

# Figcheldean Parish Council

*(draft until signed at next meeting)*

Minutes of meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – Figcheldean Village Hall

## Present

Cllr John Menzies                      Chairman  
Cllr Tina Cole                          Vice Chair  
Cllr Nick Tissot  
Cllr John Yelland  
Cllr Darrell Amison  
Cllr David Ferguson  
W Cllr John Smale  
Sandra Burch                          Clerk

## Public Question Time

Background information -Cllr Darrell Amison asked for parishioners' views on the TRO at the Mill Pool which will be mentioned in his report below. During the summer there has been more swimmers at Gunville (Ablington) who have sadly caused anti-social behaviour and a numerous breach of Covid Rules. It is likely that the closure of the Mill Pool has displaced some of the visitors to Gunville. Cllr Amison reiterated that Swimming in the Mill Pool is prohibited by order of the MoD not the Parish, due to near death drownings.

Robert Hayden from Gunville asked if the PC could publish a notice to stop local people swimming in the river close to his home. Cllr Tina Cole said the request would be considered albeit the Parish Council could not impose restrictions on lawful behaviour. Stan Rawlins produced a photo of cars parked on their private land, the visitors are parking near the entrance to Gunville and walking to the river in front of Gunville's property to swim. There were suggestions about closing the footpath and closing gates to restrict access. W Cllr John Smale commented that Public footpaths are there for the Public to use and not normally closed. The Clerk asked if planting black thorn and letting the nettles grow would be a deterrent but was informed that the visitors even asked to borrow a strimmer and it was therefore felt that this would not be a deterrent. The MoD Police have cleared the site twice due to not being Covid safe. Recently Civil and MoD Police have failed to attend the area even after incidents have been reported.

The Parish Council decided to continue to support the measures imposed at the Mill Pool and Mill Lane over the past 12 months but also to form a multi-stakeholder group to consider what might be done to alleviate anti-social behaviour experienced at Gunville. It is the Parish Council's intention to hold the first meeting in mid-late October.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
1	<b>Apologies</b> Cllr Katie Crothers	
2	<b>Declaration of Interests</b> None	
3	<b>Minutes of the meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020</b> These were agreed and signed by the Chairman	

4	<p><b>Matters arising from last minutes</b> <b>Ablington Wood</b></p> <p>In July of this year, a survey was completed by an independent surveyor. It was reported that fourteen trees required attention, either felling or removing of dead branches. The Parish Council has already received one quote for the work.</p> <p>Derek Hanson a local resident who has been helping the Clerk in this matter spoke about his background in Arboriculture Consultancy even giving evidence in court for insurance companies. The wood is more like an overgrown garden due to years of neglect by the MoD, now that the parish council own the woods the PC have no choice but to make the wood safe for the Public and property nearby. Once the work has been carried out, the wood will only require yearly maintenance by a local training company or contractor. Any work carried out has to be by a certified contractor and reported accordingly as evidence for the insurance company. The wood felled could be sold for firewood and any person working in the wood should wear full protective clothing.</p> <p>Cllr Tina Cole met with a local contractor who has given a quote for the work. The quote was a favourable one but was not as compatible to the first quote. Therefore, Cllr Tina Cole will look into the matter and take on the responsibility of the work and ensuring quotes are comparable. It was agreed that Derek Hanson would meet the alternative contractor.</p>	TC
5	<p><b>Chairman's Report</b></p> <p>Thank you for supporting me and with such a small number we have managed to help the village solve many problems, many are still ongoing. Now we have a full committee, it should be slightly easier, taking the pressure off our overworked, although very willing and able Clerk, Thank you Sandra.</p> <p>Now we have more members we will be able to spread the duties among the Councillors and allow Sandra to do the Clerks work while we, as Parish Councillors can work together with the assistance of Sandra to keep the village looking clean and tidy, making it a wonderful place to live.</p> <p>Many Thanks to all</p>	
6	<p><b>Other Organisations Reports</b></p> <p>No other organisations were in attendance</p>	
7	<p><b>Councillors Reports</b></p> <p><b>Cllr John Yelland</b></p> <p>The Parish has a new PCSO, Michael Farebrother who has replaced Pippa Brewer. I have invited Michael to attend a meeting at the Mill Pool and tonight's meeting. Due to the lack of response the matter will be escalated to his superiors. Clerk to provide details</p> <p>An email received stating the Wiltshire Police are looking at re-introducing Community Policing Neighbourhood Teams. The most visible improvement in their approach to</p>	JY

	<p>community policing with each Community Policing Team being led by a Neighbourhood Inspector and each team led by a Sergeant. I have replied to the email regarding our Neighbourhood Teams and working with our current PSCO.</p> <p><b>Cllr Tina Cole</b></p> <p>No Planning permission applications to report.</p> <p><b>Cllr Darrell Amison</b></p> <p>In addition to the comments and responses raised during ‘public question time’, Councillor Amison thanked Graham Watson for installing a bench in the multi-court.</p> <p><b>Cllr Nick Tissot</b></p> <p>Cllr Nick Tissot and Cllr Darrel Amison met with the Services Dry Fly Fishing Association (SDFFA). The SDFFA explained they had had a recent meeting with the River Trust and the Environment Agency regarding a project to address the Mill Pond issues, having been contacted by the DIO. NT and DA are in touch with the Wessex Rivers Trust who are responsible for producing an assessment of the various options. A number of proposals were mentioned from removing the Mill Pond walls to re-routing the river. A report will be prepared and given to all stakeholders and will report back to Council once received.</p>													
8	<p><b>Report by Wiltshire Councillor Smale</b></p> <p>Due to a long period of absence from ill health and lockdown, WCC Cllr John Smale is slowly catching up on news within WCC and the villages</p> <p>The Parish Clerk asked if there was any news concerning the moving of parish boundaries for WCC Councillors? That will mean our parish WCC councillor will be Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling. This will take place at the next election in June 2021`</p>													
9	<p><b>Clerk Report Finance report to 16<sup>th</sup> September</b></p> <table data-bbox="236 1608 1053 1825"> <tr> <td><b>Income</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Precept</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9,549.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vat Refund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2,426.58</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insurance Claim</td> <td style="text-align: right;">696.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Save our Woods</td> <td style="text-align: right;">90.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>12,762.38</u></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Income</b>	<b>£</b>	Precept	9,549.00	Vat Refund	2,426.58	Insurance Claim	696.80	Save our Woods	90.00		<u>12,762.38</u>	
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	<p><b>Expenditure</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>£</b></span></p> <p>Dog Bins <span style="float: right;">550.00</span></p> <p>Grass Cutting <span style="float: right;">1,321.79</span></p> <p>Public Works Loan <span style="float: right;">1,873.34</span></p> <p>Parish Magazine <span style="float: right;">721.48</span></p> <p>Parish Clerk <span style="float: right;">1,867.20</span></p> <p>Waste Bins at Village Hall <span style="float: right;">254.03</span></p> <p>Insurance <span style="float: right;">401.70</span></p> <p>Audit Fee <span style="float: right;">200.00</span></p> <p>Maintenance &amp; HS <span style="float: right;">112.50</span></p> <p>Save our Woods- Purchase and Legal <span style="float: right;">55.00</span></p> <p>Miscellaneous <span style="float: right;">255.00</span></p> <p>Donations and Funding <span style="float: right;">350.00</span></p> <p>Small Asset Purchases <span style="float: right;">1,476.06</span></p> <p>Subscriptions <span style="float: right;">237.50</span></p> <p>Website Development and Charges <span style="float: right;">465.83</span></p> <p>Ablington Wood Expenditure <span style="float: right;">1,167.50</span></p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>11,308.94</b></p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>Surplus or Deficit <span style="float: right;">1,453.44</span></p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p><b>Closing Bank Balance</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>15,208.48</b></span></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salt Bin Completed</li> <li>• Liaised with Brambles and Henry Rawlings regarding a compromise to staff parking</li> </ul>	
10	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillors' Responsibilities It was agreed that Cllr Darrell Amison will categorise and group the responsibilities Once done we can allocate Cllrs names.</li> <li>• Parish Plan and Emergency Plan will be part of newly grouped responsibilities and will be reviewed in the coming months. Copy of the Plans to be distributed by the Clerk also template of WCC current Emergency Plan.</li> <li>• The state of the village. The village have two buildings being marketed, the school and coach station, both are looking neglected. They make the entrance into the village look untidy and unappealing. It was agreed that working teams will be formed to tidy up the village, each party can be no more than six people.</li> </ul>	<p>DA</p> <p>Clerk</p>
11	<p><b>Dates for future meetings</b></p> <p>Next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020</p>	

Signed ..... Date .....