

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
IN THE PAVILION ROOM, FOWLMERE VILLAGE HALL, FOWLMERE
TUESDAY 21ST MARCH 2017 AT 7:30 PM**

PRESENT: Cllr L Wragg (Chairman), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr C Howe, Cllr D Roberts, Cllr M Vinton and Mrs J Wright (Clerk).

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Mulholland, Mr Bottrill, Mrs Woods

		Actions
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: There were apologies for absence from Cllr M Sunderland and Cllr S Wells.	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS: There were no declarations Cllr Roberts declared an interest in item 13.	
3.	MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 21ST FEBRUARY 2017: The minutes were agreed and will be signed as a true record.	
4.	MATTERS ARISING: Paul Earnshaw from the Thriplow Daffodil Management Committee has asked for a meeting with Fowlmere PC, to discuss any problems arising from the Thriplow Daffodil Weekend. Paul to be invited to an informal meeting with Councillors to preserve good relations.	Clerk
5.	COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS: Cllr Topping attended the meeting and verbally gave a report. A) CLEARANCE OF CCC LAND NEAR SCHOOL CAR PARK Cllr Topping suggested a meeting date which unfortunately the PC couldn't make, so a new date needs suggesting. Cllr Roberts and Cllr Wragg to provide the Clerk/Peter Topping with some dates. SCDC Footpaths Officer to come out to the same meeting. Cllr Wragg thanked Cllr Topping for his help behind the scenes regarding the successful LHI Funding bid, where Fowlmere came out top in the County. Clerk to respond back to accept the offer, and press them for a date. Clerk to check whether Fowlmere School is affected by the funding issues and needs support with this? Clerk to ask the Head/Chair of Governors. Re resurfacing of footpaths – CCC Whittlesford can be approached if needed - Clerk to be made aware of any sites requiring resurfacing.	Cllr Roberts / Cllr Wragg Clerk Clerk Clerk
6.	DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE: The Planning Dept at SCDC is causing concern. Manor Farm and Chapel Lane planning applications have been approved (the latter on delegated powers) despite material reasons advanced by FPC for the Planning Committee to view the sites and take the decision on the applications. The Chapel Lane application is very large and close to the existing properties, SCDC have not admitted any inconsistencies (also there was a full month from the decision being taken to the paperwork being sent out, with no time for any immediate objections). The neighbours are to meet with Cllr Roberts and Cllr Wragg soon to take this forward. The applicant appears to be breaching conditions by working too close to the fence and undermining it. The SCDC Planning Dept is being badly led by the Chairman of the Committee. The officers who were experienced have left and the remaining officers are inexperienced/new or on contracts and they seem to be out of their depth. Julie Baird has also handed her notice in. The Chairman of the	

	<p>Planning Committee should be invited to Fowlmere to address some of these issues (David Bard). Cllr Howe – should Heidi Allen be made aware? Cllr Wragg and Cllr Roberts to draft a letter.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts informed Cllr Topping that she has no confidence in the way the Planning Dept at SCDC is being led.</p> <p>Cllr Topping, whilst being Leader of the District Council attends Parish Meetings as the County Councillor. He explained that Stephen Kelly is reorganising the Planning Department at SCDC, encouraging officers to work in a better way. It is a disappointment that Julie Baird is leaving but an interim manager has been appointed. He has been impressed by the ‘younger’ planning officers. Large sites will be closely monitored now by SCDC, to take a more proactive role in working with them.</p> <p>Cllr Vinton said that, since becoming a Parish Councillor, he has seen a lot of interest and dedication from the Parish Council in the work they do assessing planning applications, with the best interests of Fowlmere at heart and yet has seen them over-ruled and ignored time and again by officers or the Planning Committee at SCDC.</p> <p>Mr Mulholland fully explained the situation with the history of the application in Chapel Lane.</p> <p>Cllr Topping to set up a meeting with Julie Baird and he will contact Charlie Swain from Enforcement too. It was asked if work can be stopped on site if they are in breach?</p> <p>A question came via correspondence regarding Speedwatch – we are not in need of additional volunteers at present.</p> <p>The meeting was opened for questions from members of the public and press.</p> <p>The meeting was then closed to members of the public and press.</p>	<p>Cllr Wragg / Cllr Roberts</p> <p>Cllr Topping</p>
7.	<p>BURIAL BOARD</p> <p>A) CONSULTATION ON THE CEMETERY T&C’S A) and B) – a meeting of the Burial Board has had to be delayed due to ill health but when it happens it will tidy up any remaining issues. Tuesday 4th April at 7:30pm at the Pavilion Room, Village Hall was agreed upon.</p> <p>B) FRIENDS OF FOWLMERE CEMETERY / WORKING PARTY POSSIBILITY Discussed above.</p> <p>C) HEDGE WORK AT THE CEMETERY A meeting is to be held on Wednesday 29th at 11am with Martin Hardy.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that there is to be an interment for Mr Pidduck, Chapel Lane.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Cllr Roberts/ Cllr Bearpark, Cllr Wragg</p>
8.	<p>VILLAGE HALL:</p> <p>A) CHANGING ROOM REFURBISHMENT Mrs Woods reported that the plans are being drawn up and the PC will put this on the next agenda and hope that plans have been finalised.</p>	<p>Agenda</p>
9.	<p>PLANNING COMMITTEE</p> <p>A) PLANNING MINUTES FROM 21ST FEBRUARY 2017 These were agreed as part of the earlier PC minutes.</p> <p>B) PLANNING CONSULTATIONS: S/0872/17/FL Single Storey garage/workshop at bottom of rear garden 6.1m in depth x 7.5m wide x 3.73m high</p>	

	<p>21 Pipers Close, Fowlmere, SG8 7RX Kevin Marlow</p> <p>Cllr Bearpark mentioned that he had been approached by someone who has said there were already a lot of sheds on that property and has concerned over more noise.</p> <p>It is adjacent to the green belt and is disproportionate of size. There are questions over access. The PC does not have enough information to determine whether it is intended for commercial use and there must be questions of the access and the amount of usage. There are issues over noise, pollution and the effect on neighbouring property and we are minded to ask for a refusal. If the view of the officers is contrary to that of FPC then we would wish to be informed prior to the decision to any decision notice going out.</p> <p>S/0086/17/PA - For information Only – Prior Approval Refused Prior approval for a proposed change of use of an agricultural building to 2 dwellings Barns 1-2 Cherry Tree Field, Shepreth Road, Fowlmere, SG8 6QU Mr Albert Neal .</p> <p>Fowlmere Parish Council noted the decision.</p>	
10.	<p>ROAD SAFETY A) SPEEDWATCH / CCC BID</p> <p>Cllr Howe/the Clerk has written something for the FATN. Training has finished and we are waiting for approval on the monitoring sites that were identified when PC Jenkins met Cllrs in the village. Cllr Howe to ask why this is taking so long.</p> <p>The bid will be followed up (£3825 from CCC plus £675 from FPC), which is £1000 short of the cost of the ANPR device. The question was asked whether FPC wished to explore the possibility of seeking consent to use the funds to purchase an ANPR camera, but it was thought better to stick with what we had been awarded.</p> <p>The Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner will be speaking to Foxton Breakfast Club in April, having refused earlier to meet the Parish Council. It is regrettable that he is not giving priority to meeting statutory bodies who are responsible for the safety of their residents. FPC to extend the invitation again. Cllr Wragg to draft a letter.</p>	Cllr Howe Cllr Wragg
11.	<p>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES: A) VILLAGE TREE WORK</p> <p>It was agreed that the Grasscutting should begin the week beginning 27th March.</p> <p>The Clerk to make sure the tree contractors remove all the remaining tree arisings.</p> <p>Sam the Gardener will take down the small tree in Savile Wat after it has blossomed.</p>	
12.	<p>FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES: A) CHEQUES PAID</p> <p>J Wright – telecoms refund: £25.48 J Wright – Nest Pension Refund: £3.15 J Wright Jan 17 Salary: £659.56 CCC Streetlighting 1 Oct 15 – 30 Sept 16: £1757.38 was originally charged but it should have been £1176.21 and we are being refunded the difference £581.17 (their mistake) Fowlmere Village Hall Room (21.3.17): £24.00 Seniorlink Eldercare (Feb 17): £77.40 Cambridgeshire Acre – 3 months payroll and pension fee - £41.40 Contribution to the cutting of The Butts (Fowlmere School) - £506.47 Fowlmere PCC – contribution to Church electricity for lighting/security - £210.00 J Wright Amazon Refund (Large stamps, envelopes 50% of a new phone. Holepunch, tent pegs) - £40.29 DD for the cost of the emptying of the cemetery bin to SCDC for 2017-2018 - £90.00 Money in – £35 Cartwright and £35 Walker Interment fees</p>	

	<p>The Clerk reported that the paperwork for the next audit had arrived, ready to start at the end of March.</p> <p>B) VILLAGE HALL PLAY EQUIPMENT Clerk to pass on Dave Salmons' contact details to Mrs Woods, as she will ask if he would quote to take away the old equipment, to save money. The final decision on costs to be taken at the April finance meeting.</p> <p>C) FIRE ENGINE SHED AND BUS SHELTER REPAIRS The quote will be upwards of £1000 to repair the Fire Engine Shed but the shed is part of the village history and should be maintained. Clerk to progress with the other two quotes. This could be a Thriplow Daffodil Weekend funding request in 2018.</p> <p>D) BUTTS VIEW AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO BUTTS A date to be fixed with Cllr Topping – Clerk to send that round to all.</p>	<p>Agenda</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
13	<p>CORRESPONDENCE:</p> <p>At 21:21 – Cllr Roberts left the room.</p> <p>A) COUNCILLOR COMPLAINT This will be considered in a separate session. Cllr Roberts returned at 21:22.</p> <p>Re the letter from Melbourn Village College requesting funding for less fortunate families within the catchment area. Clerk to scan and circulate and table it at Finance in April.</p> <p>It was noted that parking along Thriplow Road was particularly bad.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
14	<p>ACTION LIST UPDATE: The action list was updated accordingly.</p> <p>A) IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO VILLAGE LIFE Nothing reported.</p> <p>B) UPDATE ON RECRUITMENT OF COUNCILLORS An application has been received and the deadline is to be extended until the April meeting.</p> <p>C) WEBSITE UPDATE The Clerk updated the PC on the possibility of changing the web-site over to another format for ease of use. All Cllrs to send in new pieces for the web-site.</p>	<p>Agenda</p> <p>All</p>
16	<p>OTHER MATTERS: The Village sign at the end of Chapel Lane needs repainting – Clerk to ask Shepreth and Melbourn and Thriplow Parishes (Clerks) for any recommendations.</p> <p>Cllr Vinton thanked the PC on behalf of St Mary's Church for the generous contribution towards illuminating the church at night.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21:34pm.</p> <p>The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 18th April 2017 at 7:30pm (with the Finance meeting before that at 7:15pm and new Cllr sessions at 7:00pm) at the URC, Chapel Lane.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>