

Funtington Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Funtington Parish Council held on Wednesday 5 June 2019 at The Funtington and District Village Hall, Southbrook Road, West Ashling. The meeting commenced at 6.30pm.

Present: David Ash (Chair), David Harwood (Vice- Chair), Sheena King, Bob Money, Jess Holmes, Barbara Roskell, Basil Messenger, Jane Mottershead, Andy Trotter, Nick Dunnett, Suzanne Courtney-Bulbeck, Patricia Young and WSCC Louise Goldsmith .

Residents: 27

Clerk: Pippa Jacobs

Introduction from the Chair

Good evening & welcome, we are under new management. We have 8 new councillors; Suzanne Courtney, Nick Dunnett, Richard Littler, Basil Messenger, Bob Money, Jane Mottershead, Andy Trotter & Patricia Young. I didn't know so many people lived in West Ashling.

I hope that we can make PC meetings more interesting for residents and councillors by;

- 1) Reducing the duration of meetings. Standing orders say that the meeting should be no longer than 1.5 hours including the 15 minutes allocated to the public, we will try to keep to this unless there are important issues requiring more discussion.
- 2) We have reduced the number of Working Groups so there is less to report by reducing the number of items on the Agenda .
- 3) I hope that with the agreement of the PC and residents we can start meetings earlier
- 4) The agenda will now be driven by councillors and residents and hopefully be different for each meeting

I hope that we can improve behaviour in meetings by;

- 1)Following standing orders and indicating that clapping, booing, cheering and the use of placards is not acceptable.
- 2) In return we will try be open, honest and responsive, and try to ensure that all concerns, questions and queries are properly responded to if not immediately then as soon as possible.
- 3) It has been noticeable over the last 12 months or so that some councillors have attracted responses based upon personality rather than the issue at hand, some of this has felt like bullying. Comments on our views here should be directed at the issue not our identity.
- 4) Above all, I think that we need to demonstrate a parish view to everything that we do, having a parish with 6 different centres of population makes life complicated and as residents of these places we all have our individual concerns but it is important that we view these in the overall context of the parish.

Open Forum

Resident wanted to confirm that the SDNPA CIL money had been allocated to the Funtington and District Village Hall, it was confirm this was agreed at the meeting in November 2018.

Resident wanted to raise the issue of the increased number of rats in and around The Dell area, pest control have been out and residents have been putting poison down. The pest control company have advised the problem is probably caused by the pigs who have recently been moved to the lower field. Cllr Louise Goldsmith advised if different types of poison are used it can lead to the rats becoming immune. Residents will monitor this situation and report back if necessary.

1) **Apologies for absence**

Cllr David Palmer who unfortunately due to other work commitments is unable to attend our first 3 meetings until 2nd October, and Cllr Richard Littler.

2) **Declarations of Interest by Councillors in matters on the Agenda**

Cllr Mottershead, Cllr King and Cllr Young advised of a declaration of interest on planning application SDNP/19/02123/FU for the Village Hall.

3) **Minutes of the Meeting of 3 April 2019**

The minutes were then unanimously agreed to be a true and accurate record and were duly signed by the Chair.

4) **Matters Arising on the Minutes 3 April 2019**

Page 2, 7) c) Clerk complained to Stagecoach about the buses leaving stops early, and as an apology they have sent us 4 day rider gold tickets. The 2 residents who had experienced problems already have bus passes so unable to use them. It was suggested the Clerk could give them to Funtington Primary School to pass on to families who could use them.

Resolved – and was agreed.

Page 4, 10) e Highways have written to the owner of the property to remove the logs on the opposite verge which belongs to Highways, and agreed that the white stones can remain but are moved back from the edge of the road. Cllr King advised that the logs have been removed but the white stones have not been moved. *Clerk to email Highways.*

5) **Report by County and District Councillors**

Cllr Louise Goldsmith informed us of the following:

WSCC have launched the West Sussex Climate Pledge. Climate change is having more and more of an impact and there is a growing urgency for everyone to do something about it. From June, we will be raising awareness of one of the following pledge themes each month, Make Low Carbon Journeys, Save Water, Pass-on-Plastic, Fight Against Food Waste, Shop Local and Save Energy. At the county council we're taking steps to cut our own carbon emissions by making our buildings more energy efficient, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels by introducing renewable energy with our solarfarms.

85% of schools in West Sussex are now Good or above in recent Ofsted Inspections.

However the Ofsted report on Children's services was graded inadequate due to the impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families and the experiences and progress of care leavers and children in need.

Copy of the American Declaration of Independence has been in our Records Office since 1954, and we were recently asked to take it to an exhibition in London for President Trump to view, it is now back in Chichester.

WSCC are helping to pollinating bees and insects which are vital to our crops, gardens and countryside, as well as improving awareness and increasing the number of pollinator habitats in West Sussex. Please go to the West Sussex website where you can sign up and report sightings etc.

If you are thinking of changing your energy supplier please take a look at Energy Sussex, as it is non for profit and energy from a renewable solar source. 82 schools in our area currently have solar panels.

Cllr Dunnett asked if there is any progress on improving the pot hole repairs. Cllr Goldsmith advised that Balfour Beatty are good at going back and re doing any badly filled holes, and overall WSCC have had few problems.

Cllr King asked if the Westhampnett tip has re opened for all waste, Cllr Goldsmith advised it is now, however it is having to be rebuilt due to the damage of the fire.

6) Other Matters

a) Parish Meadow Quote

We have received 2 quotes from Lloyds Tree Surgery £450 +vat and John Hayes £400.

Resolved – It was agreed to ask John Hayes to cut back back trees and hedgerow.

Cllr Trotter highlighted the condition of the ground in Parish Meadows, however its believed it is the tenants responsibility to return the ground to how it was. *Clerk to contact tenant.*

b) Revised Policies – Standing Order and Financial Regulations

Cllr King advised the revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were based on the NALC model, and one of the additions is that the minutes will not be read out in the meeting as draft minutes will be circulated to all councillors and online within 2 weeks of the meeting. These procedures were both accepted, however at anytime we can make amendments if necessary. **Resolved – and new Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were agreed.** Other policies are being looked at as part of GDPR, these will be circulated in July.

c) Mobile SIDs update

Cllr Money advised us that moving the SID around the parish has been very effective. We are now gathering data which records the volume of traffic, average lowest and highest speeds etc Which is useful information when talking to Highways to improve the safety of our roads. Would the parish be interested in purchasing another mobile SID to ensure areas are covered more regularly, they cost approx £3000. It was decided to add this to the agenda next month for further discussion. Cllr Harwood has got the installation of another post agreed by WSCC opposite Daffodil Cottage, Mill Road, West Ashling. The camera will be able to face both ways here. The cost of the extra post £250 + BRACKET. **Resolved – and purchase agreed.** *Clerk to order.* A basic laptop is needed to take on site to download the data, cost approx £150. **Resolved – and purchase agreed.** *Cllr Harwood to order.*

Cllr Harwood informed us that he has arranged a training session with PC Lemm at 2pm on 25th June outside FD Village Hall. This training is necessary to be able to operate the hand held mobile SID that we part own with Boxgrove and Lavant parish councils. All councillors and residents are welcome to attend, please let the Clerk know if interested.

d) Cllr Ash suggested the meetings could start earlier if everyone was in agreement. The earliest a meeting can start is at 6pm. **Resolved – the new start time of 6pm was agreed to take affect from Julys meeting.**

e) Cllr Dunnett reminded us of a meeting he had with Cllr Roskell, and previous Cllr Tony D'alton about the Village Green on the 25 February with Mark Rose, External Funding Coordinator and Kate Dziubinska Ranger from the South Downs National Park, to discuss enhancing wildlife in the Village Green. They were encouraged in what they saw and identified three areas to pay attention to. Later they sent us a report and encouraged us to submit an Application for funds and Volunteer Ranger help. We failed to win funds but we hope to get Ranger support. In Parallel we applied to the Woodland Trust for Free Trees and have been successful in our bid for 350 trees, but we will work with SDNP to share these around. Last Monday we held another meeting with Cllr Roskell, Cllr Mottershead and myself together with the new Ranger, Chloe Goddard. This proved to be very constructive and focused on clearing and coppicing the copses, clearing some of the upper level and planting a hedge by the road. Some of this work will require a Tree Surgeon and we will be making a case to the PC for funding. Cllr Goldsmith suggested we could look at crowd funding on the WSCC website to help with funding.

Cllr Young asked about the CIL money we had received and put towards the new noticeboard in Funtington. Clerk advised it was CDC CIL money awarded in April 2018 for £612, report is on the website. *Clerk to forward details to Cllr Young.*

Cllr Money asked for an update on the phone box in West Stoke, Cllr King advised it will be moved in the next few weeks.

Cllr Money asked about our Insurance Company. We are insured by Community Action Suffolk, we signed up for a 5 year plan, have 3 years left. We did this to get a more competitive quote, we can add make amendments to the policy as and when.

Correspondence

a) CDC – Wildlife Corridors

Sarah Hughes the community wildlife officer from CDC has contacted us with reference to the proposed wildlife corridors from the coast to the South Downs National Park (details and maps previously sent to councillors). There is firth corridor, going from Nutbourne Marshes along the Hambrook north towards the A27 and then on to the SDNP, and she would like to work with Funtington Parish to establish the link from the A27 (footbridge/ancient woodland) connecting to the SDNP and to look at the connectivity of the proposed wildlife corridors. Clerk and Val Bateman are happy to discuss this further with Sarah Hughes.

b) CDC – Lets talk campaign

CDC have advertised a Lets talk campaign, where you can have your say on events in the Chichester District. Please visit www.chichester.gov.uk/letstalkevents between 27th May and 29th July for further details.

7) **Finance and approval of Final Accounts**

a) Clerk presented the latest financial statement as at 31 May 2019 (the cash book was circulated prior to the meeting). The statement balances are as follows:

Income received in April/May 2019:

03-Apr-19	A.P. Carter	Current	£50.00
12-Apr-19	CDC – ½ yearly Precept	Current	£11,000.00
03-May-19	A.P. Carter	Current	£50.00
16-May-19	HMRC – VAT return	Current	<u>£2,031.37</u>
			£11,050.00

The council unanimously approved the following payments for June 2019

Payments made 1 May 2019

	To	Cheque No	Purpose	Net	VAT	Invoice
01-May-19	Musgrove Willows	101592	Willow screening	£142.90	£28.58	£171.48
01-May-19	Chris Grosvenor	101593	Moving West Stoke phone box	£172.00		£172.00
01-May-19	Clerk	101594	Clerk	£543.60		£543.60
01-May-19	HMRC	101595	HMRC	£88.20		£88.20
01-May-19	Clerk	101596	Clerk	£65.72		£65.72
01-May-19	Clerk (monthly fee already paid to Survey Monkey)	101597	Online Parish Questionnaire	£35.00		£35.00

Payments Due 1 June 2019

01-Jun-19	Clerk	101598	Clerk	£543.60		£543.60
01-Jun-19	HMRC	101599	HMRC	£88.20		£88.20
01-Jun-19	Clerk	101600	Clerk	£74.10		£74.10
01-Jun-19	Greenserve	101601	Cut grass WA Playground	£75.00	£15.00	£90.00
01-Jun-19	Clerk (monthly fee already paid to Survey Monkey)	101602	Online Parish Questionnaire	£29.17	£5.83	£35.00
01-Jun-19	St Marys Church Funtington	101603	Room Hire	£20.00		£20.00
01-Jun-19	Action in Rural Sussex	101604	Annual Membership	£50.00		£50.00
01-Jun-19	Information Commissioners Office	101605	Data Protection annual renewal	£40.00		£40.00
01-Jun-19	Community Action Suffolk	101606	Insurance annual renewal	£460.32		£460.32

Total **£1,401.22**

Balances After Payments

Current Account	£11,910.99
Saver Account	£56,562.71
CIL Grant allocated to Funtington & District Village Hall	-£23,794.08
Total	<u>£44,679.62</u>

8) Planning Applications and Decisions

Cllr Motterhead updated the council on the latest planning applications (the list was circulated prior to the meeting).

SDNP:

19/01893/hous - Fit black cladding to front and rear elevations of property. Extend garage with various changes including fitting cladding, changes to fenestration, replacement of existing flat roof with hip roof and replacement of existing garage door with roller shutter door. | Gate Lodge Common Road Funtington PO18 9LL - **No Objection**

19/00312/LIS - Recovering of existing clay tile roof with new hand made clay tiles together with matching bonnet hips including replacing flashings and rainwater goods. Adsdean Farm Cottage Adsdean Park Road Adsdean Funtington PO18 9DN – **No Objection**

19/02123/FUL - Funtington And District Village Hall, small single storey extension east and an entrance lobby. - **No Objection**

CDC:

19/01201/FUL - Proposed Private Stable Block, Ménage and Associated Hard Standing, Land west of Newells Lane. **Objections raised**

19/01042/DOM - New erection of boundary fence, replacement gates and new car port, The Oaks, West Ashling Road. **No Objections, however comments raised.**

9) Working Group Reports

a) Finance and General Purpose

Clerk has prepared the final year end accounts for 2018/2019, these were previously emailed to councillors. Clerk to take to Internal Auditors MMO in Waterlooville for inspection.

Balance brought forward	£50,509
Annual Precept	£20,000
Other receipts (grants, etc)	£44,230
(minus) Total payments	£38,974
Balance	£75,765

b) Cllr Harwood to be added as a signatory to the account. Cllr Harwood suggested the Finance Group meet quarterly. Clerk to arrange a meeting before next parish council meeting.

Cllr Ash said we would re include the Highways group to regularly feedback at the Working Group Reports with the data obtained from the SID. Cllr Money is the convenor and Cllr Harwood would be on the group and would like further volunteers either councillors or residents to help move the SID every 3 weeks.

Cllr Holmes advised that the benches have been made. It was decided that concrete bases weren't required to secure them to, and they could go straight in The Dell. **Resolved – and was agreed.**

- 10) Date of next meeting 3rd July 2019 at The Funtington and District Village Hall. Please note meetings will now commence at the earlier time of 6pm.**

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.