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## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOVANT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012 IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

**Present Cllrs** Gorse, Knowles, Leppard (Chairman), Phillips, Potter (until 8pm), Roberts and Mrs Story.

**In attendance;** Mrs C Churchill (Clerk). Wiltshire Cllr Mrs Green and 3 members of the public.

**Public Questions.** Questions or statements from members of the public on any matter concerning the village were raised as follows:

- 1) Concern over kerb stones around the two triangles in the village, was viewed as a big waste of money and has spoilt the village rural scene. The Chairman (Cllr Leppard) – said that this action had been taken unilaterally by Wiltshire Highways without consultation with the Parish Council. Fovant PC did not pay for this work which was undertaken, in part, as the drains were being blocked by mud could cause flooding.
- 2) Several hedges around the village were reported as overgrown. Cllr Story confirmed the Parish Steward is aware of some of these hedges but it is a responsibility of the householder to cut hedges. Cllrs noted there were several overgrown hedges in the village and Cllrs agreed to contact the householders directly to ask informally for the hedge to be cut. All Cllrs
- 3) The Fovant Brook is being blocked by garden rubbish. Cllr Phillips advised that this was an Environmental Agency issue but they were under resourced to police bad behaviours. However Fovant PC have produced (and distributed) a booklet about living alongside the river and how to avoid being a nuisance to others. Self-help was required between Neighbours who should try to put pressure on those they know are placing garden rubbish in the river.
- 4) Is anything being done about affordable housing in the village? Cllr Knowles advised that Wiltshire Council will be conducting a Housing Needs Survey in Fovant as part of a County-wide approach. Parishioner will receive a survey form in the next couple of months.

**Report from the Tisbury Neighbourhood Police Team.** Not present and no report received.

### **Report from Wiltshire Councillor Mrs Jose Green.**

Wiltshire ranks in the top four happiest places to live in the country. About half the population of Wiltshire turned out to see the Olympic Torch and Superfast broadband is being rolled out, WC have committed £16 million to this project. With regard to the A30 speed review, WC have offered modification of the speed limit to extend the 30 mph limit Eastwards from the junction - this is the best Fovant will get, and now Fovant need to focus on the A30 triangle layout review. Cllr Green noted that the Wiltshire Council's Tenants Panel had vacancies for members, and a tenant consultation will be sent to occupiers shortly.

### **Cllr Leppard opened the meeting at 7.54pm**

#### **12/101. Apologies**

Received from Cllrs Law (unwell) and Privett (work). Fovant PC resolved to accept the apologies for the reasons given. *Local Government Act 1972 s85(1)*

- 12/102. Chairman's announcements.** None
- 12/103. Declarations of Interest.** None received.
- 12/104. Exclusion of the press and public.** None required.
- 12/105. Council meeting minutes** - to confirm and sign the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2012. Fovant PC resolved to accept the minutes without amendment and the Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

*(8.00pm Cllr Potter left the meeting.)*

**12/106. To receive brief reports from Cllrs.**

- (i) Highways – Cllr Mrs Story reported that drains in High St have been flooding, highways are aware. If a drain is blocked parishioners should contact CLARENCE (0800 23 23 23) directly.
- (ii) Rights of Way - Cllr Knowles reported Ms Cowan has volunteered to walk the paths and produce a report for the Parish Council. All Cllrs were in agreement for this. Fovant PC wished to thank Mr Austen for clearing Footpath 6.
- (iii) Village Hall – Cllr Privett – no report received.
- (iv) Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Mrs Law - no report received.
- (v) TCSP – Cllr Mrs Law – no report received
- (vi) Youth issues – Cllr Roberts reported the advert for the Youth Group leader has been placed. There have been two applicants for the position so far. Interviews are to be held.
- (vii) SWWAB – Cllr Phillips – a report has been circulated. The SWWAB 'Blogsite' will be launched tomorrow. It was felt that a link from the Blog to the Three Towers and Parish Council websites would be useful.
- (viii) CATG – Cllr Phillips – a report of the July meeting has been circulated. Tom Gardener from WC will attend a public meeting in the parish once the speed limits have been set.
- (ix) TAPCAP – Cllr Knowles reported that they are continuing to support the Tisbury Campus, a formal proposal will be presented to the SWWAB soon.
- (x) Environmental Group – Cllr Gorse reported the visioning group had met at the Village Hall to prioritise possible issues to look at in the future.

**12/107. Planting of a Tree to commemorate HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.**

A proposal from Jenny Bickerton (the Fovant Tree Warden) has been circulated. Fovant has been awarded a Diamond Jubilee Tree, plans on the planting of this tree are still in progress but it is hoped to plant an Oak tree in / near the cricket field. Parish Councillors Knowles and Privett agreed to help with the arrangements for this event. Ms Bickerton will forward details for the Diamond Jubilee Oak to the Clerk.

Jenny reported that a Rowan tree at Clays Orchard has died, the manager at Clays Orchard has asked if Fovant PC could remove and replace the tree. It was observed that the Wiltshire Council had responsibility for liaising with the Parks Department to remove the dead tree. Fovant PC resolved to purchase a replacement tree to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee to be planted during tree week starting 24<sup>th</sup> November. The Tree Warden to obtain necessary quote/pricing information.

**12/108. Speed Limit along the A30.**

Following the objections received from Fovant, WC have amended the proposal to extend the 30 mph east of the junction and will re-advertise the proposed 30mph and 50mph. There is no proposed change to the western end of the village.

- 12/109. Update of actions from the meeting dated 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2012.**
- 1) (12/083) The Olympic Torch came and went, a report is attached. Fovant PC wished to thank Cllr Knowles for his efforts in organising this event.
  - 2) (12/086) The login details for Cllrs to register their interests was incorrect, Clerk has circulated correct details and all Cllrs have completed their entries to the registers.
  - 3) (12/087). The Wilton Pro-Am bike race was cancelled due to police being required at the Olympics following the G4S problems.
  - 4) (12/096 and 097) Planning responses were sent to WC.
- All other actions appear within the agenda.
- 12/110. The Pembroke Arms, Fovant.**
- Cllr Knowles reported that the sole remaining public house closed in August and will be offered for sale. Fovant Parish Council resolved to agree that Fovant PC should support a Community Group or Individuals having an interest in retaining the public house. An article was published in the Three Towers and some fifteen expressions of interest have already been received. It was intended to repeat the notice and if sufficient interest is received, to arrange a public Workshop to consider the options available to the community. Fovant PC resolved to pay the hire charge for the village hall for the public meeting.
- 12/111. Hedge at Fovant Village Hall.**
- A parishioner has requested this matter is discussed by Fovant PC. The complaint is that it is a hazard for passing cars when there are cars parked in Tisbury Rd and Dinton Rd outside the village hall. Fovant PC noted that the Village Hall Management Committee had been made aware of this problem.
- 12/112. Standing Orders for Fovant PC.**
- As requested at the July meeting, Fovant PC resolved to delete the existing Annex and replace with the Code of Conduct adopted in July 2012. The PC agreed the Clerk to review the Standing Orders and highlight areas to be changed using track changes. Agenda item for October. Clerk
- 12/113. Grant Policy for Fovant Parish Council.**
- It was agreed to adopt a standard policy for all requests for grants using specified powers available to parish councils – usually S137. Cllr Knowles' marked up draft response to be the basis for discussion at the October meeting – to be circulated by Cllr Leppard.
- 12/114. Update on the Childrens Playground Upgrade.**
- Cllr Potter reported that the Safety Cover under the See-saw had been fitted and Councillor Leppard is to purchase bird spikes for the Swings. He will also liaise with Cllr Potter to arrange for new Roundabout seats to be acquired and fitted. The Clerk has obtained play-bark prices. Resolved to place order with Viking and to arrange delivery with Cllr Potter. Clerk
- 12/115. Update on the Removal of the High St post box.** Nothing to report.
- 12/116. Update on the Recreation Ground transfer of asset request.**  
Clerk has informed WC that we have been unable to locate the lease.
- 12/117. Update on the Sign to Chiselbury Ring.** Nothing to report.

## Finance

### 12/118. **Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013.**

A bank reconciliation was circulated. The balance of the accounts stands at £5,373.58 with uncleared cheques totalling £428.26. Payments totalling £1138.72 were authorised for payment. *Local Government Act 1972 s150(5) Account and Audit Regulations 2008*

### 12/119. **Use of Fovant R2 Funds for Dinton Pool.**

Following concern that the Dinton School swimming pool has not been available to the Fovant Children and/or public, it has now been confirmed that the pool will be opened (weather permitting) in September. It was noted the R2 money from Fovant had been released to FoDS prior to receipt of written copy of the FODS Constitution confirming that Fovant children would have access. Fovant PC agreed that if there is an after school club using the pool then Fovant children should be allowed to attend.

Fovant PC resolved that a letter should be written to the Chair of Governors to request a copy of the draft constitution that has been prepared to clarify access to the pool by non Dinton children and a date of when the programme will be completed. Clerk

**Planning -** To respond to Wiltshire Council on the following planning applications.

### 12/120. **S/2012/1149. Stone Lodge, Brook St.** Enlarge dormer windows on front elevation.

Fovant PC resolved to support this application. Clerk

### 12/121. **S/2012/1165. Orchard House, Tisbury Rd.** Fell 1 eucalyptus.

Fovant PC resolved to support this application. Clerk

### 12/122. **S/2012/1183. The Stores, High St.** Demolition of existing garages and compound,

Change of Use and construction of new 2 storey, three bed house.

Fovant PC resolved to object to this application for the following reasons; Clerk

- i. Adverse impact on the operation of The Stores, loss of amenity to the shop, parking arrangement shown on plans are not viable, loss of commercial business space (storage), new dwelling will face dwellings opposite, New Bungalow will overlook new dwelling, concern on highway safety if cars are permanently parked on the road.
- ii. Cllr Story confirmed that residents had sent objections to WC directly.
- iii. Fovant PC resolved to request the application is called in should Officers be minded to approve this application. If called in Fovant PC authorise a Cllr to speak on behalf of the PC to put forward the points made above.

### 12/123. **S/2012/1187. The Stores, High St.** Demolition of existing garages and compound.

Fovant PC resolved to object for the reasons stated above. Clerk

To note the following application for listed building consent:

### 12/124 **S/2012/1014. Fovant House, Church Lane.** Installation of insulated damp proofing

membrane. Fovant PC noted this application.

### 12/125. **Clerk's Report.** The following report has been circulated.

- 1) Arranged for Cllr Potter to collect fence stakes from MJ Abbott. Mr Abbott lent these to Fovant PC free of charge. (They were returned after the event on the same day)
- 2) Purchased and delivered balloons to Cllr Knowles for Torch relay.
- 3) Comments re Dinton pool, contacted FODS who confirmed pool has not been available as they intended, email circulated. R2 confirmed that money had been claimed for the project.
- 4) Attended SWWAB at Mere. Cllr Phillips has circulated a report.
- 5) SWWAB funding available for youth groups – circulated.

- 6) Letter from Mazars stating audit papers not received, on checking the delivery (sent recorded) they confirmed papers had been received and apologised for confusion.
- 7) Confirmation that External Auditor from next year will be Grant Thornton. This contract runs for 5 years and there should be a nil fee for Fovant PC as the accounts are under £10,000.
- 8) Community First AGM invitation. 12<sup>th</sup> Sept in Devizes.
- 9) Develop AGM invitation. 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct in Devizes
- 10) WC Flood Warden seminar. Cllr Phillips confirmed there was no Fovant FW required.
- 11) WC Parish newsletter – circulated.
- 12) WC – Wiltshire Core Strategy notice of papers available for inspection at Salisbury Milford St office or online at WC website. Document has been submitted to Secretary of State.
- 13) Various phone calls re Footpath, parishioner thanked FPC for all the help and support. The problem has been resolved.
- 14) Chased Fovant CC re R2 purchase. Photos received and claim has been submitted.
- 15) Will attend SLCC branch meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> Sept.
- 16) SLCC National Conference information. Cost of attending for Fovant PC is approx £60 all inc. Training updates on; Transferring assets, neighbourhood plans, new standards regime, inspiring the community, setting up and running community owned village enterprises, legal developments - There were no questions.

**12/126. To note items for the agenda of the next meeting on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2012.**  
To note that all agenda items must be sent to the Clerk before Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012.  
Agenda items requested; risk assessment, asset register, Standing Orders, Grant policy.

Cllr Leppard closed the meeting at 10.04pm.

**FUTURE MEETINGS:**

Fovant PC will meet at the Fovant Village Hall at 7.30pm on the following Tuesdays;  
9<sup>th</sup> October, 6<sup>th</sup> November, 8<sup>th</sup> January, 5<sup>th</sup> February, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 14<sup>th</sup> May.