

20
FAWKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council held at Fawkham Village Hall, Valley Road Fawkham held on **Thursday 18th October 2018.**

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

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Harker

Declarations of Interest for items relating to Agenda:

Co-option:

Following interview for a place on the Council for a co-opted position. Members agreed to offer the position to Mrs Laura Evans. The paperwork was given to Mrs Evans (no relation to Cllr Alun Evans) who duly signed and the Council welcomed her onto the Council with immediate effect.

Members of the Public:

There were three members of the public in attendance and they were concerns were related to the SDC Local plan. Therefore, it was agreed to take item 8 on the agenda at this stage of the meeting. Cllr Alun Evans explained the process and the significant date of 22/11/18 when the planning advisory committee were set to meet to discuss the local plan responses and make a recommendation to full council at SDC on 6/12/18, papers for this meeting on 22nd November would be published on the Sevenoaks District website on 15/11/18. Cllr Evans explained he had sent a further letter to the Chief Exec at SDC voicing concerns regarding the large development advertised as Hartley but in fact 50% was in Fawkham and the lack of infrastructure. Cllr Evans asked for the resident's email addresses so that he could add to his database and circulate information.

Planning:

There were no items for planning at the time of publication of the agenda

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting:

Held on 20th September 2018, were approved as a true record and any recommendations therefore implemented.

ALL IN FAVOUR

Correspondence:

KALC:

Invitation to attend the 71st AGM to be held on 17th November at Ditton had been received.

NOTED

Local plan: an email has been received from a resident as follows:

Knowing that a large number of residents of Ash, NAG, Fawkham and Hartley are opposed to the proposed local housing developments I wondered if you might be able to circulate details of this petition and encourage people to sign before the end of the month if they sympathise? This petition relates to the Draft Local Plan process as a whole, not to any of the developments, so if you are able to promote it to other Sevenoaks parish clerks with whom you have dealings that would be really helpful.

Members are asked to consider this request. Members noted the contents of the email but agreed not to partake in this petition.

ALL IN FAVOUR

Local plan update:

A letter has been received in the post from Andrew Billings of Billings Groups and that was tabled for Members it was agreed that the Council would not make a response to the letter received. A response had also been received from SDC in response to the letter Cllr Evans sent to the Chief Exec responding to the questions below and that was also tabled for Members.

Cllr Evans has asked the following be added to the agenda:

The questions that we asked in our recent letter were:

1. When the Council meet to discuss what is included in the local plan which proposals will be reviewed? Will it be the one presented during consultation or will it be the amended one?

2. If Sevenoaks District Council deem that the second document should be used how are you going to communicate these changes to stakeholders and residents?

21

3. If the second document is used will consultation be reopened before a decision is made whether to include it in the local plan?

4. Why has the Council seen fit to include the changed proposals on the comments page as forwarded by David Bedford of DHA planning? We understand from the DHA planning website that Mr Bedford “formulated evidence that underpinned the current Sevenoaks District Council core strategy on DPD.” We also understand that Mr Bedford has on two occasions been employed by Sevenoaks District Council for a total of 8 years, once as a planning officer and then as a senior planner. We are concerned that he has unfair influence in the Sevenoaks District Council planning department and maybe affecting the fairness of the consultation process. I do think it is positive that we have actually received a response from SDC. I think that it is important we share this information with parishioners as it does provide clarity on the next steps. I will be sending this information in an email to all of those who attended our meeting re the Local plan. Members are asked to approve being added to the website if.

Village Hall report:

Update received from the treasurer and Chairman of the Village Hall as seen below

The lighting repair work at the rear of the hall has been completed. Some unexpected wiring repairs were also needed making the total cost £468.88. This is £65 above the original estimate. The work was completed by our regular contractor Evergreen Electrical.

Cooker. The FVHMC will soon be placing the order for the cooker and necessary wiring. We already have £1500 showing in the accounts for this representing a grant from Brands Hatch through the Liaison Committee. The total expected cost may be over £2000.

FVHMC 2019 AGM. The FVHMC was advised at its last meeting on 4 October that Maggie Dyne (Chairman), Sheena Moss (Bookings Secretary) and Lawrence Moss (Treasurer) will not be standing for re-election at the next AGM of the FVHMC. The scheduled date of the AGM is 9 May 2019. This will leave four posts to be filled. These posts are: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Bookings Clerk. Currently Sheena Moss is the bookings clerk and is covering the on-going secretary vacancy.

Bank Accounts. The transfer to Barclays is now progressing and we now believe that we have complied with all of their documentation requirements even though additional items arrived on the table. We are hoping for a final meeting with Barclays business manager to complete the paperwork will take place within the next week.

Although Barclays Longfield is closing the FVHMC is continuing with the transfer. The existing bank lost our mandates and we spent a lot of time trying to resolve that. They twice lost new paperwork from Duncan Harker that Duncan took it into the Halifax as instructed. One of them was personally addressed to the relevant manager at their HQ and they still lost it. One upside for Barclays is that they have a proper branch at Bluewater and they also have a business account manager that we can physically meet and we have his mobile number as well if we need it.

Accounts. Attached are the accounts to date although there is some small hiring money coming in to be added soon. Tai Chi has been invoiced for £196 and this is expected this month.

Hirings. We have recently had tentative enquiries for regular weekly bookings, these are for children’s play on Saturday am and Yoga on Friday. The first “Pop In” session organised by district Cllr. Faye Parkin was held on 5 October and is reported to have been well received. These are to be held regularly on the first Friday morning of each month.

Hedge Along Boundary of Village Hall:

The Clerk has contacted two further companies after one quote from RH services and is awaiting estimates from the two contractors in accordance with our standing orders.

Update by Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee:

It was noted that the three trustees of the Village Hall committee would be stepping down in May 2019 at the AGM. Parish council would Diary this for the November Agenda to discuss the way forward, one option would be to find new Trustees, another would be to dissolve the Charity Status and also the Parish Council considers running the Village Hall in its

entirety. Members to consider how the hall is marketed. The Facilities it offers, and the revamp of the Kitchen.

Action plan/Project sheet: The Action Plan was updated.

Website:

It was agreed that Members felt the website was up to date and managed by Mr. Moss. Thanks was expressed to him for his work with the Councils Webpage.

Finance - Expenditure and Income:

It was noted that the Second half of the Council precept received from SDC had been received by Fawkham Parish - The Amount was for £6,398.00 and the cheque list was presented to Members and cheques totalling £585.82 be paid this was proposed by Cllr Gray and Seconded by Cllr Pearsall. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

Matters Arising:

Remembrance service: reminder to members that a short service of remembrance will take place on Sunday 11th November at 12.30, the family of Horace Clark had been invited and had emailed to say they would attend. Cllr A Evans cllr L Evans and Cllr Harker to attend The Chairmen and Cllr Gray were unable to attend the Wreath would be laid on behalf of the Council at the war Memorial

RECEIVED

Open Forum for Councillors to raise matters to be placed on the next agenda:

No items were identified

Dates for the year 2018/19

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 15th November 2018

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 20th December 2018

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 17th January 2019

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 21st February 2019

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 21st March 2019

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

DRAFT