

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL** HELD
IN THE PAVILION ROOM, VILLAGE HALL, FOWLMERE
TUESDAY 21ST JANUARY 2020 AT 7:30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr L Wragg (Chairman), Cllr D Roberts, Cllr P Burge, Cllr M Vinton, Cllr R Lennon,
and Cllr P Collinson

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms K Byrne (Clerk) and Mrs Woods and one member of the public

Actions

1 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr S Mulholland and Cllr C Howe.

2 Declaration of Interest in agenda items

None was declared.

3 Acceptance of Councillor Bearpark's resignation

Cllr Wragg received Cllr Bearpark's letter of resignation on 21st December 2019. Cllr Wragg accepted his resignation, with great reluctance, on behalf of the Parish Council. He expressed his sincere thanks to Cllr Bearpark for his hard work and dedication to the PC over the last eight years, especially his work as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee and as tree officer. Cllr Wragg said that Cllr Bearpark had volunteered for countless jobs, and has been a valued member of the PC who will be sadly missed.

Cllr Wragg will write a letter to Cllr Bearpark to express the PC's thanks.

Cllr Wragg

Clerk to send Notice of Vacancy to SCDC and advertise the casual vacancy. If no poll is called by 11 Feb 2020 then the vacancy can be filled by co-option.

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The minutes were agreed as a true record, and were signed by Cllr Wragg.

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Regarding item 12, the Lottery grant closed last month so the PC has missed the deadline. Regarding item 15c, Cllr Burge said that the new play equipment is being fitted on the Butts this week; regarding item 17, the bench has been installed in the round moat by Cllr Burge and Cllr Collinson. Cllr Wragg thanked Cllrs Burge and Collinson.

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Cllr Burge /
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Glen Johnson has provided the drawings of the repairs. Cllrs Roberts, Burge and the Clerk will submit the planning application this week.

Cllrs Roberts,
Burge &
Clerk

13 Road Safety

a) LHI Application Update

The Clerk received via email a Press Notice and Plan from CCC Highways Service which shows the locations and extents of the proposed speed limits and traffic calming measures planned for Fowlmere. This was forwarded to the PC.

Some residents have commented on the two new lamp-posts that were installed in December (one on Long Lane, near Willowside, and one on the High Street, outside Clifton House). The Clerk asked James Toombs from CCC Highways about this; he explained that they are required to illuminate the planned speed humps, but as there are often long lead times for installation, CCC raised the order before Christmas, as the lights need to be installed before the traffic calming installation for safety reasons. Balfour Beatty installed them earlier than expected. The streetlights will help to increase road safety and reduce speeds through the village (even if the traffic calming scheme is withdrawn), as they indicate to drivers that they are entering a residential setting, and in both of these locations pedestrians regularly cross.

b) Speedwatch Update

There have been no recent SpeedWatch sessions due to Christmas, but more sessions are planned. Cllr Lennon said that on Pipers Close and Chrishall Road speeders are a big problem especially at the weekends. Cllr Lennon would like to assist Cllr Howe in organising the sessions, and plans to carry out some sessions on Pipers Close and Chrishall Road at the weekends. Cllr Lennon will canvas for more volunteers, and let the Clerk know if anyone requires Speedwatch training.

Cllr Lennon

Cllr Wragg moved the MYSI from Pipers Close and was able to get data from it; he will analyse the data with Cllr Howe when the latter returns.

Cllr Wragg /
Cllr Howe

Actions

It was recently reported that the Solagen school sign lights were not working in the morning; the Clerk has notified Solagen. Cllrs and residents are asked to notify the Clerk if the lights are not working correctly in the future. All to note

d) Casualty Reduction Support Fund

Nothing to report.

14 Trees, Grass and Hedges

a) SCDC 3 Trees scheme

SCDC are offering every parish council in South Cambridgeshire three free trees and a voucher for £60 to cover the cost (to be claimed by 14th March 2020). Before the meeting Cllr Mulholland suggested the PC could choose small trees that do not require a lot of maintenance and perhaps ask if the school wants to be involved. Cllr Roberts said the PC already has a lot of trees (having planted many of the trees themselves in the past), and that they cost money to maintain. Cllr Collinson said that the voucher would only provide for three tiny trees or a single more substantial one, and suggested that the school children could get involved in deciding (with some guidance) which tree is chosen, from a shortlist of British species. The PC thought that the southern corner of the Butts near Ion science would be a good location. The PC decided to purchase one mature tree. Cllr Burge will liaise with Mr Atkin initially and then Cllr Collinson will follow up in getting the children involved in choosing trees.

Cllr Burge /
Cllr Collinson

b) Community Orchard

As Cllr Topping has stepped down as county councillor there has been no report on the asbestos matter. Cllr Burge will check whether the asbestos is still there; if so the Clerk will contact CCC to see if it is being dealt with.

Cllr Burge /
Clerk

15 Finance & General Purposes

a) Defibrillator

Cllr Burge said that another defibrillator located more centrally in the village would be a good idea; he had mentioned it to Chris, the manager at the Chequers, who is supportive. It would require a cabinet with an electricity supply (costing perhaps £5 per year). If it was mounted on the outside of the kitchen wall, which already has power, it should not cost too much to install.

Clerk to write to Chris and Rebecca to officially ask if they will host the defibrillator.

Clerk

b) Play equipment repairs

Before the meeting, the Clerk and Ian Wilson had looked at the Butts and Village Hall play equipment repairs in the RoSPA reports, after which Ian had prepared a quote. This is for securing the bin by the noticeboard and fitting 11 new wooden posts around the Butts playing field; the other smaller jobs (such as fitting plugs in the frame of the swings) Ian would do free of charge. The PC decided that the bin should be secured by SCDC not the PC, but the quote to fit new wooden posts was accepted. Clerk to let Ian Wilson know, and also purchase a new basketball net for the Village Hall.

Clerk

c) Bills to be paid

Seniorlink Eldercare – Dec 2020, £80.66

Shire Trees Limited – Tree work in Round Moat, £780.00

Hardy Landscapes – various jobs at cemetery, £2,340.00

Jo Asquith – Wix Website Hosting (18-Nov-2019 to 18-Nov-2020), £74.25

Ian Wilson – Bus shelter repairs (Chrishall Road), £317.38

Fowlmere United Reformed Church Hire, £104.31

Fowlmere Village Hall – Pavilion Room Hire, £36.00

Income

Fowlmere Village Hall – Annual Rent, £1.00

Bills already approved / DD

OPUS ENERGY LTD (DD) - 5 Dec 2019 to 2 Jan 2020, £200.36

K Byrne – Salary (Confidential)

K Byrne – NEST (refund), £49.21

16 Correspondence

a) Correspondence List – Jan 2020

The PC noted the correspondence.

17 ACTION LIST UPDATE:

The action list was reviewed and updated.

18 Ideas for Improvements to Village Life

Improvements include planting new trees and involving the school children.

Cllr Collinson proposed that the PC should consider what assets of community value Fowlmere have. Clerk to put this on the next PC Agenda.

Clerk

Cllr Burge said that there is a group of residents in Fowlmere who plan to discuss ideas around sustainability; they are having their first meeting on 22 January, at the Chequers.

19 Other Matters (for information only)

Cllr Burge will be attending the cross village transport meeting on 30 January, which Tim Watkins from Greater Cambridge Partnership will also be attending. Are there are issues that Fowlmere PC want raising? Clerk to ask for an Agenda and circulate to PC. Cllr Burge will ask about a cycling route from Fowlmere to Foxton.

Clerk

Cllr Roberts said that the drains on Long Lane are still clogged up. The Clerk will send an email every week to SCDC until the drains are cleared [drains finally cleared on 22 Jan].

Clerk

Cllr Roberts also said the daffodils planted in the cemetery seem to have gone missing.

Cllr Vinton said that Mrs Flanagan in Rose Cottage next to the churchyard on the High Street reported that the trees in the churchyard are so tall she is worried they would fall over. Cllr Collinson said that they will be reviewed in the tree survey.

Cllr Vinton said also said that a resident had slipped on the trap door to the cellar of the old Black Horse and broke her wrist. The owners have responded by siting their wheelie bins on it. The Clerk had already spoken to the resident's husband suggesting that they contact SCDC.

The date of the next meetings:

PC meeting – Tuesday 18th February 2020, 7:30pm in the Pavilion Room, Village Hall.

Finance Meeting – Wed 26 February 2020, 7:30pm in the Pavilion Room, Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21:25