

Figheldean Parish Council

(draft until signed at next meeting)

Minutes of meeting held 11th March 2020 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present

Cllr John Menzies Chairman
Cllr Jackie Dryden Vice Chair
Cllr Nick Tissot
Cllr Darrell Amison
Cllr John Yelland
Cllr Tina Cole
Sandra Burch Clerk

Public Question Time

- Question regarding storm drains, Parish Clerk explained that Highways Dept are dealing with extraordinary wet weather so they have had to prioritise their work load, two drains on their work schedule - Ablington on the corner by the woods and Mill Lane, at the moment these drains are not a priority so should be done in the spring
- Potholes on High Street – Parish clerk will with speak with the Parish Steward, she has said that roads need resurfacing and will write to the Highways Dept next week. Since the meeting 20 poles in the High Street have been filled and one large one on Pollen Lane.
- There is confusion over the bin recycling and which days, WCC are doing their best but obviously have suffered teething issue. The parish clerk mention about assisted bin collection for residents who have health issues or physical inability who are unable to move their bin for collection, WCC will ensure the bin is collected from the household and return to its original location. Please call 0300 456 0102 if you require this service.

Item	Description	Action
1	Apologies W Cllr John Smale	
2	Declaration of Interests None	
3	Minutes of the meeting of 15th January 2020 These were agreed and signed by the Chairman	
4	Matters arising from last minutes all presented by Cllr N Tissot Royal Artillery Museum Cllr N Tissot explained that there had been several developments since the last meeting.	

RAM Community Liaison Group Meeting:

- a. RAM Community Liaison Group (CLG) was created on the request of Army HQ and Wilts Council. It was set up “to facilitate communication, share information and engage in constructive discussions about the design, construction and operational aspects of the RA Museum (RAM), without prejudice to people’s positions, and without assuming that the planning application decision is a foregone conclusion. Membership does not imply support for the Project. “
- b. Membership includes Wiltshire Councillors, Parish Councils, Wiltshire Council Head Economic Development and Planning, RAM and other stakeholders
- c. The planning process was described, and it was confirmed that this project would go to a Strategic Planning Committee rather than a planning officer. This is due to the nature and size of this development
- d. It was agreed at the meeting that parish councils had multiple questions that they wanted formal responses to, and RAM agreed that they would answer them and add to their Q&A document (attached to the minutes).
- e. As a result, we now have a more comprehensive Q&A document which will be distributed to village
- f. Planning submission is expected anytime now
- g. Next Meeting is 18th March and the main topic for discussion will be the updated Q&A document and planning
- h. It was confirmed that the Outline Business Case will be unlike 2018 version in that it will have much less information. It was confirmed that there would be much more information within the planning application

Letter from David Southall:

NT has been in touch with Major General David Southall (responsible for the parcel of land at Avon Camp West). He has sent a letter (attached to these minutes) confirming that the lease of Avon Camp West is wholly contingent on successful planning and an appropriate level of local community public support with the consolidated views of the Parish Councils key.

His letter also confirms that the planning process will be via Strategic Planning Committee rather than planning officer.

Finally, he states that the Army are identifying alternative sites should Avon Camp West not be suitable.

To directly inform and influence any planning application he strongly suggests that people formally lodge their views to the CEO of Wiltshire Council, Mr Alistair Cunningham (and suggests copying the Royal Artillery):

Mr A Cunningham OBE
Chief Executive Officer
Wiltshire County Council
County Hall
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
BA14 8JN

RHQ RA
Artillery House
Royal Artillery Barracks
Larkhill
SALISBURY
Wiltshire
SP4 8QT

Petitions:

NT explained that there were 2 petitions:

- One in support of the museum but against its proposed location
- AND
- one supporting the RAM at Avon Camp West.

1. Against proposed location

- a. Approximately 1200 signatures
- b. According to those who have set the petition up mostly signatures are from A345 corridor (those possibly most affected)
- c. The results will be delivered to the Parish Councils by postcode, so we will hopefully know as a Parish Council how many within our parish have signed the petition.
- d. This will possibly help us measure local support.
- e. This petition will be sent to the Army HQ, MP, Parish Councils and Wiltshire Council during planning.

2. Support of RA Museum at Netheravon

- a. 1126
- b. Many of the signatories are RA.
- c. NT would like to see the results by postcode and will try to ask the petition owner.
- d. If most signatures are RA this is unlikely to be useful to Army HQ and Wiltshire Council.

Planning Process:

As mentioned, the process will be via Strategic Planning Committee rather than single planning officer.

Those on Committee should not be influenced in any way and are expected to be independent.

The period available for responses to be received by Wiltshire Council is likely to be a longer than 21-day response period given the size of project.

Likely to be submitted anytime soon.

One can comment, support or object

NT confirmed that as a Parish Council we will notify villagers of when the Planning Application is submitted and instructions about how to comment, support or object.

There are rules about what you can and cannot object to. We will advise what these are.

Danny Kruger MP:

NT explained that our MP, Danny Kruger visited the area and the RAM site on Friday 28th February.

From his website Update: "Most of Friday was spent hearing both sides of the vexed issue of the proposed Royal Artillery Museum (RAM) at a disused Army camp on the A345.

I had a presentation from General Nick Eeles, chairman of RAM, at the Gunners' HQ in Larkhill, and then met with a group of residents in Netheravon who are opposed not to the museum itself but to the proposed location.

It is certainly a beautiful spot, high on Salisbury Plain, and I can understand why the regiment wants its museum there. But I can also see it is very close to two villages; it is on a busy road which has enough traffic as it is; the land is currently in good use for farming and recreation; and it threatens a natural habitat for precious wildlife.

I promised the residents that I will write to the Army to set out a series of concerns and questions about the establishment of the Museum on this site.

I ended the day - still debating the RAM - in the Dog and Gun in Netheravon. This lovely pub was restored by local couple James and Patti Russell, whose children told me their opinion of Boris Johnson".

	<p>Strategy: NT explained that the parish strategy has not changed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We continue to wait for the Planning Application (and Outline Business Case although we know Planning will now have more information) to be submitted. 2. We will wait for RAM Q&A from the Community Liaison Group. 3. We will distribute all information to the parish 4. We wait for the results of the petition (number of Figheldean parishioners) 5. We will hold a public meeting to discuss information and plans 6. We will instruct our parishioners on how they can comment, support or object to planning application. 7. As a parish council we will try to gauge parish support or objection to the proposed development and if possible, formally support or object to planning application <p>Communication- New Website Development Simon Banton has developed a new website platform which is under a development HTTP//. To go live this test website needs feedback from councillors and once approved Initial setup fee of £399 and an annual fee of £160. NT to email out link to site to councillors.</p> <p>Cllr N Tissot expressed his sincere thanks to Simon Banton for this work behind the scenes to development the new website</p>	
5	<p>Chairman's Report First, a big thank you for all your work you continue to carry out, helping to keep the parish the place we all like to live in.</p> <p>We now have two active defibrillators in the Parish, the third being installed shortly in Ablington. We are now the proud owners of the woods and at last now getting progress with the Mill Lane TRO.</p> <p>The potholes and storm drains along the High Street and Pollen Lane are a continuing problem.</p> <p>I will leave the relevant Councillors to give updates in their reports</p>	
6	<p>Other Organisations Reports No other organisations were in attendance.</p> <p>Derek Hanson who lives in the village who specialises in arboriculture, advised the Parish Council the next steps which should be taken to protect the Public and Parish Council. Parish clerk to contact WCC planning office to speak with their arborist officer to arrange a site visit to see what tree management they would advise.</p> <p>Any work carried out or surveys for the woods need to be by an accredited contractor. If you have trees near roads, property, footpaths or public spaces then it may be sensible to have a tree survey for your peace of mind or insurance purposes.</p> <p>Derek kindly offered to look into surveyors for us and the possibility of an arborist company using the woods for training.</p>	SB

	<p>The woods could do with the ground being cleared of brambles and ivy to encourage plant life to grow and let in more sunlight. Graham Watson said he would kindly look into getting a work force together to undertake this work.</p> <p>The parish council was advised to place signs at wood entrances to advise public to enjoy the woods at their own risk and advise on what activities are not allowed ie fires, camping etc. Cllr Tina Cole will design a sign for the Parish Council</p>	TC
7	<p>Parish Councillors Reports</p> <p>Cllr John Yelland Attended a meeting arranged by the Police to engage with groups of local Parish Councils like ours ie Tidworth/Bulford/Amesbury/Durrington, to explain the Police targets and achievements.</p> <p>As our new Chief Constable Kier Pritchard, has been focusing on Community Policing Teams, he has arranged for several local teams throughout Wiltshire, that will include an Inspector, Sergeant, PC, and a PCSO. Pippa Brewer is our PCSO. The focus is on Community Policing and crime prevention. There is an increase in Police of 49 officers, which is good news for Wiltshire.</p> <p>As part of the above, the Neighbourhood Tasking Group meetings are held to input grassroots concerns and request support, ie Millpond. These meetings are usually held every 3 months.</p> <p>Cllr Tina Cole No current planning application to report</p> <p>The draft design for the sign to celebrate the purchase of the woods was shown to the councillors and will be emailed out for discussion and acceptance. The parish clerk will liaise with the 'In Memory' of donations to get the wording correct on the names.</p> <p>Parish Clerk is working with Cllr Cole to obtain quotes for a metal sign which will last for years.</p> <p>Signpost at Cliffend is now repaired by Steele Signs</p> <p>Cllr T Cole mentioned Brambles - Parish Clerk has been in communication with Brambles regarding the Chip Bark on the footpaths. She will liaise with them next winter to find a solution acceptable to all parties.</p> <p>Cllr Darrell Amison Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) - Mill Lane Following a successful site meeting with a number of Mill Lane residents and the Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineer on Friday 31 January, Wiltshire Council confirmed its intent to install the TRO measures in Mill Lane by the end of April.</p> <p>The measures include new signage, a lockable swing gate and double yellow lanes; the Parish contribution to which is expected to be £1750 (25% of £7000). Protocols for opening and closing the gate will be agreed with a small number of permit holders who require access beyond the gate for residential or business purposes.</p> <p>Mill Pool The Mill Pool area is now under 24/7 surveillance. Any disturbances or suspicious activity at the Mill Pool site (covering the MOD land and river beyond the 'dragon's teeth' at the end of Mill Lane) can be reported to the Westdown Camp Operations Room on 01980 620819.</p>	SB

Please be aware that this is an automated line (effectively an answer machine) albeit messages are passed to a Duty Officer with the ability to task duty personnel and return any calls made (so please state your name and telephone number if leaving a message). Whilst it is difficult to discriminate between the Mill Pool site and Mill Lane, any disturbances on Mill Lane should continue to be reported to Wiltshire Police via 101.

The Parish Council wishes to thank Mill Lane residents for their ongoing support and understanding.

Multicourt

ETC Sports is scheduled to complete the annual cleaning and maintenance of the court before the Easter weekend. The work is part of a 5-year contract and will cost £550 plus VAT. The Parish Council respectfully reminds residents to avoid allowing dogs on to the court.

8 Report by Wiltshire Councillor Smale

Not presented

9 Parish Clerk Report

Summary of Income and Expenditure - 1st April 2019 to 8th March 2020

	Expenditure to 8th March 2020	Full Year
	2019_2020	2018_2019
Income	£	£
Precept	19,098.09	18,190.00
Grants	1,534.00	-
Parish Magazine Income	1,039.00	770.00
Vat Refund	1,058.50	837.23
Wiltshire CC	799.35	-
Donations	-	1,387.00
Car Park Rental	300.00	-
	-	-
Save our Woods	29,770.88	-
	53,599.82	21,184.23
Expenditure	£	£
Dog Bins	1,448.20	1,924.37
Grass Cutting	3,154.82	5,678.64
Public Works Loan	3,746.96	3,746.96
Parish Magazine	1,782.36	1,933.15
Parish Clerk	4,566.67	3,961.04
Waste Bins at Village Hall	451.37	199.33
Bank Charges	66.00	72.00
Insurance	395.88	374.11
Audit Fee	150.00	140.00

Maintenance & HS	4,035.24	159.60
Save our Woods- Purchase and Legal	29,150.45	-
Miscellaneous	261.18	414.10
Donations and Funding	950.00	950.00
Small Asset Purchases - defibrillators	3,870.00	-
Subscriptions	220.70	235.36
	<u>54,249.83</u>	<u>19,788.66</u>
Surplus or Deficit	<u>- 650.01</u>	<u>1,395.57</u>
Save Our Woods Summary as at 8th March 2020		
Events		
Auction		4,869.81
Retro incs Quiz		4,150.33
Fashion Show		807.80
Halloween		950.23
Jumble Sale		610.83
Stonehenge Talks		132.05
Coffee Morning		40.00
Tapas Evening		200.00
Tree of Light		732.65
Father Christmas		183.77
Float		200.00
Felt Fairies		270.18
Greeting Cards		100.00
Cheese and Wine Night		446.50
		<u>13,694.15</u>
In Memory		
U Osborne		2,000.00
Mr R J Hatcher		1,000.00

	John Chant MBE	1,829.00	
		4,829.00	
	Donations		
	Village Hall	5,000.00	
	Chris Morgan	90.00	
	Chrysogon Bamber	100.00	
		5,190.00	
	Anonymous Donations	5,148.00	
	Just Giving Page	909.73	
	Grand Total	29,770.88	
	Purchase Price of Woods and Legal Costs	29,150.45	
	Surplus as at 8th March 2020	620.43	
	<p>The surplus of £602.43 will go towards the sign for the woods, it's a major achievement for a village to independently raise £29,770.88</p> <p>Parish clerk action points for the weeks to come: -</p> <p>Liaise with Parish Steward to fill in pot holes Write to Highways regarding resurfacing High Street and Pollen Lane Order a Defibrillator outside box for Ablington Telephone Box in Ablington is now jetted washed so now needs a repaint Obtain quotes for the Grass cutting within our Parish</p>		
11	<p>AOB Cllr T Cole requested that the Parish Council replace one of the bins at the village hall to be a recycled bin, Parish Clerk will investigate and report back.</p> <p>The councillors will meet with potential new councillors before our next meeting and review current councillor's areas of responsibilities.</p>		
12	<p>Dates for future meetings Next Parish Council Meeting including AGM will be held on Wednesday 13th May 2020 @ 7.30pm</p>		

Signed Date