

Fontmell Magna Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th July 2017 at St Andrews Primary School, Fontmell Magna at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr H Horstead (Chairman), Cllrs R East, M de la Perrelle, M Humphreys, G Roberts, L Williams.

In attendance: Cllr G Carr-Jones, Dorset CC; 32 members of the public

Public Questions:

Bluebridge Communications. Following receipt of the Bluebridge document, every parish household has received a statement from the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG), the statement had the support of the Parish Council, explaining that the Bluebridge document was not issued by the NPWG nor sent to them or the Parish Council. Preparing the Neighbourhood Plan is ongoing and parish residents are being fully consulted throughout the process.

A question was raised why Site 12, the subject of the Bluebridge document, had been discounted. It was explained that 15 sites had been submitted and all had been assessed using the same criteria. From these 4 sites had been short-listed and presented to residents in consultation events in April 2017. Full details of the site assessments can be found on the parish website.

<http://www.fontmellmagnapc.co.uk/FontmellMagna-PC/UserFiles/Files/FMNP%20Options%20Consultation/Housing/Site%20Assessment%20Summary%20-%20Preferred%20%20Options.pdf>

Vodafone Base Station. A letter had been received from GallifordTry, consulting on a proposal to erect a 17.5m RF mast on land owned by Wessex Water at the sewage treatment plant. A question was raised on whether the Church tower had been considered; this had been discussed by the Parochial Church Council but the tower window openings are too narrow and could not be adapted. A question was raised on emissions and health risks; the information available to the PC is that the risk of harmful emissions is minimal.

A350/C13 Improvements. A question was raised following the recent consultation on DCC's proposals to spend £2.5m on improvements to the A350 and C13. This was discussed later under Highways.

Bedchester Telephone Box. The box had been repainted recently and this highlighted the condition of the adjacent Parish Notice Board; Cllr East would discuss this after the meeting.

10/07/01 Apologies for Absence. Cllr C Langham, District Councillor.

10/07/02 Declarations of Interest. None.

10/07/03 Minutes of the Meeting on 8th May 2017. These were approved without amendment.
Nem Con

10/07/04 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meetings.

Bedchester Telephone Box: This has been painted recently by a Bedchester resident Paul Phillips who provided his labour free of charge saving the PC about £350; the PC expressed their grateful thanks to Paul.

10/07/05 Vacancy on the Parish Council and Co-option. Maggie Ayre has come forward to fill the current vacancy and has been interviewed for the role. Her appointment was approved unanimously by the PC. She was welcomed to the Council and joined the council for the remainder of the meeting. **Nem Con**

Marianne Wheatley has applied for the role of Clerk & RFO to the Council and has been interviewed. This would be a paid role and is covered by the current budget; her duties would commence on 1st September 2017. Her appointment was approved unanimously. **Nem Con**

10/07/06 County Councillor's report. Graham Carr-Jones provided a report to the PC. He was elected in May and is involved in discussions on local government re-organisation.

10/07/07 District Councillor's report. The District Councillor provided a written report, shown in the Appendix to these Minutes.

Dorset Waste Partnership has suggested that parish councils could invest in covert cameras at fly tipping hot spots, to gather evidence to support issuing Fixed Penalty Notices.

10/07/08 Development Control Matters. There were no pending applications to discuss.

10/07/09 Financial Report from the RFO.

The acting RFO presented the financial reports as at 7th July 2017.

The PC has account balances of £13,074.50 with an unrepresented cheque of £40 outstanding. The balance includes the latest grant of £4,296 for the Neighbourhood Plan work. It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan Planning Consultant is now charging VAT which the PC will need to recover from HMRC.

Financial regulations will be reviewed by the RFO when appointed in September.

Cllr Humphreys raised a concern over the PC's responsibilities for risk management and contingency/recovery planning. This will be discussed with the Clerk/RFO in September,

10/07/010 Bills Presented.

Payment of bills was approved as follows:

- Vale Garden Services £40, for grass cutting

The PC agreed that future monthly payments for War Memorial maintenance can be made without separate approval.

10/07/011 Other Parish Matters

a. Highways.

Cllr East reported that the recent DCC Highways proposals for improvements to the A350/C13 were not representative of what had been discussed with them previously, on the best way to spend the £2.5m available. The DCC consultation on these proposals is now closed. Several points were raised in the discussion that followed:

- There is a major concern about how to reduce traffic speed approaching Fontmell Magna from the south; there is no substantive proposal on this from DCC. DCC have claimed that traffic calming measures would not pass a safety audit on a rural road.
- There is a similar concern over the speed of traffic leaving FM heading south.
- Entrance gates to the village will be installed, with their location being discussed. The north entrance gate should be sited adjacent to the old cricket pavilion.
- A resident stated that DCC's lack of action is lamentable. Concerned residents are urged to write to Andrew Martin of DCC Highways, and to Graham Carr-

Jones.

- Members of the public raised questions about having a 20mph limit through the village, which Cllr East will take up again with DCC, and the danger of school children having to cross the A350 from the afternoon school bus drop-off.

Cllr East mentioned recent discussions at the A350/C13 Community Group. Problems continue at Melbury Abbas, where traffic management measures have proved ineffective. Tripartite discussions are continuing between Dorset, Wiltshire and Somerset about a strategic link between Poole and the M4 but there is little sign of anything materialising.

b. Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Humphreys reported on current activities:

- A Conservation Area Appraisal has been produced by Barry Roberts and John Knight to support the Neighbourhood Plan. Barry and John were congratulated on the document. The CAA has been submitted to NDDC for comment and hopefully adoption but no response so far; the PC will follow up.
- The NP Working Group has discussed the Bluebridge Communication document and decided to issue a statement of clarification to every household jointly with the Parish Council. Dick Stainer kindly provided the paper and envelopes for this.
- A resident raised the question of whether all four preferred sites for housing development could be built out. It was explained that the NDDC Local Plan has a requirement for housing development and the Working Group had conducted an assessment of housing need which pointed to requiring 35-40 homes over the period 2016-31. The preferred sites for development are those assessed to be the most sustainable.
- The next stage of producing the Neighbourhood Plan is the publication of a Draft Plan for consultation with parish residents. The Draft Plan will be submitted to the PC Councillors in August and if agreed it will be published for consultation with the parish in September.
- A suggestion has been made on whether local experts could assist the PC in assessing future planning application once the NP has been made. The PC noted this suggestion.
- The PC agreed to give access to the Archive Society to the Parish Online facility for the purpose of producing up to date footpath leaflets.

c. Unified Parish Website. The Parish Council website needs updating in respect of accessibility and security. Also Councillors' Declaration of Interest need to be available through the site.

It is planned to develop an improved site to meet these new requirements and those of the Archive Society, the Village Shop and potentially other organisation's in the parish.

d. Improving Liaison with the Police. The Police will be asked to send a representative to the Parish Council meeting in September, to provide an update on current issues and trends, and to discuss ongoing liaison on an annual basis.

10/07/012 Other Matters arising from Correspondence. A schedule of correspondence received, planning applications and tree work applications was provided to councillors.

a. Community Defibrillator. Cllr. East requested feedback from parish residents on whether a defibrillator is needed and where it could be located from 24 hour access. All training needs would have to be considered.

b. Village Shop. The shop has requested a sign on Gossip Tree green pointing to the shop's location. This was approved.

Nem Con

c. Vodafone Base Station. It would be desirable for the proposed mast to be shared with other network operators if possible. The Clerk will send a letter of support for the proposal.

Nem Con

d. Bedchester Allotments. DCC as current owners of the allotments have suggested these are leased to Fontmell PC for a peppercorn rent of £1 pa. Current income is around £342. The allotments are in a poor condition; the faults would need to be rectified before any handover. Cllr. East will discuss this proposal further with DCC.

e. Items for The Gossip Tree. A summary of this PC meeting will be published in the next edition

f. Parish e-mail Directory. The Clerk requested that parish residents provide their e-mail address to the Clerk so that a directory of addresses can be compiled. This would be used for important communications from the PC.

10/07/013 Future Meeting Dates. Meetings for the year ahead will be held as follows:

11th September 2017, at 7.30pm

13th November 2017, at 7.30pm

(Nb. Time could be brought forward to 7.00 pm if necessary)

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.29 pm.

Date

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Chairman, Fontmell Magna Parish Council

District Councillor's Report – July 2017

Following the tragic events at Grenfell Tower, the Tri-partite Council has confirmed that there are no high-rise blocks in the area but social housing providers are being asked to review their fire safety precautions, particularly in 3 storey blocks.

I attended a recent presentation by Dorset Waste Partnership which focused on the problems of fly tipping and abandoned vehicles. Whilst it is difficult to successfully prosecute fly tippers DWP are hoping that a fixed penalty notice system will shortly be introduced which would be easier to implement. They suggest that Parish Councils invest in covert cameras for fly tipping hot spots which would hopefully provide the necessary evidence for a FPN.

At the Annual Council Meeting on 19th May, Cllr Carr-Jones was confirmed as Leader of North Dorset, whilst Cllr Val Potheary takes the role of Chair and Cllr John Stayt as Vice-Chair. We have recently been informed that Cllr Pauline Batstone has stood down from the Cabinet but there will a re-allocation of portfolios rather than replacing her at this stage.

I attended a seminar in May about Community Led Housing and Councillors were encouraged to ask Parishes if they have a suitable site for this type of development. This normally involves land being sold to the Parish at agricultural rates and then the Community can be involved in design and planning of the new development which would be managed by a Housing Association. The Housing Enabling Officer, Teresa Rabbetts, would be very happy to attend a Parish Council meeting and give a presentation on this subject.