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## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF FOVANT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2012 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Cllrs Gorse, Leppard (Chairman), Potter, Privett, Roberts, Mrs Law and Mrs Story.

**In attendance:** Mrs C Churchill (Parish Clerk), 1 member of the public.

Cllr Leppard opened the meeting at 7.22 pm

### Public Questions:

1. The Village Hall is now available on Tuesdays, it will be vacated at 7.15pm allowing enough changeover time for Parish Council meetings to start at 7.30pm
2. The Lancers (Sutton Mandeville) has applied for a full licence to be a licensed property.
3. The Three Towers will be going online, a parishioner has kindly offered to do this.
4. The noticeboard at Sutton Road has no Parish Council notices, could FPC please display a notice saying it is for Parish Council information only?

### Report from the Tisbury Neighbourhood Police Team.

PC Day has sent apologies and explained that he is unable to attend meetings on a regular basis. He will try to attend occasionally and if there is a matter that needs his attention he will do his best.

**Report from Wiltshire Councillor Mrs Jose Green.** Apologies were received.

#### 12/001. Election of Chairman.

Cllr Leppard was elected as Chairman for the council year ending May 2013.  
(per Local Government Act 1972 ss15 )

#### 12/002. Declaration of acceptance of Office.

Cllr Leppard duly signed the declaration of acceptance of office.  
(per Local Government Act 1972 s83(4))

#### 12/003. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Phillips was elected as Vice Chairman. (per Local Government Act 1972 ss34)

#### 12/004. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve the reasons given.

Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Knowles (work) and Phillips (work). Apologies also received from Wiltshire Cllr Mrs Green and Tisbury NPT.  
(per Local Government Act 1972 s85(1))

#### 12/005. Chairman's announcements.

There were none.

#### 12/006. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Roberts 12/014 personal - a member of the youth club committee.  
(per Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 SI No.1159)

#### 12/007. Exclusion of the press and public.

No items require the public, including the press, to be excluded.

**12/008. Council meeting minutes** - to confirm and sign the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2012. Minutes were taken as read and the following amendment was made '11/187 – environmental report. Change lady to Sarah Cosentino from Wiltshire World Changers'. The amended minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**12/009. To receive brief reports from Parish Councillors:**

- (i) Highways – Cllr Mrs Story. Car transporter went along Tisbury Rd, damaged verges which will be looked at by Parish Steward. It is believed lorry was travelling to Dinton Business park, Clerk asked to write to company concerned. Cllr Story to send Clerk details. Crashed car, vehicle needs to be removed before it contaminates lake, Clerk to contact highways.  
A30 was blocked at The Rectory due to flooding. High Street will be closed for highway works on 18/19<sup>th</sup> May.
- (ii) Rights of Way - Cllr Knowles. Nothing to report.
- (iii) Village Hall – Cllr Privett. AGM to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2012. Committee are aware of issues with the roof, plans for more quizzes, supporting Jubilee lunch and tea, BBQ on hold this year.
- (iv) Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Mrs Law. Attended NHW meeting, looking at action plan objectives, complaints noted no police presence at NHW meetings. Next meeting 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012.
- (v) TCSP – Cllr Mrs Law. Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012.
- (vi) Youth issues – Cllr Roberts. Currently advertising for a paid helper, closing date is 20<sup>th</sup> May 2012.
- (vii) SWWAB – Cllr Phillips. Report circulated with the agenda, Cllrs noted this.
- (viii) TAPCAP – Cllr Knowles. Nothing to report.
- (ix) Environmental Group – Cllr Gorse. WWT have Rubbish Revolution aimed at youth but scope now widened to cover community groups, all details are on the website. There is a consultation on mini recycling sites, this closes on 28/5/2012.

**12/010. To appoint representatives to organisations & Parish Council portfolios:**  
*(per FPC Standing Orders 1.5.2(g))*

Highways	Cllr Mrs Story
Rights of Way	Cllr Knowles.
Village Hall	Cllr Privett
Neighbourhood Watch	Cllr Mrs Law
TCSP	Cllr Mrs Law.
Youth issues	Cllr Roberts
SWWAB	Cllr Phillips.
TAPCAP	Cllr Knowles.
Environmental Group	Cllr Gorse
Playground inspection	Cllr Potter
Website	Cllr Gorse
Finance WG	Cllrs Leppard, Phillips and Roberts.

**12/011. Update of actions from the meeting dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 2012:**

- (i) (11/200) Cllr Roberts completed the bank mandate and is now a signatory.
- (ii) (11/202) Clerk responded to parishioner re funds donated to the Three Towers.
- (iii) (11/202) Grand awarding guidelines to be discussed at a future meeting.
- (iv) (11/203) Clerk sent response to WC Planning re The Lodge.
- (v) (11/204) Clerk finally received pro forma invoices for the cricket club equipment, payment has been made and the coaching equipment has arrived.

All other actions appear within the agenda.

- 12/012. HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.** No update received, there is a meeting soon. Cllr Story gave the Clerk copies of the forms sent to all parishioners to file.
- 12/013. Olympic Torch Relay 2012.** The Olympic Torch will be travelling through the village of Fovant on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2012.
- 12/014. Venue for future Fovant Parish Council meetings.** The village hall is now available on Tuesdays from 7.15pm. Cllr Roberts has discussed using the youth club for meetings which would be suitable and also available. Resolved that Fovant PC will meet at the Village Hall at 7.30pm but that this decision will be revisited should there be any issues with accessing the village hall at 7.15pm. It was noted that FPC are extremely grateful to the Youth Club in offering to accommodate FPC.
- 12/015. Purchase of tables for the Youth Club.** In order for Fovant PC to meet at the youth club tables need to be purchased. Item withdrawn as no longer applicable.
- 12/016. Data Protection Registration.** Clerk has researched this matter and the Act states that all public authorities must register, a public authority includes local government of which a parish council is the third tier. Cllr Story has contacted WALC for a definitive answer, item to be discussed at the next meeting once response from WALC is received.
- 12/017. Update on the Removal of the High St post box.** Nothing to report.
- 12/018. Update on the repairs to the War Memorial.** Cllr Potter has met a stonemason who will provide a written quote. Resolved that a maximum of £400 for the work be allocated as it is possible work will be completed by the Jubilee weekend.
- 12/019. To receive an update on the Recreation Ground transfer of asset request.** Cllrs Knowles and Phillips have been unable to find any information, Cllr Mrs Story will look through her papers.

## Finance

- 12/020. Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012.** The accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012 were reviewed and authorised to be sent to the Internal Auditor. Clerk  
(per *Account and Audit Regulations 2003 reg 27.*)
- 12/021. Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013.** The balance of the accounts stands at £9013.02. Payments totalling £1185.84 were authorised for payment as detailed in schedule of payments. Clerk has requested a second quote for insurance, maximum of £541.57 on insurance. Clerk must ensure that any new policy has identical cover.  
(per *Local Government Act 1972 s150(5) & Account and Audit Regulations 2003 reg 4*)
- 12/022. Online Banking.** To authorise the Clerk to have access to online banking for the Parish Council accounts, this would enable the accounts to be kept up to date at all times. Online banking can not be used to make payments, all payments must be signed by two members. Resolved to authorise online access for the Lloyds bank accounts to the Parish Clerk.
- 12/023. To authorise Cllr Leppard as a new signatory for the Parish Council bank accounts.**  
To be discussed at a future meeting.

- Planning.** To review the following planning applications and agree a response for Fovant PC:
- 12/024.** **S/2012/0473. The Old Rectory, High St, Fovant.** Formation of new door between kitchen and dining room, and modification to en-suite works to cloakroom. FPC resolved to support this application.
- 12/025.** **S/2012/0436. West Farm, Fovant.** Fell 11 poplar trees. FPC resolved to support this application.
- 12/026.** **S/2012/0526. Foxhill, Dinton Rd.** 2x rear extensions, alterations to roof and new entrance porch. FPC resolved to support this application.
- 12/027.** **To approve delegated powers for the Parish Clerk to use for items requiring urgent attention.** All such items must be discussed with a minimum of two members and must be of a nature that can not wait until the next meeting.  
Following lengthy discussion this item was withdrawn, Cllr Story stated that all items can be discussed at correctly advertised council meetings with the required three clear working days notice. It was also pointed out that the amendment made to FPC Standing Orders allowing Cllrs to meet outside of a public meeting was not lawful and must never happen. *(per Local Government Act 1972 s101)*
- 12/028.** **Early Day Motion on Planning Appeals.** WALC have emailed all Parish Councils asking them to consider asking their M.P. to support the above EDM. Please see attached for more info. To resolve to request Dr Andrew Murrison supports the EDM. Clerk.
- 12/029.** **Clerk's Report:**
- (i) Rural facilities survey
  - (ii) Parishioner reported fallen trees at bridleway / footpath near Tisbury Rd. I contacted Nick Cowan who was going to look into it and would contact the parishioner direct. The trees were resting on other trees and a fence not necessarily blocking the path.
  - (iii) Salisbury Journal contacted requesting an article for a supplement on Tisbury, Cllr Knowles kindly drafted this.
  - (iv) Insurance paperwork, Clerk has asked an alternative broker for a second quote.
  - (v) WALC subs and a letter to the Chairman regarding membership.
  - (vi) Attended Agendas and Minutes training in Swindon.
  - (vii) Attended VAT and Audit seminar in Bristol.
  - (viii) Information re purchasing litter pickers and associated equipment. This is all available free of charge through WC, should the parish wish to arrange a Litter Pick, WC will drop off equipment (as long as it's available) and collect rubbish afterwards.
  - (ix) Applied for online banking, this would allow easier checking of accounts.
  - (x) Early Day Motion for Planning from WALC.
- 12/030.** **To note items for the agenda of the next meeting to be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2012.** None received. Please note that all agenda items must be sent to the Clerk before Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012.

Cllr Leppard closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

**FUTURE MEETINGS:**

**Fovant Village Hall, 7.30pm:  
2012**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June  
 Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July  
 Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September  
 Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October  
 Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November

**2013**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January  
 Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February  
 Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March  
 Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April  
 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May

**Agenda item 12/009 (vii)**

**South West Wilts Area Board. Highlights from meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

CC John Brady attended – portfolio holder for Finance, Risk and Performance.

Bridget Wayman will step down as chairman at the next meeting. In her valedictory speech, she said she had felt it right to encourage interaction with the floor during her meetings, though this and the (resulting?) length of meetings had provoked some criticism. (In Salisbury, where John Brady sits, I have heard that the floor are not allowed to speak!). Bridget praised the work of the CATG. Later in the meeting I had the chance to thank her for the way she ran these meetings and hoped that her successor would adopt a similar policy etc.

Tisbury Campus . A business plan will be put to Cabinet in September. The police are committed to being at the Campus.

Council House funding. John Brady announced that on 1<sup>st</sup> April the funding for Council Housing and the rents are being devolved to counties. WC will have some £55 million to use (later it seems spread over 20? years). The existing Tenants Panels will decide how to spend this. Jose Green referred to the idea proposed by residents of The Poplars to extend their parking area into the extensive grassed area.

CATG. Tony Deane referred to the parking problem at The Poplars. Typical factors for Council House collections is an ageing population, more cars per household, roads too narrow to allow parking and emergency vehicles, and the fact that roads put in by SDC were not properly adopted by WC. The latest idea for managing the use of the SWWAB SIDS is that insurance cover will be obtained to cover the volunteers for changing the batteries and carrying out downloads, but the device will be moved and installed by WC employees.

Youth Service. Mark Holden gave a presentation of the scope of their work. The DEFA grant that support his post, aimed at developing sustainable projects, has about 18 months to run.

Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service. Results of an internal review and the start of a public consultation were announced. Across the county there have been difficulties in getting volunteer retained fire fighters, which seemed to me to constitute the majority of the workforce. There have been shortfalls in Mere and Tisbury. To counter this, the review is proposing a new arrangement to pay salaries to the volunteers, allowing them to depend on a regular income – rather than the piecework rates now. *I think this is important enough to be put in the minutes of the next FPC, as it may be of interest to some potential volunteers living in Fovant.*

**Fovant:**

The Poplars. I propose that the next meeting of CATG be asked how they intend to move forward with this. From what John Brady told us (above), the CATG plan to use the residents petition and the preliminary inspection by highways engineer Tom Gardner as the basis for a recommendation to the Director of Housing, may now be less sensible than putting the case to the Council House Tenants Committee. Jose Green sits on this committee,

**Notes from Cllr Phillips re the propose A30 speed limit change:**

I have been in touch with Dave Thomas (highways) to see what is happening after the various comments on the A30 speed proposals. Here are the bones of his reply. He says that with pressure of other reports this is likely to take three months. *"We are in the process of drafting a Cabinet Member report which will set out the points received and our views as officers. We are likely to undertake some further speed readings to help inform the recommendations. Mr Tonge as Cabinet Member will then make a final decision as to what level of limits are installed."*

I have asked Tony Deane and Jose to advise on whether the FPC should ask to see the report – thinking that the best way to get a result satisfactory to us may be to avoid annoying everyone along the way - no reply from them yet.

Next meeting: Tuesday 22 May 2012. I will attend if asked to continue with this liaison role on behalf of FPC.

Tony Phillips 2 May 2012

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Agenda item 12/028.

Dear Councils

Wiltshire Association of Local Councils has been requested by NALC to pass the email below and attached (see below) letter to member councils to encourage you to write to all MPs before 17 May 2012 to support the below Early Day Motion on Planning Appeals.

***That this House supports the Planning Applications (Appeals by Town and Parish Councils) Bill introduced by the Hon. Member for xxxx with the support of the Suffolk and the Kent Associations of Local Councils, along with that of the Hampshire Association and the Hertfordshire Association; notes that the Bill would give Town and Parish Councils the right of appeal against the granting of planning permissions to which they had objected and that this policy is backed by the National Association of Local Councils which represents 10,000 Town and Parish Councils in England and by One Voice Wales / Un Llais Cymru which represents Welsh Town and Community Councils; and hopes that the Bill will become law soon.***

This helps to progress NALC's policy position on the same, as below;

15	<p><b>Planning Decisions</b></p> <p>(A)</p>	Suffolk	<p><i>That SALC asks NALC to lobby Government to change the planning framework so that local councils have the same right as developers to appeal planning decisions.</i></p>	<p>Annual General Meeting</p> <p>19 October, 2011</p>	Ongoing	<p>Following the Localism Act, local councils have gained many neighbourhood planning powers as a result of NALC lobbying. The appeals matter specifically remains ongoing. However, NALC has drafted a letter supporting the Early Day Motion (EDM) on Planning Appeals to be sent to all MPs on 17 April, 2012. The Policy and Development Manager will also attend a meeting on the same at Portcullis House, on 20 April, 2012</p>
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There will be a ballot in Parliament on 17 May, 2012 in which the names of at least seven MPs will be drawn from a hat who can subsequently be approached to run with a Private Members' Bill. When NALC is informed who these MPs are, I will be back in touch with the relevant County Associations covering the constituency areas of these 7 MPs, so that they can write to and call the offices of these MPs, asking them to run with the Planning Applications (Appeals by Town and Parish Councils) Bill (the next phase).

Attached is a letter NALC sent to all MPs recently requesting their support at Early Day Motion stage.

NALC will additionally be writing to all 7 MPs, asking them to run with the Planning Applications (Appeals by Town and Parish Councils) Bill, after 17/5.

Dear Sir / Madam,

**REQUEST TO SUPPORT EARLY DAY MOTION ON PLANNING APPEALS**

I am writing on behalf of the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) to ask for your support of the Early Day Motion (EDM) on Planning Appeals, being sponsored by Martin Caton, MP.

The text of the EDM is as follows;

***That this House supports the Planning Applications (Appeals by Town and Parish Councils) Bill introduced by the Hon. Member for xxxx with the support of the Suffolk and the Kent Associations of Local Councils, along with that of the Hampshire Association and the Hertfordshire Association; notes that the Bill would give Town and Parish Councils the right of appeal against the granting of planning permissions to which they had objected and that this policy is backed by the National Association of Local Councils which represents 10,000 Town and Parish Councils in England and by One Voice Wales / Un Llais Cymru which represents Welsh Town and Community Councils; and hopes that the Bill will become law soon.***

For too long local (parish and town) councils have not had the same right of appeal as developers to contest planning decisions in their areas. The time has come to change this. This position is official policy of the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), which adopted this line at its Annual General Meeting on 19 October, 2011, following a motion successfully submitted by the Suffolk Association of Local Councils.

The EDM itself supports a Presentation Bill called the Planning Appeals By Local Councils Bill, which seeks to give redress to local councils who wish to appeal planning decisions they feel have had a deleterious affect on their communities, often following objections lodged by local councils at consultation stage. The National and Suffolk Associations of Local Councils ask you to sign this EDM to redress this unfair imbalance in the planning system, at a time when the Government otherwise wants to give local councils a greater say in planning matters. Your support will strengthen the voice of local councils in your own constituency and nationally.

On behalf of the National Association and local councils nationally, thank you for signing this EDM.