

# Farnham Parish Council

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## **DRAFT Minutes of the Public Open Meeting**

**held in the Museum Inn on**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7:45pm**

**Present:** Chair Penny Everard (PE), Vice-Chair Gail Sadd (GS), Cllr Roy Bartlett (RB), Cllr Vicky Forbes (VF), Cllr Tracey Hartles (TH), Cllr Ned Miller (NM) and Cllr/Parish Clerk Sara-Jane Newenham (SJM) Cllr Piers Brown NDDC

- 1 Minutes of the Annual Public Open Meeting 2017-2018:** Minutes were read by PE. A parishioner noted that 5d (Working Together) should read DDC not NDDC; also there was an omission, the PCC had offered to give a report but FPC decided that as the PCC had already distributed a detailed annual report to every household this was not required. Apologies for this mistake. The minutes were accordingly amended by SJM. Signed by PE. Proposed by NM and seconded by GS.

- 2 Review of 2017-2018 by the Chairman of the Parish Council:**

PE provided a detailed report of the work of FPC, which included planning applications, Roy Vincent's resignation and SJM was subsequently co-opted as a councillor. The go-ahead has been given for Dorset to have two unitary councils; the purchase and refurbishment of the telephone kiosk was completed (PE thanked all who were involved in this project and those who made a donation); the repair to the sign post at the top of the village has been completed thanks to the hard work of a villager; donation for this was also received and FPC contributed the shortfall; GS attended the DAPTC annual conference; PE attended a drop-in session on the transparency code, which resulted in a £400.00 grant this has been used for website training; SJM attended a data-protection course; we are waiting for the NDDC to reduce the canopy of trees in the Avenue; thanks to a villager for collecting a supply of salt and spreading it before the snow. Finally, PE thanked all councillors for their help and support throughout the year.

- 3 Finance:** The Full-Year Spend April 2017-2018 sheets were circulated for public inspection. SJM went through the sheet and explained the income and expenses for the final year end 31/03/2018.

The precept for 2017-2018 is £4,000 (the same as last year).

Finances are in good order. Fortunately, we have some money in reserve to meet the increasing pressures on the parish council as we are expected to take on more and more responsibility for the upkeep of the village.

**4 Matters to be Discussed:**

a) Playground:

PE explained we are still on a rolling lease.

b) Village Amenity Fund

The fund stands at the same amount as last year £2690.69. PE stressed that the money belongs to the village and not FPC therefore it is up to the village on how this money is spent; suggestions were:

-additional wooden benches or a covered seating area, possibly with a thatched roof  
It was also suggested the names on the war memorial in the church should be put on the benches.

c) Memorial Bench

SJN met with the sons of the late Joan Saltmarsh (former Parish Clerk) to discuss having a bench in her memory in front of the playground. This will be discussed further by FPC at their next meeting.

d) Data Protection

SJN explained the GDPR is the new legal framework which comes into effect 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and how this will affect the council.

e) Donations

Last year we gave money to Air Ambulance and also to Blandford Leisure centre it was agreed to make the same donations this year.

f) Website

PE encouraged parishioners to use the website.

Having completed all of the items on the agenda Cllr Piers Brown from NDDC gave a report on the challenges facing the district council as they prepare for the merger to two unitary councils.

Finally, a parishioner thanked PE and all members of FPC for their continued hard work.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:45pm.

**Signed.....**

**Chairman**

**Date.....**