

Farnborough Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

Location: Farnborough Memorial Hall

Date: 10/12/2024

Councillors Present:

Chair: Sam Ross (SR)

Nick Barnett (NB)

Martin Carter (MC)

Mark Goodchild (MG)

Phil Gray (PG)

David Howard (DH)

Dan Pidcock (DP)

Clerk: Jessica Davis

1 Apologies for Absence

Rob Breckon

2 Declaration of Interest

None

Public Participation (3 minutes per person)

- None

Radstock Police Beat Manager Report

- None

3 Minutes

a To approve the minutes held in November

Action/Vote

7 in favour

To receive reports on any further matters arising the decision of the last meeting

- b
- Item 7a - SR confirmed that there are two footpaths that cross the Recreation Ground - CL9/21 and CL9/17. One crosses directly across the wicket.
 - Spreadsheet of Actions outstanding

Action: Clerk

4 Planning

To agree/report responses to the following applications:

- (i) 24/01983/FUL - Honeysuckle Barn
Recommendation to SUPPORT with the following comments:
This conservatory has already been built so therefore this should be a retrospective application.
- a

7 in favour

- (ii) 24/02995/FUL - Crossway Stables
OBJECT IN PRINCIPLE with comments remaining unchanged from our meeting on 10th September 2024

7 in favour

To report on B&NES decisions for the following applications:

- (i) 24/03640/FUL - Ling Heather, The Street, Farnborough - Erection of two storey side extension following demolition of garage and carport, single storey extension to front of property, alterations to front and rear dormers, new roof tiles, new render finish to external walls, replacement doors and windows - **PERMIT**
- b

(ii) 23/03351/FUL - Forget-me-not Barn, Timsbury Road, Farmborough - Reduce the size of a full-length window to a small window plus the addition of 1 small window in bedroom 3 (Retrospective) – **REFUSE**

(iii) 23/03579/FUL - Forget-me-not Barn, Timsbury Road, Farmborough - Erection of a single-story extension to the North East Elevation - **REFUSE**

c To report on other planning matters (referrals, enforcement, appeals etc.)

- None

Local Plan update

(i) HELAA site assessments

Four outstanding sites to be assessed. Clerk to summarise forms and circulate to cllrs who will work in pairs to complete the assessments: DH/NB, DP/SR, MG/MC, PG/RB

Action: Clerk
Action: Cllrs

d (ii) Housing Needs Survey

Clerk summarised meeting with Alison Ward on 9/12/24. Seemed to be some suggestion that we didn't qualify because we had a strategic housing allocation, but this may be confusing us with Farrington Gurney.

Clerk to email Alison to say we will contact Gary Ward and George Blanchard for more info and get back to her if this would be open to us.

Action: Clerk
Action: SR

5 Finance and HR

To approve the monthly finance report for December

7 in favour

To agree to pay £7,686.67 with £3,922.38 from reserves to Gregor for energy improvements mostly paid for by the UK Rural Prosperity funding. There may be an additional amount from this fund available. PG to follow up.

7 in favour

Action: PG

MC outlined the main budget considerations and requested suggestions of any additional items in advance of next month's budget meeting so that recommendations can be made and discussed in January. Some suggestions were proposed for consideration:

- a
- MUGA repainting (£3,500)
 - Youth Connect Southwest Provision (£10,000 – annual fee)

It was agreed that the allotment fees are sufficient to cover costs and so would remain unchanged at £25 per year with a £25 deposit per plot on signing of tenancy agreement. Clerk to notify allotment holders.

7 in favour

Action: Clerk

Sweeper will get starting salary of £12 until March, increasing to £12.60 in April 2025 (Real Living Wage).

7 in favour

Clerk to chase up section 137s from local community groups.

Action: Clerk

To receive the balance of accounts:

- b
- (i) Current Account: £24,091.31
 - (ii) Savings Account: £20,686.52

To consider candidates for co-option onto the Parish Council

c None

To consider candidates for role of Parish Sweeper

d Clerk to respond to both, send guide and request times when they are available in the new year.

Action: Clerk

6 Highways, Rights of Way, Infrastructure

- None

7 Playground and Recreation Ground

Pavilion repair update

- Contract with TCCC for a 5-year lease has been signed.
 - FPC clarified that the public retain the right to access and that TCCC share a public space.
 - Football posts will be moved to an area beyond the cricket boundary.
- a
- Anti-social behaviour is anticipated to decrease with increased activity from TCCC at the recreation ground.
 - Asbestos survey has come back positive. Workers to be notified and appropriate action taken.
 - Letter to be sent to Handy Compliance to recover unspent funds. Action: DH

Glebe Land Contract

- New contract was agreed. Agent fees and backpay (from August) now payable. 7 in favour
- b
- Other playground matters: outstanding actions to clean the matting and replace the crossbeam Actions: MG/RB

8 Representative Body and Working Groups

- a To receive a report and agree any actions from the members of:
- i. Memorial Hall Committee
 - Report highlighted that asbestos is present in the committee room.
 - ii. Farmborough Sports & Social
 - None
 - iii. Allotment Working Group
 - None
 - iv. Farmborough Climate and Nature Emergency Working Group (FCNEW)
 - None

9 Correspondence and AOB

To receive a report from ward councillor

- Lots of flooding in areas not previously flooded and in others which suffer from periodic high levels during severe storms.
 - Local Plan is on the horizon, but nothing new to report.
 - Blue Cedar have not managed the hedge adjoining the Rec. SR has requested that they provide a plan of how they will comply with the planning consent in this matter or will need to escalate to enforcement for action.
 - Youth Connect SW – organise activities for secondary school aged children that gives them something to engage with and increase relationships. It aims to reduce anti-social behaviour. Either engage on the street, with a mobile project or in a building (youth club). Cost is around £10k for one year. Includes one session per week with two members of staff (one senior and one assistant and encourages volunteers within the community with full training and the prospect of becoming a qualified youth worker). Lots of activities; cooking, games, music etc. Bill quarterly and manage promotion of the club. Contract is secure in terms of sick pay, safeguarding and regular reports back to the PC. Other PCs which pay for the service locally find it worthwhile and report that it builds a positive community for children. May be something to consider in budget for 25/26.
- a

- b To receive any other reports from councillors
- None

Wooden bench on Scumbrum Lane

- c Correspondence from High Littleton PC asking what we want to do as the bench is old and has been damaged.
- Bench pre-dates all councillors. Thought to be installed by the Hunter's Rest, Clutton. Not within Parish interest to replace due to placement on the border

of the parish in High Littleton. There appears to be maintenance of the verge around the bench which is BANES Highways.

Clerk to report to BANES on FixMyStreet and respond to HL PC

Action: Clerk

Blockage of Congyre Brook at bottom of Poor Hill.

This correspondence came in in November so the issue is no longer present.

d

If residents find issues that are not related to parish assets e.g. Highways, footpaths etc. they should be reporting to FixMyStreet. If there is contamination, environmental health should be notified.

Clerk to reply to correspondent.

Action: Clerk

Meeting ended: 9:37pm

Signed by

Chair to the Parish Council, as an accurate representation of the meeting as agreed on

DRAFT