

## Minutes of the meeting of Fairfield Parish Council held in Fairfield Community Hall on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 7:30 pm

**Councillors present:** B E Dack (Chairman), C Bidwell, P Daffarn, N P Hanks, T Milliken and P Mitchinson

**Officer present:** Katrina Henshaw (Parish Clerk)

**Also present for all or part of the meeting:** Ward Members Councillors S Dixon and B Saunders and two members of the public.

### 126 Apologies for Absence

126.1 Apologies received from Councillor S L Jones (illness) and Councillor J Saunders.

### 127 Disclosures of Interest and Dispensation requests

127.1 No disclosures of interest and no requests for dispensation were received.

### 128 Council Minutes

128.1 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 had been circulated to all councillors and it was

#### **RESOLVED**

**That these minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chairman.**

### 129 Public Participation

129.1 No members of the Public requested to speak.

### 130 Parish Crime Update

130.1 PCSO Joseph Passby advised that between 9<sup>th</sup> September and 8<sup>th</sup> October there was one new recorded crime. This was for other theft on 28<sup>th</sup> September when a young offender attended a shop in Dickens Boulevard on seven occasions and taken items of low value. This offender has been identified and it is proposed to be dealt with by a community resolution.

130.2 Illegally parked vehicles Dickens Boulevard – PCSO Passby has checked the two vehicles he was informed of, one had no tax, MOT or insurance so he has requested a seven day order on it, the other had MOT and insurance and as such there was no viable action possible. Allegedly some of the abandoned cars have been seen on a transporter owned by a resident from Kipling Crescent. The police has asked for evidence to support this allegation so everyone was asked to take photographs of cars seen on the transporter.

Councillor Bidwell to speak to the new Manager at Tesco about CCTV. **Action: CB**

- 130.3 Motor Trikes – PCSO Passby has paid passing attention around West Drive and the area and also Arlesey but has been unable to spot any vehicles matching this description, from the information supplied lines of enquiries are difficult as there isn't CCTV and no number plates. He will continue to pay passing attention and hope to obtain a number plate to allow for further action to be taken. If anyone is able to obtain the registration number, please pass it to PCSO Passby.

### 131 **Central Bedfordshire Council Ward Members Report**

- 131.1 The next Town and Parish Council Conference will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> November.
- 131.2 The consultation for School Admissions Arrangements 2017/18 is on the CBC website and comments can be made until 5pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2015.
- 131.3 The latest ward profiles are on the CBC website.
- 131.4 Nightingale Road and Fleming Drive have been adopted by CBC.

### 132 **Section S106**

- 132.1 Following the letter from FPC to Richard Carr, CBC CEO, Councillors Dack and Mitchinson met with Sally Wileman, CBC and Andrew Emerton, CBC Lawyer on 15<sup>th</sup> September. Ward member Councillor Dixon was also present.

Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) would be a lengthy and costly process and CBC consider this to be a last resort. CBC proposed starting enforcement actions. FPC was amazed this process had not started yet as it had been suggested in March. FPC never received an answer to why it hadn't started in March and what was different now to guarantee it would start now.

Since the meeting Richard Carr has responded to FPC with the proposal. FPC has a few issues with the letter so it was agreed that FPC would reply to CBC and state the issues.

**Action: BD**

FPC also asked the Ward Members to find out what has happened since the September meeting and why nothing happened since March. This is now a matter of urgency as pruning season starts now. FPC want to work with CBC and FHMC to take this forward.

**Action: SD / BS**

### 133 **Apple Day**

- 133.1 The first Apple Day in Fairfield was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October and it was a very successful day with many people attending. There is six barrels of juice being made into cider. Approximately £80.00 was received in donations for cake and refreshments. A decision needs to be made on the future for Apple Day and this will be discussed at the wash up meeting that Friends of the Orchard plan to arrange.

### 134 **Superfast Broadband in Fairfield**

- 134.1 The remaining two boxes (numbers 20 and 22) are on schedule for an upgrade before the end of the year.

### 135 **Speed Limit in Fairfield**

- 135.1 FPC awaiting a response from the developers for permission to have a 20mph speed limit on unadopted roads so that CBC can investigate a 20mph zone for the whole of Fairfield.

## 136 Parking

- 136.1 It was agreed to apply for planning permission for 15 extra parking spaces alongside Urban Park / Kipling Crescent. Permission needs to be sought from FRL/FPRA. **Action: NH**
- 136.2 It was also agreed to look at other sites for parking and apply for planning permission for these. To be done separately so that the one alongside Urban Park can be started as soon as possible. **Action: NH**
- 136.3 FPC to discuss parking issues with the school. The clerk to arrange a meeting. **Action: KH**
- 136.4 Once the extra parking spaces has been provide, FPC can ask CBC to move forward with parking restrictions on junctions.

## 137 Signs

- 137.1 Hertfordshire Highways has quoted £2,308.60 for a new sign at Wilbury Hills to include Fairfield. It was agreed, in principal, for FPC to pay for this and proceed. Councillor Hanks to seek an alternative quote before the order is placed to ensure best value. **Action: NH**
- 137.2 At the joint meeting last week a resident asked if the sign at the Eliot Way roundabout could be amended from Fairfield Park to Fairfield Hall. It was felt this would not be helpful as Middlemarch, Fairfield Mews and Shaftesbury Avenue would not be included. Concern was expressed about having too many names on a sign. It was agreed that FPC would discuss further with CBC to establish what is possible. **Action: KH**

## 138 Allotments and Recreation Space

- 138.1 CBC continues to negotiate with the tenant for the land.

## 139 Land to the north of Shaftesbury Avenue

- 139.1 FPC waiting for a response from NHS. The clerk to chase up. **Action: KH**

## 140 Cemetery

- 140.1 All Councillors had received notes from the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September. It was agreed to wait for the offer from Stotfold Town Council before discussing further.

## 141 Blue Lagoon

- 141.1 Councillors discussed the plan for the proposed County Park. It was agreed to ask for a diagonal path from E as a continuation from F to E that joins permissive path 4 to permissive path 3 and to request a meeting with Jonathan Woods, CBC. **Action: KH**

## 142 Grass area to the front of Fairfield Hall

- 142.1 FPC discussed quotes and following a discussion it was agreed to leave discussing mowing this area until spring.

## 143 Fly tipping adjacent to the recycling centre, Dickens Boulevard

- 143.1 FPC is waiting for CBC to advise about signage.

## 144 Green Waste and Christmas Trees

- 144.1 It was agreed to look for a possible Green Waste Site and it was agreed to wait until Thornes and Bickerdykes had announced what they are offering for the disposal of trees this year.

## 145 Problem with flies in Fairfield

- 145.1 At the joint meeting a resident reported that he believed there was a fly problem in Fairfield as problems had arisen in various parts including the Hall, Middlemarch, Bronte Avenue and Hardy Way. FHMC has recently had their compactor fitted with an ozone sprayer which is regularly cleared but the success of this will not be known until next summer. As the problem may not be to do with the compound, it was agreed that FPC would contact Environmental Health for advice. **Action: KH**

## 146 Defibrillator

- 146.1 Cost for an extra training session is £175. The Youth Club, Scout Group and Bowls Club have all expressed an interest. The clerk to arrange for 19<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 pm if sufficient people are available. **Action: KH**

## 147 The Parish Plan

- 147.1 The Plan has been distributed to all households in Fairfield and interested parties. It was agreed that Councillors Dack, Mitchinson and Hanks would meet to agree how to work towards completing the action plans. **Action: BD / PM / NH**

## 148 The Neighbourhood Plan

- 148.1 The Green Infrastructure Plan process – The process has started and there was a reasonable turnout to the first meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September. The next meetings will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> October (10.00 am – 1.00 pm) and 26<sup>th</sup> November (7.30 pm). BRCC is currently putting together the results of the first meeting and is looking into how residents can view the proposed Plan before the deadline. It is hoped to be completed by December.
- 148.2 The Design Statements – FPC to write to Tetlow King for permission to use the original design document. **Action: KH**

## 149 Neighbourhood/Street/Speed Watch

- 149.1 A public meeting to discuss getting these schemes started in Fairfield was held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Unfortunately only two residents turned up so it has not been possible to take this forward.

## 150 Public Art Money (S106)

- 150.1 Councillors Dack and Mitchinson to meet with Silke Gruner to agree a proposal to give to the CBC artist to work on. **Action: BD / PM**

## 151 Transferring Community Hall to FPC

- 151.1 FPC is still waiting for Linden Homes to carry out the actions raised in the survey report from Templars Building Surveyors Limited.

## 152 Roof at Beeton Court

- 152.1 Ward Member Councillor Dixon to ask CBC Officer Dan Cheeseman what is happening as the problem still has not been resolved. **Action: SD**

## 153 Christmas Lights

- 153.1 Sparkx has installed the electrical infrastructure. The lights will on from 4<sup>th</sup> December every day between 3.00 pm and 11.00 pm.

## 154 Planning Applications

- 154.1 Ward Member Councillor Dixon advised that he was currently working with Nigel Young, CBC to find a way to give the right calibre of Parish/Town Councils the power to support CBC with planning issues to ensure that planning conditions (e.g. right materials being used) are met.
- 154.2 Ward Member Councillor Dixon advised FPC of a planning application for 'Change of use of agricultural land to create 5 gypsy and traveller pitches with associated ancillary development' on land at Astwick. FPC to look at application and make comments. **Action: PM / CB / NH**
- 154.3 CB/15/03182/FULL Former Pig Unit, Hitchin Road  
131 dwellings with access, parking, landscaping, open space and associated works  
FPC has no objections
- 154.4 CB/TRE/15/00337 Fairfield Hall, Kingsley Avenue  
Works to trees protected by a TPO  
FPC has no comments.
- 154.5 CB/15/003480/FULL 46 Heathcliff Avenue  
Single storey rear extension  
FPC has no objections to the basic principle of the application other than conditions are that all materials are to match existing bricks and windows.
- 154.6 CB/15/03705/FULL14 Shaftesbury Drive  
Retrospective: addition of decorative railing on top of parapet wall surrounding existing single storey extension  
FPC has no objections to the basic principle of the application other than requesting the condition, 'Access to the flat roof enclosed by the railings hereby approved shall be for maintenance or emergency purposes only, and the flat roof shall not be used as a roof garden, terrace, patio or similar amenity'.

## 155 Finance

- 155.1 Bank Account  
As the recovery limit for banks is £75,000 it was agreed that the clerk would ask Unity Bank for their position on this and if required to look at opening a second bank account. **Action: KH**
- 155.2 Grant application from Bowls Club  
The application was discussed and it was

### RESOLVED

**That FPC would pay to grind out four stumps, fell a dead silver birch to ground level and grind out the stump to a maximum of £400 + vat.**

### REASON

**For health and safety reasons as the tree is dangerous to passers-by.**

The clerk to liaise with the Bowls Club to arrange work to be done. It was suggested that it might be cost effective to use the same contractor for both Bowls Club and Cricket Club tree works. **Action KH**

155.3 Q1 & Q2 comparison between budget and payments

	Budget 2015/16 inc bf	Additional Income	Spent Q2	Money remaining
Administration	£ 26,536.40	£ -	£ 9,144.62	£ 17,391.78
Recreation and Public Lands	£ 84,676.04	£ 35,000.00	£ 14,465.60	£ 105,210.44
Parish Plan	£ 31,196.75	£ -	£ 2,265.00	£ 28,931.75
Parking	£ 15,000.00	£ -	£ -	£ 15,000.00
Grants	£ 15,475.84	£ -	£ 4,811.91	£ 10,663.93
Reserves	£ 30,000.00	£ -	£ -	£ 30,000.00
Interest	£ 367.59	£ 177.08	£ -	£ 544.67
Vat	-£ 3,297.49	£ 3,297.49	£ 3,376.07	-£ 3,376.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 199,955.13</b>	<b>£ 38,474.57</b>	<b>£ 34,063.20</b>	<b>£ 204,366.50</b>

155.4 Receipts and Payments

Councillors were provided with receipts totally £79,562.22, payments totally £15,261.03 and a £250 transfer to ALTO card. It was

**RESOLVED**

**That all receipts be noted, all monies on the payments list be paid and the £250 be transferred to ALTO card.**

**156 Correspondence**

156.1 Friends of Bedfordshire Society – Promote Bedfordshire Day 28th November. FPC to offer to display notices and put an article in Fairfield Matters. **Action: KH**

**157 Date of next meeting**

157.1 The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 12<sup>h</sup> November 2015 at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 9.25 pm