

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOVANT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
1st OCTOBER 2013 IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Present Cllrs Ms Beck, Dunn, Havard (Chairman), Mrs Jones and Swift
In attendance; Mrs C Churchill (Clerk). 1 member of the public.
Apologies Cllrs Bullard, Marshall and Roberts. Wiltshire Cllr Mrs Green.

Questions or statements from members of the public on any matter concerning the village.

- Any news on the ex fish farm – Clerk confirmed the plans were approved.
- Any more interest in housing for first time buyers – not at the moment.

Report from the Tisbury Neighbourhood Police Team. Not present.

Report from Wiltshire Councillor Mrs Jose Green. Apologies had been received.

Cllr Havard opened the meeting at 7.45pm

13/097. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bullard (conflicting engagement), Marshall (work) and Roberts (conflicting engagement).
Fovant PC resolved to accept these apologies for the reasons given.
Local Government Act 1972 s85(1)

13/098. Chairman's announcements. Cllr Havard attended a meeting in Tisbury last week with Chairmen from other parish councils.

Cllr Beck asked for news on the Tisbury community campus.

Clerk will contact W Cllr Tony Deane as he was involved with this.

Clerk

13/099 Declarations of Interest. None received

13/100. Exclusion of the press and public. None required.

Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and Local Government Act 1972 ss100

13/101. Council meeting minutes - to confirm and sign the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 3rd September 2013.

Fovant PC resolved to approve the previously circulated Minutes which were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

13/102. To receive brief reports from Cllrs.

Website – Cllr Beck is happy to take this role on but would like to rebuild the website as it is 10 years old. Agenda item for November.

Clerk

13/103. Co-option of Councillors. There is currently one vacancy which is being advertised. If no person has requested an election, this vacancy may be filled by co-option. Clerk had not received confirmation from WC that the seat may be filled by co-option. Clerk had informed Mr Parker of this.

13/104. Update of actions from the meeting dated 3rd September 2013.

1. Clerk contacted Highways re the data from the flashing sign. WC will look into this but believe the data is not available as to access it required an annual payment. If the data is available it will be sent.

2. Planning application for West Farm Cottage. Clerk contacted Planning, the case officer was on leave and records showed the letter was sent to the Clerk (but not received). The weekly list of 12th July was before the application was registered and the next weekly list (1st August) did not list the application. Clerk enquired about this but no one was able to give a reason. The application has now been approved.
3. (13/084) Clerk informed Rights of Way Officer re footpath issues and left a message with the assumed landowner.
4. (13/085) Paperwork for new Cllrs has been sent.
5. (13/085) Clerk informed Mr Parker of the outcome of the co-option. Mr Parker confirmed he wished to stand for the next co-option.
6. (13/086) Website issues. There has been some discussion on this but no agreed decision.
7. (13/088) Payment for the notice for the transfer was sent to WC.
8. (13/089) Pembroke Arms. Cllr Roberts confirmed the building is listed.
Clerk rang Brakespear and will send photos once received.
9. (13/092) Clerk has circulated the planning slides, she was unable to reduce them in size.
10. (13/093) Clerk attended training on Charitable Trusts. A lot of information and references were received.

13/105. A30 Triangle. No update available, the substantive bid failed and it is now waiting on a report from Aitkins. New Senior Engineer starts in post on 2nd October.
Clerk to request a metrocount. Clerk

13/106. To receive an update on the Recreation Ground transfer of asset request.
The cheque has been cashed but no update received.

13/107. Fovant PC noted the following tree applications. The Tree Warden had been informed and had no concerns on either application.

(i) 13/04162. St George's Church, Church Lane.
Fell 2 x diseased trunks of 1 ash.

(ii) 13/04219. Brook House, High St.
Fell Beech to allow light and space to fruit trees. Poor specimen having suffered extensive squirrel damage.

13/109 Trees along the A30. A request has been received from Mrs Bickerton concerning the six beech trees planted along the A30 by WC on 2012. WC have confirmed there is no maintenance programme for these trees. Mrs Bickerton has asked Fovant PC if they are able to help find someone to help weed and water the trees to ensure they grow to maturity. To consider whether Fovant PC wish to approach someone to help maintain these trees. Cllr Havard will contact Ms Bickerton .
Clerk to request a community day from highways and ask if the community team could look after the trees. Clerk

13/110. Request from Fovant Church for a donation towards Fovant Churchyard Grass cutting. A written request has been received for assistance towards the expense of grass cutting.

Fovant PC resolved to grant Fovant PCC £100 as a contribution. Clerk

Finance

13/111 Year ending 31st March 2014.

(i) To note the balance of the accounts

Fovant PC noted the balance of accounts stands at £8,429.29 with a total of £1,157.77 in unrepresented cheques making a balance c/f of £7,271.52

(ii) To review and approve terms of expenditure as detailed in schedule of payment.

Fovant PC authorised payments totalling £898.65

(iii) To note the annual return for 2012/13 received from Grant Thornton

Fovant PC noted the report from Grant Thornton, the only matter raised was the extremely low reserves.

Local Government Act 1972 s150(5)

Account and Audit Regulations 2003 reg 4

13/112 To respond (if wished) on the proposal from WC to put forward excess signs that may be removed.

Fovant PC declined to respond.

13/113. To consider the request from CATG to keep a record of all accidents on the highway. Current records kept by highways only record incidents that involve serious or fatal injuries.

Fovant PC felt an article in the Three Towers and on the website would be worthwhile. Clerk

13/114. Commemoration of the Outbreak of WW1. Cllr Bullard to lead on this item. Item to be deferred to November when Cllr Bullard will be present and after the meeting in Salisbury concerning the commemoration. Cllr Bullard

13/115. Budget for 2014 – 2015. Cllr Havard has prepared an initial draft. Clerk to meet with Cllrs on Finance working group before the next meeting. Clerk and Cllrs

13/116. Council tax support. WC are holding four briefings regarding this and have asked for all councils to complete some questions following the briefing. The briefings take place this week (2nd Oct in Salisbury) and the deadline for returning the completed questions is 4th November.

The Clerk attended a meeting at Trowbridge with other Clerks to discuss a solution. The grant is passed down to WC from Govt but is not ringfenced and WC have no obligation to pass it on to parishes. Last year WC passed it on and topped it up. This year the top up is unlikely to be available and the Govt have reduced the grant by 18%.

The recommendation from the Clerks was to request 65% of the total is passed to parishes across the county this year and then 30/35% the following year. Another suggestion was to remove all the small councils receiving the grant and share the remainder between the towns, this was opposed by the Clerks from smaller parishes.

Fovant PC resolved to delegate authority to the Clerk to complete the questions after the briefing has taken place. Clerk

Cllr Swift will also try and attend the briefing in Salisbury. Cllr Swift

Clerk to send precept calculator to all Cllrs. Clerk

13/117. To consider the report from Playsafety Ltd and act on any matters requiring attention. No report received yet.

Clerk to action the bark upgrade. Clerk

13/118. Clerk's Report.

Audit papers received from Grant Thornton.

Invoice from Mr Alnut for planting at the Triangle.

Letter from Fovant PCC asking for a donation

Invitation from Dinton PC for the Chairman and or another Cllr to attend a meeting on Neighbourhood Plans to be held at Dinton village hall on Tuesday 11th February. This will be an information evening for local parishes to discuss the pros and cons of a plan.

Annual play inspection report received

Attended CATG at Bishopstone

Attended meeting with Wilts Clerks re council tax support grant

Attended SLCC branch meeting. Jane Scott was invited and various issues relating to WC were discussed including planning, delays when doing Community Asset Transfers and highways.

SWWAB meeting at Mere on 16th October

Attending National Conference 17th – 20th October

Council tax support meeting on 2nd October at Salisbury (am).

Flood Warden briefing on 2nd October (pm)

13/119. Clerk's contract. A copy has been circulated., agenda item for November.

13/120. To note items for the agenda of the next meeting. This meeting will be held on Tuesday 12TH November, any items for the agenda must be sent to the Clerk before Monday 4th November 2013.

Cllr Havard closed the meeting at 9pm

FUTURE MEETINGS: Fovant Parish Council will meet on the following Tuesdays;

12th November, 7th January, 4th February, 4th March, 1st April and 6th May.

All meetings will commence at 7.45pm unless stated otherwise on the notice boards.