

Farnham Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Public Open Meeting

held in the Museum Inn on

Monday 15th 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 Parish Clerk Sara-Jane Newenham (SJM) Cllr Deborah Croney NDDC and DCC

Parishioners in Attendance: Diana Taggart, Ed Sadd, Geoff Parnell, Peter Forbes, Roger Newenham, John and Barbara Williamson, Gill Baverstock

1 Minutes of the annual Public Meeting 2016: Signed as a true and accurate record by the Chair Penny Everard. Proposed by NM and seconded by GS.

2 Review of 2016-2017 by the Chairman of the Parish Council:

PE provided a detailed report of the work of FPC, which included: planning applications; tree work applications; TH resignation as Parish Clerk and SJN acceptance of the post: website now up and running; possible purchase of phone box is ongoing; PE and SJN attended a workshop about local government reorganisation; a working party cleared the area around the millennium seat and removed the dying tree; photographs were sent as requested by the ground water flood service re: floods of 2013/14; FPC continue to monitor the Well House; a new grass contract was awarded to Langer & Sons as Chris at Groundcare has retired; six new bollards to be erected on the corner of the green opposite Museum Cottage; PE attended DAPTC annual conference and PE/SJM attended the AONB annual forum; the village had their annual litter pick.

PE thanked all councillors for their help and support throughout the year.

3 Finance: the financial year spreadsheets were circulated by SJM who explained the income and expenses for the final year end 31/03/2017. We have £3072.51 in the account. The precept will be £4000.00 for 2017-2018

4 Cllr Deborah Croney NDDC and DCC to address the Parishioners:

-DC spoke about the recent local elections which saw a shift away from Labour and an increase in numbers for the conservatives. She looks forward to working with members of the council, as many are dynamic and talented people.

-She also offered reassurances regarding the financial cuts on the budget and services, and explained the changes regarding grass cutting, ditch clearing and highway maintenance.

- work to be carried out on the A350 and C13. A brief discuss on the road that runs through Newtown. PE added that Rolly Skeats from Dorset Highways will be at the next FPC meeting to discuss 'Working Together' in more detail.
- Finally DC advised the council that grants are available from AONB for finger signposts.

5 Matters to be Discussed:

- a) Playground: PE explained we are now on a rolling lease and we have had discussions with the landlord about the possible purchase of the land. The alternatives are to continue as we are or draw up a new lease. This is ongoing.
- b) Village Amenity Fund
£2690.69 has been transferred to a bank account under the name of, Farnham Dorset Village Fund.
- c) Telephone box/Post Box
We have applied to adopt the telephone box and to turn it into a book exchange for the benefit of parishioners .We are still trying to move the post box to a more convenient location, next to the telephone box. A parishioner suggested that the FPC speak to health and safety as a way forward.
- d) Working Together: An initiative led by NDDC due to financial restraints town and parish councils will need to be more proactive; cleaning signs, clearing ditches verge cutting, grass cutting, etc. This will be discussed further at our next meeting.
- e) Website: The website is up and running meeting the legal requirements regarding the transparency code. It was discussed whether or not to add an amenities page. It was agreed to put in a piece about this in the Parish magazine
- f) Defibrillator: This was discussed and the consensus was we should not pursue the acquisition of a defibrillator.
- g) Allotment Society Report by Ed Sadd: This is the seventh successful year and Ed encouraged members of the parish to get involved. BBQ lunch on 13th August 2017. He also spoke about the sunflower competition.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed.....

Chairman

Date.....

