept	Salary Expenses	£561.34 £98.42		£659.76
G Williams	Laptop and software	Misc. expenses	£391.65	£78.33	£469.98
NALC	Councillor training	Training	£195.00	£39.00	£234
M. Dyer	Lengthsman/P3 work	P3 Lengthsman	£78.50 £134.25		£212.75
D Colley	Work on play area	Misc. expenses			£38.92
M Simmons	Website hosting	Website	£20.97	£4.19	£25.16

Running totals for main budget headings (excluding above payments)

Clerks Salary	General Admin	Lengthsman	Lengthsman Supp	P3	Improv Projects
£ 1,082.16	£ 1,909.04	£ 600.25	£ 452.79	£ 1,904.60	£ 4,272.51

Grants	VAT	Total expend
£1,000.00	£ 1,083.27	£ 13,339.70

