

Fovant Parish Council

Minutes of July Meeting

Held at 7pm Wednesday 13th July

At Fovant Village Hall, Tisbury Road, Fovant

Those present:

Parish Councillors T.Phillips (Chairman), D. Horne (Vice Chairman), W. Hobbs, M. Wallis, A. Cousley

Also in attendance, Wiltshire Councillor Nabil Najjar (from 7.15pm to 8.25pm), 1 member of the public, Tim Culver-James, Clerk.

Apologies received from Parish Councillors S. Barr and A. Havard.

No Declarations of Interest were made. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting, and of the ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, both held on the 20th May 2022 were approved.

Chairman's Introduction

TP noted that Councillor Barr will be unable to attend duties as he has been deployed overseas in connection with his military duties. Two options exist-a note of his absence, or his resignation from office. To be resolved with him and the Chairman. Clerk to advise. Councillor Horne agreed to replace Councillor Barr in carrying out Appraisals of the Clerk.

Also noted was ongoing Highways issues on the A30.

Report from Wiltshire Councillor

Mr. Najjar highlighted the importance of early applications in respect of Area Board funding grants, and also made clear the distinction between applications by the Tier 1 local government and outside bodies in this regard. His comments also reflected concerns later referred to by Councillors concerning planning and licensing matters affecting Fovant.

Planning Matters

Concern was noted over retrospective applications PL/2022/4332 and PL/2022/4333 at the site of former RAF Chilmark, particularly by Councillor Wallis. Wiltshire Councillor Najjar also noted the possibility of the applications being called in by the Unitary Authority for further scrutiny. The importance of the sites proximity to Cranborne Chase AONB, SSSI status were also highlighted. Clerk instructed to lodge formal objection to planning authority.

The licence application in regard to West Barn Lodge also was discussed. The apparent disconnect between the licensing and planning authorities was noted, not least by Mr. Najjar. The Clerk was instructed to write to both of these departments to reflect these concerns.

Financial Matters

A full review of the council's Financial Regulations and Scheme of Delegation is ongoing, and will be based on guidance from the National Association of Local Councils.

It was resolved to pay the Three Towers magazine £600 to defray printing costs for Council information. This payment to be the final one in the current Financial Year of the Council.

Further, it was resolved to pay the Fovant Youth Club £1,000, for building modifications to allow storage of disaster recovery equipment.

Also agreed unanimously, to reimburse the Chairman for properly occurring expenses of £127.77 for office expenses (Clerk's printer, paper and ink) and £163.99 in regard of his IT requirements to fulfil his duties for FPC.

Councillors were also advised as to expenditure by FPC from 6th May 2022 until 4th July.

Other Matters

a.Highways

Note was taken regarding the A30 issue-referenced in the Chairmans opening comments. His proposal for an additional metrocount survey was agreed, at an estimated cost of £90. Councillor Wallis will survey the condition of white lines in the village, to facilitate an application into new new funding at Wiltshire Council.

Councillor Horne highlighted the important statistical information he is extracting from our three Speed Indicator Devices. This will show the proportion of vehicles exceeding the speed enforceable by the police.

b.Allocation of SSEN grant monies.

Clerk to action. Suggestion to make long term payment to the Youth Club for storage of emergency equipment.

c.AGAR

The Clerk intends to have this resolved by mid-late August.

Discussion of matters under Public Bodies (Admission to meetings)Act 1960

This matter remains under consideration.