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FAWKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Fawkam Parish Council held at Fawkam Village Hall, Valley Road Fawkam on
Thursday 20th September 2018

Members of the Parish Council: Cllr M Pearsall (Chairman), Cllr Mr Steve Gray, Cllr Duncan Harker and Cllr Alun Evans
5 Members of the Public

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Grey

Declarations of Interest for items relating to Agenda:

There were no declarations declared.

Members of the Public:

Local Plan:

Members discussed the local plan and members were asked if all letters could be forwarded to No expansion Hartley so that everyone could share the comments.

Cllr Evans arrived

Members of the public raised concerns that the proposal for two identified sites in Fawkam had had amendments sent into the Council by the developer after the public closing date. Therefore making it impossible to resident to have a say and make additional comments after the proposal was changed. The developer had therefore an advantage it was comments were being processed and some had not been put on line yet. Members of the Council commented that there had been no formal plans for develop and this was only at a consultation stage. Residents were still concerned that MX52 and MX23 had been altered. These were now showing 750 houses 600 at Corinthians and 150 at Bankside. There was a change to the roadways in that the relief road had been removed, it was being claimed that Corinthians was now being referred to as Brownfield where in fact it was greenbelt. There was thought to have been a dementia house to be built opposite salt farm. Residents and councillors discussed at length and it was proposed by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Harker that a letter be sent to the District Council voicing the concerns of the changes after the close of the consultation and how the procedure, One resident confirmed that Hartley Parish council had also sent in a similar letter.

It was agreed in principle to send a letter to SDC but agreed that the letter should be sent to all Parish Councillors to let the wording be checked and commented on before the Clerk send the letter to the District Council on the Parish Councils behalf.

This was agreed.

Planning:

18/02475/HOUSE: Spinneys Manor Lane

A letter from the applicant following PC objections to a recent planning application was read out to members. The Clerk was asked to respond to the resident and pass the letter onto the District council would are the planning authority for their comment

Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Thursday 19th July 2018 were approved as a true record and any recommendations thereby implemented. This was proposed by Cllr Pearsall and seconded by Cllr Evans

Correspondence:

A .Local plan:

Following the meeting on 3rd August Fawkam PC submitted its comments on the local plan direct onto the Sevenoaks District Website. A letter was also submitted. It is noted that Parish Council have received copies of letters sent to Sevenoaks District Council from MP M Fallon and MP Garth Johnson, also copies of letters from 3 residents. These letters were passed to Cllr Evans to keep with all the relevant plan paperwork

B. Textiles the following email has been received:

Rag Solutions Ltd, The council had been asked to consider a textile recycling bank. Members agreed that there was no suitable site currently to have a clothes bank and should in the future the Council decided to have a clothes bank it would be for a charitable group and not commercial. **AGREED**

C. Brands Hatch Residents days

As per previous years

Charities and similar organisations in the local community are invited to apply for a grant from the money raised at the 2019 Brands Hatch Residents/Villagers Day. The exact date of this event is still to be confirmed, but is likely to be early February 2019.

Applications should be submitted via e-mail to Brands Hatch at brandshatch@msv.com. The deadline for applications is Friday 2 November 2018.

The total sum raised in 2018 was in excess of £5,000.

If the total requested exceeds the sum raised then in the first instance priority will be given to those who have not previously had a grant or did not have a grant in 2018.

An application for a grant from the same organisation will not be considered if they are still holding the previous grant. A decision as to the distribution of grants will be made by the Brands Hatch Liaison Group prior to the Christmas holiday.

If the total of the grants approved exceeds the sum raised each grant will be reduced proportionately, the opposite will apply if the sum raised exceeds the total requested.

This was noted and as the Village Hall had received a grant from the previous two years and one of which although ring fenced for a cooker this had not been purchased could not put forward the hall for a further grant at the residents day 2019

AGREED

D. KCC Household Waste recycling centres consultation:

Kent County Council's 'Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Consultation' launches today, Thursday 6 September 2018.

This consultation will help us deliver the Kent Waste Disposal Strategy and seeks views on the proposal to implement a charging policy for non-household waste materials including soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard, deposited at Kent HWRCs.

The 8 week consultation is available until Thursday 1 November 2018, and we would like to invite you to comment.

The consultation questionnaire and supporting documents can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation

The consultation runs from 6 September to 1 November 2018. www.kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation

Members and resident who were asked if they wished make a comment they should go onto the website and the Clerk would make sure this item was on the website and Facebook pages.

AGREED

War Memorial and flower bed:

The Clerk had received a quote for the war Memorial as follows:

To put all the post upright with some concrete to hold them in place, lift and re-lay edging stones on soil, remove chains, clean up and re paint with hammerite paint, reinstall and supply some bark or top soil to the whole area of garden

Cost £295 It was proposed through the Chair that the council accepts this quote and ask that the contractor could complete this work before remembrance parade on 11th November.

ALL IN FAVOUR

Memorial Service:

Rev Jim Fletcher, had offered to hold a service at the War Memorial service on Sunday 11th November at 12.30, He would supply the order of services it was agreed to accept this offer and hold a service at 12.30 at the war memorial and the Clerk was asked to thank Rev. Jim Fletcher for his offer there had been a good show of resident last year and hope more this year in particular as it's the 100 years since the end of the First World War

ALL IN FAVOUR

Wreath:

Members agreed that the Wreath should be ordered by the Clerk with the Royal British Legion and that a donation of £50 be made

ALL IN FAVOUR

Entrance to Village Hall Car Park:

Due to the roof and the contractors other works commitments he was unable to start the works before the school went back. The Clerk has requested that the works are carried out the week of half term when the school are off. **NOTED**

Hedge Along Boundary of Village Hall.

Following the neighbours request to remove or trim back the hedges to the rear of the hall on the boundary of the neighbours the following quote has been received following a meeting with the contractor RH services. As follows

Quote for the tree/hedge removal work required at the rear of the Fawkham Village hall.

It is our intention to cut the trees/hedge down to ground level and then treat with (SBK) which is a Brush Wood & Tree Stump killer. This is the section that runs directly behind the Village hall building.

The section of trees/hedge that runs to the left of the building (along that same boarder line) behind the fence panels will be cut down to the same height as the fence panels, which will allow us to maintain that height going forward, much more easily.

I expect this job to take us 2-3 days to complete and several trips to our Green Waste Disposal sight near 'Longfield'. The cost of waste disposal is included in this quote **PRICE £1,580.00**

The clerk was asked to get two further quotes for these works on a like for like basis and bring to the October meeting. **AGREED**

Tree canopy to trees along the car park Fawkham Road side:

RH services agreed to lift the canopy of the trees on the roadside stretch of the car park, included in the contract. It was agreed that the flytipping should be removed so as to stop any further flytipping in the corner of garden waste. The hedge to the left of the door was also agreed to be reduced in height in line with the hedge along the windows of the hall. This was proposed through the Chair to accept this work. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

Grounds Contract

RH Services had previously (from the previous Clerk) had added to the contract the grass between the footpath and school at a cost of £35 and although the council had been paying this for the past few years the contract had not been amended. The Clerk has updated the contract after having looked through the records and asked Members to authorise and confirm **ALL IN FAVOUR.**

Frequency of cuts:

On discussing with RH services it was agreed with the Clerk that some years the grass and vegetation has grown slowly other times it has been rapid. Depending on the weather conditions. The Council were asked to consider giving the Clerk discretion on those years when growth is rapid she can authorise a fifth cuts (currently the contract is for 4 visits per year) Current cost per cut £185, It was proposed through the Chair to authorise the Clerk for a fifth cut if required **AGREED**

Village Hall:

The report from the Village Hall committee were received

Roof Repairs

The roof re-felting has been completed at quoted cost with no additions.

Incoming Electricity Cables

Work complete at quoted costs with no additions.

Entrance Porch

Refurbished and decorated during August. Work completed at quoted cost with no additions.

Light fittings at roof end above kitchen area

The combined effect of the roofing fascia replacement and the incoming cable work has left this lighting and cabling insecure. The two bulkhead and single floodlamp fittings will be renewed. The work is booked with Evergreen Electrical to be carried out on 1 October 2018. Quoted cost is: £404.

Bank Accounts

The transfer of our accounts to Barclays may now proceed. This has been held up until the trustees forms were complete and the Charity Commission Annual Return submitted. The Bank references the Commission website to verify our trustees. This is still to be done. We have recently learnt that the Barclays branch in Longfield is to close later this year. Having local access to the bank was one of the incentives towards moving our account

Maintenance

- The FVHMC needs to assess the state of the external decoration of the Hall. One suggestion is that we could use volunteer labour for this work as recently kindly circulated by the Parish Clerk. The fascia board at the Valley Road end is in urgent need of painting etc. but is otherwise sound.
- A new Cisternmaster valve for the gents urinal is to be progressed. This is expensive and expected to cost up to £400.00
- We suspect that that drain located at the NW corner of the hall that takes roof drainage and maybe kitchen sink drainage is partially blocked. This needs investigation.

FVHMC

The FVHMC requests that the FPC nominates a replacement member following James Hollands leaving the FPC.. The next FVHMC committee meeting is 4 October 2018; this has been delayed due to holidays.

Village Hall finances:

Accounts for the year to date were *attached* these had last been updated 5th September. It was noted they had a balance of £16,188.88 was being held

Members discussed the kitchen project that the hall had hoped to achieve and commented that since the roof had now been replaced that the Council would like to see the project complete soon and would be prepared based on the previous quotes a contribution of 40% assuming the figure of £10,000, it was noted in September 2017 the Parish had committed £2,300 to the project. The Clerk was asked to go back to the Cil board and ask if the kitchen was a project the Cil money could be applied to. The Chairman asked the Councils hall representative Cllr Harker to take the information to the next Village Hall committee meeting on 4th October. **AGREED**

Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee:

Members are also asked to elect a person to represent the Parish Council at the Village Hall meetings following the recent Resignation of James Hollands from the Parish Council. This would be held off until a co-option had taken place. This was

Action plan/Project sheet:

- Council to use facebook page more often
- Use of the village hall to maximise income.
- Smarten the village in different areas. Cllr Evans to bring to next meeting

Co option:

Posters were up but Members agreed that the closing date should finish on Sunday 14th October and interviews on 18th prior to the Parish council meeting. Posters would be edited and re posted by the Clerk.

Website:

Review of Current website and Councilor input. All information up to date

Finance - The current balance for the Parish Councils was tabled and it was proposed through the Chair that cheques totalling £1,996.74 should be paid. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

Celebrating Mental Health Day in October

Members were asked to support the West Kingsdown and Fawkham are hosting an afternoon tea at West Kingsdown Village Hall for Mental Health Day on 10th October. Posters have been erected advertising the event and if anyone knows a carer or a family that would like to attend numbers are required for catering.

Fawkham Parish Council agreed to donate £100 to the event and this was on the cheque list for tonight's payments

Matters arising

No matters arising

Meeting closed at 9.03pm