



Figheldean Parish Council

(Draft until signed at next meeting)

Minutes of meeting 2nd February 2022 at Village Hall

Present

CLlr John Menzies Chairman
CLlr Tina Cole Vice-Chair
CLlr Nick Tissot
CLlr Fred Piner
CLlr Ian Blair- Pilling (WC)
Sandra Burch Clerk

Public Question Time

- CLlr Curtis (Durnford Parish Council): Emailed concerns regarding the effects on traffic and on the environment following notification of the possible planning proposals for High Post and Vinny's Farms. **Action:** The Clerk will contact the CLlr to request more information and report back.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
1	Apologies CLlr Darrell Amison CLlr David Ferguson	
2	Declaration of Interests None reported.	
3	Minutes of the meeting 5th October 2021 These were agreed as a true reflection and signed by the Chairman.	
4	Matters arising from the minutes None raised.	
5	Wiltshire Councillor Report - CLlr Ian Blair-Pilling Wiltshire Council's Budget, Business Plan & Climate & Natural Environment Strategies - Report by CLlr Ian Blair-Pilling – Avon Valley At a marathon 9.5 hour meeting on 15 February, Council approved the 2022-23 budget, a new 10-year Business Plan and Climate and Blue & Green Infrastructure (Natural Environment) Strategies. The Summons (Agenda & Papers) alone was 600 pages! I do my best to summarise and welcome any interest in elaboration. As a Cabinet member I take collective responsibility. The Budget and Business Plan focus on financial sustainability and transforming services to meet future needs. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our 2022-23 budget is just over £417m.• More than half (around £235m) gives support and care for adults and children.	



- Around £92m is for day-to-day services; waste management, road maintenance, leisure and library services, as well as carbon management and climate change work. We were recently ranked the 5th best unitary authority in the UK for our response to the global challenge.
- £1m a year supports our market town and cathedral city high streets.
- £1.7m is to increase special educational needs and inclusion services.

Each £100 is to be spent as:

£35 - caring for Adults	£20 - supporting and safeguarding children and young people
£10 - managing Waste	£9 - maintaining Highways and subsidising bus services
£9 – schools, roads & housing	£7 - running the Council and elections
£4 - our Property	£3 - online and digital services
£2 - Leisure & Libraries	£1 - improving Wiltshire’s economy

The £307m 2022-23 capital programme is to improve and maintain infrastructure. Projects include leisure services, council house building, schools’ maintenance, footpath and highway improvements, and improvements to the high streets of Salisbury and Trowbridge.

The Business Plan has a clear long-term focus. Guiding themes are:

- prevention and early intervention
- improving social mobility and tackling inequalities
- understanding communities; and working together.

This strategic focus faces up to the public sector’s financial challenges: the ongoing pandemic, rising inflation, and increased demand for services. There are plans to make savings of around £25m in 2022/23, while limiting the impact on vital services as much as possible. More than half of our income is from council tax, which rises by 1.99%, with an additional 1% directly supporting adult social care. For a Band D property, that’s an increase of £47.56 annually or 91p per week.

Some measures that will directly affect us include:

- a new framework and funding system for luncheon clubs addressing inequalities and inconsistencies across the county.
- increases to parking charges, which increased 4 years ago and will be fixed for the next 4 years, to help maintain our rural bus services
- a shift of Area Board funding to help improve and maintain roads and footpaths
- a new approach to our smaller libraries, bringing them closer to their communities, ensuring a sustainable service adapting to need.

6	<p>Chairman’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All other items, in addition to the Chairman’s report, will be covered under ‘Councillors Reports’. • The Chairman expressed his thanks again to all, for their help and support received to date. 	
---	---	--



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllrs to advise the Chairman if there is anything you would like the Parish Steward to assist you with. 	
7	<p>Other Organisation Reports None received.</p>	
8	<p>Councillor Reports</p> <p><i>Cllr Tina Cole</i></p> <p>a. multi-court On notification from Darrell, an email was received from Karina Weedon (the lady who uses our multi-court for providing tennis lessons), advising that moss is encroaching on the tennis court surface.</p> <p><u>Resolution:</u> We are due our annual clean up under contract with ETC Sports so this, and any other anomalies, should be dealt with then (expected April /May).</p> <p>b. The basketball back boards Graham Watson has been asked to look at the condition of the back boards with a view to replacing them.</p> <p><u>Resolution:</u> Graham is going to fix the boards using marine ply and apply paint, to smarten them up. It was noted that looking from the ground, it looks like the hoops and netting are in good condition, requiring only a clean-up and re-fitting to the replacement backboards. No further quotes are required due to the small amount of money required to complete the work. Cllrs will be kept up to date on progress.</p> <p>c. Ablington Wood Cllrs will recall that Derek Hanson has arranged for our maintenance/remaining survey work to be carried out by trainee tree surgeons (referred to as this for the purpose of these minutes)</p> <p><u>Resolution:</u> This will be at no cost to the Parish Council (PC) but a fee is expected to be paid to Graham Watson for his time in removing any spoils. Derek has assured the PC that all liability lies with him, and that he is fully licensed and insured in this regard. Work is expected to take place within the next couple of months. Signage and cordons will be put in place by Derek and his team when and where necessary. Cllrs will be kept up to date on progress.</p> <p>c. Tree branches near church Notification has been received from Trevor Wooldridge directly to the Clerk, and John M, that tree branches are causing concern near the church. Trevor is insistent that that this issue is on Wiltshire Council's land but requires our help in bringing this issue forward and chasing, up until resolution.</p> <p><u>Recommendation:</u> Cllr Cole to request that Trevor reports this via the 'MyWiltshire' app.</p>	



Cllr Nick Tissot

Bus Depot:

No news, but a response was sent to the Go Ahead Group following their email to John Menzies suggesting tidying up site, request for timelines associated with any auction or sale and exploring change of use to residential from bus depot.

St Michael's School:

Wilts Council have confirmed that they have exchanged conditional contracts for the sale of the school and they are now awaiting the DfE's consent before they can complete.

New Applications:

Nothing new. The application for the erection of a new barn at Ablington Farm has been approved. SB stated that the road could have limited access as the barn is being erected.

NT highlighted that there is still a massive pothole in road where Cliffend meets the farm track up to the barns. Will be reported to Wilts Council.

Cllr D Amison

a. Mill Pool/River Avon project: Matt Irvine of the Wessex Rivers Trust has recently met with Katie Nunney, DIO Land Management Surveyor, and Mr Stuart Burgess. Mr Burgess is a local tenant farmer whose land runs alongside the western bank of the River Avon in the vicinity of the Mill Pool.

Following the meeting, Matt agreed to draw up an access and temporary works plan prior to further consultation with Mr Burgess. Matt has also agreed to enter into a licence agreement with the DIO which will contain certain conditions to hopefully satisfy Mr Burgess' understandable concerns. Wessex Rivers Trust has also appointed a company to undertake hydraulic modelling of the project, work that should start soon.

Recommendation: Going forward, it remains the intention for Matt Irvine to brief the project plan to members of the Parish Council and interested parishioners.



Cllr D Ferguson

a. AED: The halls AED is now on the point of not functioning, due to its battery. This was raised following a previous check, and was also reported to the clerk by a member of the public

Resolution: A free replacement battery and pads are expected in the post shortly. Once received, and upon notification by the Clerk, Cllr Ferguson will then reset the machine, fit the pads and battery.

Cllr Fred Piner

a. Netheravon: Cllr Blair-Piling conformed that the Highways Agency is reviewing a proposal to change the current speed limit on the A345 approaching Netheravon from the south down from 50 to 40. Cllr Piner asked the PC if there was any logic (evidence) supporting the 50-speed limit as you come into the village from the A345. All agreed that the 50 limit entering the village was not appropriate.

Following a lengthy discussion, the following observations were put forward:

- If you need to cross the road to the bus shelter or footpath you must be on your guard, and quick when crossing as the road is very dangerous.
- When entering the village from the A345, it is the wish of the Cllrs that the current 50 is changed to a 30, and that the village roads are reduced to a 20.
- It is also a wish to change the limit on the Figheldean stretch of the A345 from 50 to 40.

Recommendation: The chair asked if Cllr Piner would be willing to attend the next CATG meeting to discuss the possibility of reducing the speed limit on the A345 and on entering the village.

It was noted that before any change can take place, WC highways would need to carry out a survey, incurring a cost to the Parish. If the application was successful, the Parish would be asked to contribute towards the cost of changing the signage.



9	<p>Clerk Report: Finance report up to 2nd February</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2021_2022</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Income</th> <th style="text-align: right;">£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Precept</td> <td style="text-align: right;">19,099.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parish Magazine Income</td> <td style="text-align: right;">490.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vat Refund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2,644.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rental of Multi Court/Car Park</td> <td style="text-align: right;">395.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">22,628.38</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Expenditure</th> <th style="text-align: right;">£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Dog Bins</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,260.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grass Cutting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2,811.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parish Magazine</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,784.64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parish Clerk</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5,760.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waste Bins at Village Hall</td> <td style="text-align: right;">289.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insurance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">407.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Audit Fee</td> <td style="text-align: right;">410.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maintenance & HS</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,167.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Miscellaneous</td> <td style="text-align: right;">495.77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donations and Funding</td> <td style="text-align: right;">350.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Website Development and Charges</td> <td style="text-align: right;">449.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ablington Wood Expenditure</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">15,186.34</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Current Bank Balance: £13,769.14</p> <p>Precept 2022/23 was agreed by all councillors in Jan, an increased by £900 which is 0.25% increase to parishioners, the extra funds will be ring fenced for a Jubilee Event on Sunday 5th June 2020. Zoom meeting was held on the 14th Jan due to Covid isolation and illness. Minutes were agreed and will be published on website in due course.</p> <p>Cllrs noted the financial update.</p>	Income	£	Precept	19,099.00	Parish Magazine Income	490.00	Vat Refund	2,644.38	Rental of Multi Court/Car Park	395.00		22,628.38	Expenditure	£	Dog Bins	1,260.00	Grass Cutting	2,811.28	Parish Magazine	1,784.64	Parish Clerk	5,760.30	Waste Bins at Village Hall	289.69	Insurance	407.69	Audit Fee	410.00	Maintenance & HS	1,167.65	Miscellaneous	495.77	Donations and Funding	350.00	Website Development and Charges	449.33	Ablington Wood Expenditure	-		15,186.34	
Income	£																																									
Precept	19,099.00																																									
Parish Magazine Income	490.00																																									
Vat Refund	2,644.38																																									
Rental of Multi Court/Car Park	395.00																																									
	22,628.38																																									
Expenditure	£																																									
Dog Bins	1,260.00																																									
Grass Cutting	2,811.28																																									
Parish Magazine	1,784.64																																									
Parish Clerk	5,760.30																																									
Waste Bins at Village Hall	289.69																																									
Insurance	407.69																																									
Audit Fee	410.00																																									
Maintenance & HS	1,167.65																																									
Miscellaneous	495.77																																									
Donations and Funding	350.00																																									
Website Development and Charges	449.33																																									
Ablington Wood Expenditure	-																																									
	15,186.34																																									
10	<p>Other Parish Business</p> <p>Figgle Feast: The agreement to support Figgle Fest with the £600 grant; fundraising for this event has been hampered due to covid-19.</p> <p>Jubilee Village Event: The clerk has organised a meeting of a Jubilee Event Committee specifically set up to help plan the village's Jubilee celebrations next week and establish a budget. The meeting will have representatives from the Parish Council, Church, Village Hall, Club and Community Events. The clerk will report back on progress in due course.</p>																																									



	<p>Grants: Wiltshire Council have advised that they will only fund up to £5000 for each project per year, therefore the Parish Council will need to review grants available in relation to the total overhaul of the playground equipment. Clerk to investigate available grants.</p> <p>Footpaths: Cllrs Amison and Tissot to meet with Cllr Blair-Piling to discuss possible options for a footpath from Figheldean to Netheravon.</p>	
11	<p>Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p>Wednesday 6 April 2022 @ 7.30pm at Village Hall</p>	

Signed Date