

Fovant Parish Council

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DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOVANT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 9th OCTOBER 2012 IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

Present Cllrs Gorse, Knowles, Leppard (Chairman), Phillips, Potter, Privett and Mrs Story.
In attendance: Mrs C Churchill (Clerk). Wiltshire Cllr Mrs Green. 3 members of the public.
Apologies Cllrs Mrs Law and Roberts.

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

Hedgerow by Brook House has been cut, thank you.

What is the progress on the pub?

Cllr Knowles – received about 20 responses, will leave until the end of October and then decide whether there is enough interest.

How much longer will the pub be boarded up?

Cllr Mrs Story – until the pub is sold.

Report from the Tisbury Neighbourhood Police Team. A report was sent to Cllr Leppard – 2 crimes reported in Fovant, theft of a generator and a strimmer. Please can people lock all garages and sheds.

Report from Wiltshire Councillor Mrs Jose Green. WC involved in benefit reform and changes to public health (changes from April 2013) – WC will have to oversee all public health issues, also some changes to mental health.

Wind turbine consultation.

Complaints received re planting at the Triangle, could shorter plants be considered for future years?

SWWAB meeting on 17th October at Tisbury.

Still some CATG funding available.

Cllr Leppard opened the meeting at 7.45pm

12/127. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs Law (away) and Roberts (family commitment). Fovant PC resolved to accept the apologies for the reasons given.
Local Government Act 1972 s85(1)

12/128. Chairman's announcements. None

12/129. Declarations of Interest. Cllr Mrs Story received £60 for a recycling bin placed at the Cross Keys car park.
All Cllrs have completed the online register of interests.

12/130. Exclusion of the press and public. None required.

12/131. Council meeting minutes - to confirm and sign the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 4th September 2012.

The following amendments were made;

Cllr Mrs Green's report – insert "and a" after members.

12/106(vii) insert and Parish Council website after Three Towers website. Cllr Mrs Story stated she felt a link to the Three Towers website would not be a good idea.

12/108 Insert "The Parish Council agreed not to repeat its previous objections"

12/125 delete been in the first line.

Clerk asked to attach Clerk's report to future agendas.

Cllrs discussed the way R2 should be applied and claimed, Clerk reminded Cllrs that if the PC applies then the R2 Officer has confirmed they are liable for the future maintenance and insurance of the item. If the group gives the money to the PC to purchase the equipment then the VAT may not be claimed as the PC may only claim VAT on items used for the running of the council or items donated, Agenda item for November – R2 application procedure.

12/132. To receive brief reports from Cllrs.

(i) Highways – Cllr Mrs Story reported flooding had been evident in the last month, tree roots have been removed from drain on the A30, other drains have been cleared.
If there is a problem with a drain people must report it directly to Wiltshire Council using the CLARENCE number 0800 23 23 23.

Highways have dealt with some hedges.

Hedges in play park have been cut.

Hedges at Mill Lane / Tisbury Rd junction need cutting, this can't be done with a machine – Clerk will contact Wilton Estate who own the land.

Ticket issued to repair Church Lane potholes.

Salt bin at Moor Hill, highways are discussing whether Fovant will get one.

Parish has been asked to develop a weather response plan.

Concerned that the proposed storage for the salt will not meet requirements.

(ii) Rights of Way - Cllr Knowles had nothing to report. Report received of barbed wire across a stile on FP14, Clerk to contact landowner and WC Rights of Way Officer.

(iii) Village Hall – Cllr Privett reported one quote has been received for the roof work, waiting on a second.

(iv) Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Mrs Law was not present, no report received.

(v) TCSP – Cllr Mrs Law was not present, no report received.

(vi) Youth issues – Cllr Roberts was not present, no report received. Cllr Phillips reported that he and a neighbour had cut the youth club side of the hedge as it was rather lopsided.

(vii) SWWAB – Cllr Phillips reminded Cllrs there is a meeting next Wednesday at Tisbury.

(viii) CATG – Cllr Phillips circulated a report. Cllr Phillips will inform David Thomas (Wiltshire Council Highways) that Fovant will not repeat their objections and request a meeting with him and a member of the Road Safety Group to discuss line markings, signage etc. Cllr Phillips.

(ix) TAPCAP – Cllr Knowles reported still working with Tisbury Campus, should go to WC along with other campus' for approval.

(x) Environmental Group – Cllr Gorse reported there is a meeting at the Cross Keys on Saturday 13th, looking at the way ahead, there is now a textile bin at the Cross Keys.

12/133. Highways.

(i) To discuss the salt available for winter 2012/13

(ii) Flooding and Drains

Requested by Cllr Mrs Story who confirmed this item was dealt with under 12/132(i)

12/134. Environmental Issues. Recycling centre at the Cross Keys, additional facilities provided and to be provided. Item requested by Cllr Mrs Story who confirmed this item was dealt with under 12/132(x).

12/135. Brook. Item requested by Cllr Mrs Story who confirmed there was nothing to discuss.

12/136. Update of actions from the meeting dated 4th September 2012.

1. Public questions. – Cllr Phillips confirmed he had approached the owners of hedges requesting they are maintained.
 2. (12/119) A letter has been sent to the Governing Body of Dinton Primary School re the use of R2 funds for the school pool.
 3. (12/120 – 122) Planning responses were sent to WC. The planning application for The Stores has been withdrawn.
- All other actions appear within the agenda

12/137. Dispensation Procedure for Fovant Parish Councillors. Following the adoption of the new Code of Conduct, Cllrs now have to request dispensation in writing. Fovant PC resolved to adopt the following procedure for dispensations; Following a written request to the Proper Officer of the Council (the Clerk), the Council may grant a member a dispensation to participate in a discussion and / or vote on a matter at the meeting even if s/he has any form of interest (disclosable pecuniary, other) if the Council believes that the number of members otherwise prohibited from taking part in the meeting would impede the transaction of the business; or it is in the interests of the inhabitants in the council's area to allow the member to take part; or it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation. The grant of a dispensation is decided at an ordinary meeting of the Council and any dispensation may permit the councillor to speak, or to speak and vote. The written request must be received by the Clerk prior to the start of the meeting.

12/138. Standing Orders for Fovant PC. To review and amend Standing Orders. A draft version showing proposed amendments has been circulated. Fovant PC resolved to include 1.13.0 to reflect the dispensation procedure adopted above. Code of Conduct adopted on 3rd July 2012 to be added as an annex to Standing Orders. Cllrs were asked to send comments of proposed amendments to Standing Orders by 20th October, to be discussed at the next meeting.

12/139. 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. Fovant PC resolved to adopt the previously circulated grant policy for Fovant PC incorporating the proposed changes.

12/140. Planting of a Tree to commemorate HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
(i) The date for planting the Acer griseum was confirmed as Sunday 25th November 2012 at 3pm.
(ii) It was confirmed that Parish Councillors are invited to attend
(iii) Cllr Leppard was authorised to say a few words at the ceremony. Cllr Potter was authorised to be the standby Cllr in case Cllr Leppard is indisposed.
(iv) It was confirmed that the removal of the dead tree at Clays Orchard is the responsibility of the manager.

12/141 To receive an update on the Childrens Playground Upgrade. Cllr Potter has looked into safety surfacing and recommends that Fovant PC replace the bark pit under the swings with astroturf. A quote for this has been received. The following work has been completed – covers, seats and bark raked through. Clerk has purchased the bird spikes and passed them to Cllr Potter. Cllrs discussed the RoSPA requirements. Fovant PC resolved to proceed with safety matting and astroturf subject to safety criteria being met, to apply for R2 for 50% of total and apply for a SWWAB grant to cover remainder. Work to be done in January 2013. Cllr Knowles will speak to Longleat about getting some temporary bark. Cllrs Knowles, Phillips and Potter will prepare grant application for SWWAB.

12/142. Update on The Pembroke Arms, Fovant. The notice asking for expressions of interest was repeated in the October Three Towers. The progress was reported in public questions above.

12/143. Update on the Removal of the High St post box. Clerk has sent all the paperwork to a different postal address for Royal Mail Customer Service.

12/144. Update on the Recreation Ground transfer of asset request. Stephen Harris has confirmed that everything is on hold until the housing needs survey has been completed. Cllrs expressed concern at the delay of the community asset transfer (CAT) and concern at the housing needs survey. Fovant PC resolved that they will withdraw support for the housing needs survey until the status of CAT for the recreation ground and playground has been established.

12/145. Update on the Sign to Chiselbury Ring. Clerk has spoken to the AONB who confirmed that the actual site is situated on private land although there is a footpath surrounding the site. Cllr Phillips has spoken to Mrs S Williams who has confirmed they would not be in favour of encouraging people to walk the footpath. Fovant PC resolved to continue to explore alternative possibilities for the erection of a sign.

Finance

12/146. Request from Fovant PCC for funds towards upkeep of burial ground. Fovant PC resolved to grant £100 under the power LGA 1972, s 214 (6).

12/147. Year ending 31st March 2013. Clerk circulated a bank reconciliation. Bank accounts total £4,589.93 with £348.26 in unpresented cheques. Fovant PC resolved to authorise payment of accounts totalling £815.69
Local Government Act 1972 s150(5)
Account and Audit Regulations 2008

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

12/148. S/2012/1235. Doctors Surgery, Beechers Brook, High St, Fovant. Single storey extension to south elevation to form disabled toilet. Fovant PC resolved to support this application.

12/149. Consultation on the Siting of Wind Turbines. This is being carried out under the Wiltshire Council Core Strategy. To agree a response for this consultation. Details have been circulated. Fovant PC resolved to support the proposal circulated by SWWAB.

12/150. Clerk's Report.

1. Phone call from Mr Lacey – concerned about PC response to planning application for the Stores. Explained the process and that all was done at a public meeting which was advertised. Mr Lacey sent me a thank you note and a copy of a letter to the Editor of the Three Towers.
2. Contacted Stephen Harris on state of play re CAT, this will not proceed any further until the housing survey has been completed.
3. Checked accounts as Cllr Knowles stated he had banked and his account had been credited for the unpresented cheque, Cllr Knowles received two cheques, one is outstanding one has cleared.
4. Came across another postal address for Royal Mail customer service so have sent copies of all letters to this address (Plymouth), as yet no response but it hasn't been long.
5. Question from Cllr Mrs Story about BACs payments, currently this is not permitted under PC rules unless each payment has a letter of authorisation signed by the required two Cllrs. As this system is not much different to cheques it is advised to continue with cheque payments. The current online access for the Clerk is view only, no transfers may be made.
6. Discussion with rural housing survey team about concerns with survey, they have sent details of who is on the partnership and the service level agreement – all circulated.
7. Attending National Conference at Bristol 12 – 14th October. Will be out of the office on Friday 12th.
8. Met with CPRE members who would like Parish Councils to join. They are opposing large scale development in some areas of Wiltshire (not this area at the moment).
9. WALC AGM – Friday 26th October in Chippenham.

12/151. To note items for the agenda of the next meeting to be held on Tuesday 6th November 2012.

Please note that all agenda items must be sent to the Clerk before Monday 29th October 2012.

Cllr Leppard closed the meeting at 10.12pm.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

Fovant PC will meet at Fovant Village Hall at 7.30pm on the following Tuesdays;
8th January, 5th February, 5th March, 14th May.