

Findon Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 6 August 2018
At 7.30pm in Findon Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Carr (Chairman), Robinson, Wilson, Goldsworthy, Dean, Barnett and Ball.

In Attendance: Clerk Miss F MacLeod, and members of the public.

Prior to the meeting a presentation was made to Del Henty in recognition of his 5 years' service on the Parish Council as a councillor, Chairman of the Planning Committee and to Findon

| Item No | | <u>Action By</u> |
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| 18.81 | To receive and note apologies for absence | |
| | Apologies were received and noted from Cllrs Smith and Gear, West Sussex County Council (WSSC) Cllr Urquhart, and Arun District Council (ADC) Cllr Wensley. | |
| 18.82 | Chairman's announcements | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued vigilance was needed regarding the security of Nephote Green and Pond Green during the summer months and the fencing at the north end of Nephote Green would be reviewed after the Sheep Fair in September 2018; and • Repair work to the road surface on the A27 between Chichester and Havant in August may have a knock-on effect of the local A24/A27. | |
| 18.83 | Declarations of Interest on items on the Agenda | |
| | None. All councillors present declared a personal interest as Trustees of Nephote Green Charitable Trust (NGCT). | |
| 18.84 | Councillor vacancy update | |
| | The Clerk reported no Expressions of Interest were received for the latest co-option vacancy and added that, although Findon Parish Council (FPC) currently had two vacancies, other parish councils were also experiencing issues with filling vacancies. | |
| 18.85 | To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 25/6/2018 | |
| | It was proposed and seconded that the minutes dated 25 June 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman. | |
| 18.86 | Matters arising and actions from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda | |
| | None. | |
| 18.87 | To receive a report from the WSSC and ADC Councillors | |
| | None. | |
| 18.88 | Public Question Time (PQT) | |
| | PQT started at 7.36pm. Mr Allcorn congratulated FPC regarding the front page of the Findon News thanking the Open Spaces Working Party for their path clearance work around the A24. He also referred to his letter in the same edition regarding the condition of the overgrown verges etc under the control of FPC, whilst appreciating that budgeting was a challenge. In response FPC advised that it was still waiting to hear if there would be any funding available from WSSC regarding grass cutting and it would carry out a review for more cuts | |

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| | <p>if the budget allows. Mr Allcorn suggested that a precept increase of £1.00 per household in Findon could enable an additional cut.</p> <p>The Chairman referred to an email from a resident who was unable to attend the meeting. A complaint had been made to ADC regarding the level of noise etc generated by the recent car enthusiasts' meeting at the Black Horse. Several councillors had also experienced the noise levels and FPC would write to the Black Horse management team to arrange a meeting to discuss the situation. FPC might also support ADC in a licencing review if necessary.</p> <p>Mrs Ball raised the legality and enforcement of the 'private no parking' signage displayed at Wintons in the village centre. It was the view of FPC that this was not legal and Cllr Ball offered to discuss this with the owners of Wintons.</p> <p>PQT closed at 7.45pm.</p> | <p>FM</p> <p>CB</p> |
| 18.89 | Grant applications | |
| | <p>The Pre-School had been advised that consideration would be given to the grant application once the School accounts for year ending August 2018 had been forwarded to FPC. Cllr Smith would contact other organisations as discussed at the June FPC meeting.</p> | SS |
| 18.90 | Updated Findon Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group (UFNDPWG) | |
| | <p>The Chairman invited David Hutchison, Working Group Lead, to introduce the report (as previously circulated) who drew attention to the Group's notes to be presented at the SDNPA Planning Committee meeting on 9 August when the Planning Committee would consider its response to the Reg 14 Pre Submission consultation. The SDNPA officer report had been published on the SDNPA Planning Committee web site. He flagged up the risk that if the SDNP Local Plan Inspector accepted the SDNP Local Plan allocation and the Examiner accepted the Working Group allocation, it could potentially mean that both allocations would be made. Mr Hutchison advised FPC to wait for the SDNP Local Plan Inspector's conclusion before any decision was made by FPC to proceed or otherwise with the Updated Neighbourhood Plan (UNP). FPC recognised the work that Mr Hutchison and the Working Group has undertaken thus far.</p> <p>Discussion took place and the following additional comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was questioned if the SDNPA were against the production of an updated Neighbourhood Plan for Findon; • The SDNPA was aware of the recent purchase of Soldiers Field House, which was one of the two sites allocated by the SDNPA; • It was felt that the SDNPA Planning Committee report was negative in content and recommendations; • FPC as the 'qualifying body' had a responsibility to the community not to consider withdrawing the UNP at this stage but review after the SDNP Local Plan Inspector review; • No further action was needed until the Local Plan Inspector puts his questions to the SDNPA in 6-8 weeks time • A meeting had been arranged by the Working Group with Chris Paterson, SDNPA, on 28 August 2018 and all councillors were welcome to attend; • Suggested development and associated parking at Nightingales | |

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| | would also be discussed at the Working Group meeting. Resolved: that Findon Parish Council as ‘qualifying body’ 1) notes the progress of the UFNDPWG; 2) defers any decision on the future of the Updated Findon Neighbourhood Development Plan Reg 16 consultation until the SDNP Local Plan has been adopted; and 3) agrees to meet graphic design and printing costs as per para 1.5 of the Report. | |
| 18.91 | Parish initiatives | |
| | a) Traffic, Environment, People (TEP) The Chairman invited David Hutchison to introduce the report (as previously circulated). Attention was drawn to the formal request to WSCC Highways Manager for a speed survey to consider a reduction from 50mph to 40mph on the A24 between Bost Hill and the old Fire Station, and potentially as far as North End. Councillors were reminded that the second preference from the TEP public consultation was for a 40mph limit on the A24, and were asked if FPC would consider funding 50% (c £1.75k) of the cost of a speed survey. In response, although FPC had no legal obligation to fund this or any traffic management costs, it would review the position when details had been received from WSCC. | |
| 18.92 | Clerk’s report | |
| | The Clerk referred to the report (as previously circulated) and drew attention to the items for consideration in section 2 of the report. Resolved: that Findon Parish Council 1) does not wish to comment on the Natural England consultation on bye laws on sites of special scientific interest; 2) welcomes the legacy of £2k from a late resident which should be used towards either Updated Neighbour Plan costs or any planning subject matter; and 3) instructs the Clerk to contact the St John the Baptist Church regarding a temporary relocation of the ‘Silent Silhouette’ to the War Memorial as part of the Armistice Day service. | FM |
| 18.93 | Reports from FPC Committees for noting | |
| | a) Planning | |
| | Four applications were considered at the last meeting, with no objections raised. | |
| | b) Finance & Governance | |
| | A meeting would be held in September to appoint a new Chairman and consider the draft 3-5 year Strategic Plan prior to presentation at a future FPC meeting. | FM |
| | c) Open Spaces | |
| | Cllr Carr referred to the report (as previously circulated) and drew attention to the well renovated seats on Nepcote Green following remedial work by Mr Bond free of charge. Concerns were raised regarding the dangerously high vegetation on the central reservation and verges on the A24 Findon roundabout to Bost Hill section. Resolved: that Findon Parish Council 1) Continues to work with Mr Bond regarding his free of charge | |

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| | <p>renovation services (subject to agreement with Paul Armitage);</p> <p>2) Instructs the Clerk to purchase a new 400l yellow salt bin and ground fixing kit from Glasdons at a cost of £188.00 excl VAT and £14.99 respectively for delivery to Cllr Wilson;</p> <p>3) Sets up a Working Party to assess options for a replacement greens mower, consisting of Cllrs Carr, Goldsworthy, Dean, Wilson and Robinson and invite Geoffrey Wyatt to join;</p> <p>4) Instructs the Clerk to contact Ben Whiffen, WSCC to escalate the A24 grass/vegetation cutting; and</p> <p>5) Instructs the Clerk to contact WSCC regarding a replacement tree for the tree felled in the High Street.</p> | <p>FM</p> <p>RC/PG/RD/ JW/MR</p> <p>FM</p> <p>FM</p> |
| | d) Sheep Fair | |
| | <p>Lead Cllr Ball reported that a volunteers meeting would be held on 7 August, and due to the current heatwave, some farmers are delaying their confirmation of attendance for the Fair on 8 September 2018. The Wattle House chimneys have been covered to prevent birds entering and the costs had been absorbed by the Sheep Fair. Cllr Carr advised that the Opens Spaces working party would be available to carry out work if needed for the event.</p> | |
| 18.94 | Reports from Outside Bodies and Working Groups for noting | |
| | <p>a) General Protection Data Guidelines (GDPR) No update.</p> <p>b) 3-5 year Strategic Plan Deferred to next meeting.</p> <p>c) Assets of Community Value No update.</p> <p>d) Village Hall Trust Lead Cllr Gear referred to a proposal following a meeting of the Trust representatives held on 2 August 2018 regarding a potential amendment for the internal layout of the halls in light of the extension works currently underway. Councillors agreed that the original proposal would be supported.</p> <p>e) Findon Village Pre-School Lead Cllr Ball reported that £20k funding had been raised and the Pre-School was refining the plans and in contact with the SDNPA regarding a planning application.</p> <p>f) Joint East Arun Area Committee (JEAAC) No update.</p> <p>g) Allotment Gardens Lead Cllr Carr reported that the tenancy agreement for the new plot holder had been signed and arrangements would be made to hand over the allotments key.</p> <p>h) Nephote Green Charitable Trust (NGCT) Future meeting to be arranged.</p> | |
| 18.95 | Finance | |
| | <p>a) Receipts and bank reconciliation The bank reconciliations for June and July 2018 (as previously circulated) were noted and approved.</p> | |

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| | <p>b) Payments The payments made in August 2018 to date (as previously circulated) totalling £1971.33 were noted and approved.</p> <p>c) Additional cheque signatories Resolved: that 1) Cllrs Gear and Barnett be approved as authorised cheque signatories; and 2) The Clerk is authorised to make with necessary arrangements with HSBC.</p> <p>d) External Audit Report No report had been received from the external auditors.</p> | |
| 18.96 | Items to be referred to next Agenda not already included in the minutes | |
| | None. Meeting closed at 8.55pm. | |