

Figheldean Parish Council

(Draft until signed at next meeting)

Minutes of meeting held 17th March 2021 – Via Zoom

Present

Cllr John Menzies Chairman
Cllr Tina Cole Vice-Chair

Cllr Nick Tissot
Cllr Darrell Amison
Cllr David Ferguson
Cllr Katie Crothers
Cllr John Smale (WCC)

Sandra Burch Clerk

Public Question Time

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
1	Apologies	
	None reported.	
2	Declaration of Interests	
	None.	
3	Minutes of the meeting of 13 th January 2021	
	These were agreed and signed by the Chairman.	
4	Matters arising from the minutes	
	All outstanding matters were discussed in the Councillors report below.	
5	Chairman's Report	
	Thanks to all of you for attending this evening's zoom meeting and Katie for agreeing to host once again.	
	I have contacted Anna Rogers from MOD Estates reference the overflow village car park lease,	
	she has seen the letter and will be getting back to me by the end of the month, she is on vacation this week.	
	I met with the Parish Steward, he was going to attend to the potholes in Ablington, he has	
	reported the blocked drains again, also the reporting app is now my wilts not myWiltshire.	
	I have also reported them myself as Parish Council Chairman, no response yet.	
	Big thank you to Cllr David Ferguson for agreeing to take on the Neighbourhood Watch responsibility, he can now patrol the villages with his guard dogs.	



We, as the Parish Council did not request an increase precept year on year. The Parish Clerk is going to look into why it shows 1.1 increase on the Wilts Council Tax form. After the meeting the Clerk found out that WCC raised tax band D which resulted in a percentage raise to cover their costs not FPC.

I have had a request to site an Air Ambulance clothes collection bin at the Village Hall. This was discussed at length especially location and the outcome is that the village has a clothes recycling bin at the working men's club which reduces the need for another one.

Other Organisation Reports

No other organisations were in attendance. The clerk emailed our local PCSO regarding comments on Facebook regarding unwanted visitors at night and also vans who are driving around for no apparent reason. The reply was to be vigilant at all times and stressed the importance of reporting any criminal or suspicious activity to 101

7 Councillor Reports

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Cllr Tina Cole

The multi court has had its first yearly treatment completed by ETC Sport Surfaces. Rory Wells their Maintenance Manager attended site and the parish council has asked them to quote for new basketball back boards and loops. As government relaxes Covid lockdown rules the tennis courts will be open from the 29th March for players to enjoy a game.

The village hall is hoping to open on the 17th May.

Cllr Nick Tissot

• Wessex Rivers Trust

The Wessex Rivers Trust have produced their report outlining 8 options to potentially remedy some of the issues associated with the Mill Pond as well as addressing some wider environmental issues surrounding the weir and its walls. The options range from doing nothing to radically rerouting the River Avon through the flood plain. The report does not make recommendations and is designed to highlight all possible options no matter how realistic they are.

The report will now be reviewed and discussed with all stakeholders. In the River Trust's experience only 1 or 2 options will become palatable to all stakeholders. In this case there are multiple stakeholders: the Environment Agency, the DIO, the Services Dry Fly Fishing Association, private land owners, the farmer and the residents of the parish. It is likely that a stakeholder meeting will only be able to take place once COVID restrictions are eased. NT and DA to report back following a stakeholder meeting.

School

There is no change to the previous report. A sale of the site to an education institution has been agreed but this is still subject to Department of Education approval.

Bus Depot

NT has been in touch with Gerard Eve, who are responsible for the Go Ahead Group's property portfolio across the UK. They have confirmed that the site has been on the market



for 2 years and that there has been very little interest. Part of this maybe due to the asking price potentially being high but also because of the site being a bus depot and therefore any development could be costly and would require a change of use permission. NT has discussed the possibility of the Go Ahead Group working with the parish council to explore some other options for example changing the use permission prior to a sale, and even discuss possible development of the site. All agreed that changing the use of the site to a residential property or development would be beneficial to the village. NT to continue discussions with Gerard Eve.

Cllr D Amison

Gunville: We await a response from the DIO over the proposal to erect a simple post and rail/wire fence of about 10m in length running from the east bridge abutment towards Gunville Cottage. Such a fence would hopefully deter hazardous and anti-social behaviour during warm weather. The SDFFA has recently discussed the matter with the DIO and they, like the Parish Council, await a response. The SDFFA has also kindly offered to erect the fence if the DIO can only provide materials, and SDFFA confirm that PC Burt, the MOD Rural Crimes Officer, has undertaken to conduct patrols along the river.

Cllr K Crothers

Currently working through the Community Emergency Planning policy.

To adhere to GDPR guidelines consent for disclosure of information is to be obtained from all contacts listed within the Policy.

The grass banks at the entrance of Oak Lane should be cut by WCC instead of relying on residents to cut steep banks, clerk will contact WCC. Cllr John Menizes is going to speak with Parish Steward regarding painting hand rails also to report the rusted hand rail which needs repair.

Cllr D Ferguson

In person meeting will be arranged with Simon Banton regarding Website maintenance and management once lockdown rules are eased. With the new responsibility of Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator I will contact John Yelland in due course for information on the role responsibilities.

8 Report by Wiltshire Cllr Smale

Due to lockdown all events are held by zoom, one of Figheldean residents Colonel Jamie Balls -Garrison Commander had virtual farewell party which included Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff.



9	Clerk Report: Finance report up	to 16 th March 2021		
	2	2020_2021		
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	Income	£		
	Precept	19,098.00		
	Grants Parish Magazine Income	300.00 1,150.00		
	Vat Refund	2,426.58		
	Wiltshire CC			
	Rental	7.50		
	Insurance Claim Save our Woods	696.80 140.00		
	Save our Woods	140.00		
	_	23,818.88		
	Expenditure	£		
	Dog Bins	1,350.00		
	Grass Cutting	2,664.25		
	Public Works Loan	1,873.34		
	Parish Magazine	1,699.46		
	Parish Clerk	4,323.62		
	Waste Bins at Village Hall	449.54		
	Bank Charges	-		
	Insurance	401.70		
	Audit Fee	500.00		
	Maintenance & HS	2,095.92		
	Save our Woods- Legal	55.00		
	Miscellaneous	834.62		
	Donations and Funding	350.00		
	Small Asset Purchases	1,476.06		
	Subscriptions	237.50		
	Website Development and Charges	505.80		
	Ablington Wood Expenditure	9,108.44		
	,	27,925.25		
	Current Bank Balance £7697.81			
	Risk assessments have been laminated and given out to all local contractors. We should undertake risk assessments on a quarterly basic or yearly on certain areas such as the woods. The cream teas were a success with good feedback from recipients. All thanked Sandra for arranging this for the village.			
10	Any Other Business			
	 Parking on Pollen Lane is still a subject of discussion due to more delivery van requiring space to pull in and let cars pass. Maybe review inconsiderate parkin 			
		CO is in the area. To be discussed with PSCO.		
	• remporary road signs will	be removed and stored in the village hall		
	Clir John Smale announced at the	and of the meeting it will be his last due to shanges in MCC	.	
		end of the meeting it will be his last due to changes in WCC		
	parish councillor's areas. Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling will be covering our parish. All the councillors			
		service to our parish and wished him well on his plans to)	
	retire.			
11	Date of Next Meeting			
	The next Parish Council Meeting w	vill be held on: Wednesday 26 th May in Village Hall		