

Minutes of the meeting of Fairfield Parish Council held in Fairfield Community Hall on Thursday 10th March 2016 at 7:30 pm

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

Officer present: Katrina Henshaw (Parish Clerk)

Also present for all or part of the meeting: Two members of the public.

294 Apologies for Absence

294.1 Apologies received from Ward Members Councillors S Dixon, B Saunders and J Saunders.

295 Disclosures of Interest and Dispensation requests

295.1 Councillor Hanks disclosed an interested in item 34 of the agenda (item 325.1 of these minutes) as the Developer is one of his company's clients. He is not working on the Fairfield application. It was agreed that he could stay for the discussion as his knowledge of planning would be useful but he would not vote on any decisions.

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

296 Council Minutes

296.1 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11th February 2016 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.

297 Public Participation

297.1 No members of the Public requested to speak.

298 Parish Crime Update

298.1 Bedfordshire Police is having to restructure in light of financial restraints and underfunding. This has led to the number of PCSOs being reduced considerably. Their new Community Engagement Teams will be focused on problem solving within their communities so there will be insufficient officers available to prepare monthly Police Crime Reports for Parish Councils or to attend meetings. Crime Figures will be available on www.police.uk but currently only show until December 2015.

299 Annual Parish Meeting – 31st March 2016

299.1 Olly Martins, Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire has accepted the invitation to speak at the APM.

Unfortunately, Chief Inspector Gavin Hughes-Rowlands is unable to speak at the APM as he is the chief Inspector for North Bedfordshire and has well in excess of a 100 Town and Parish councils in his area so has to reserve such events for cases of absolute need and where policing issues and concerns are outside the norm. He did advise that Bedfordshire police has had to cut its PCSO numbers by more than half to respond to the significant financial challenges the force faces. They will however be off-setting this loss in community teams by replacing some of these lost posts with warranted police officers. In this way they hope to maintain their service to local communities and provide an effective community policing team.

FPRA will not be holding its AGM before the APM as in previous years but members would be present at the APM should any questions be asked.

300 CCTV in Dickens Boulevard

300.1 Estimated costs are £5,000. FPC to ask Eden if they would allow the recorder to be located within their premises. Councillor Bidwell to investigate further. **Action: CB**

301 Joint Meeting held on 3rd March

301.1 The meeting took place and notes have been circulated.

302 Fairfield Branding

302.1 All items required by Royal Mail have now been completed and Councillor Dixon is in a position to send the application to amend postal addresses in Fairfield. It was agreed to publicise this. **Action: BD**

303 Dog Fouling around Fairfield

303.1 FPRA and FHMC to supply FPC confirmation that the respective landowners agree to CBC taking appropriate action of any offences committed on their land.

304 Leisure Strategy Document

304.1 All areas have now been properly documented and Councillor Dixon will send FPC a list to agree before forwarding it on to the Leisure Department in CBC.

305 Cemetery

305.1 To be discussed at a later date when clarification on land is received from CBC.

306 Blue Lagoon

306.1 FPC suggested various amendments to the plan and is waiting for more details from CBC.

307 Section S106

307.1 Awaiting draft details from Hotbed solicitors.

308 Orchard

308.1 All the work is complete and the Steering Group will be meeting to discuss proposals. FPC to discuss at the April meeting if this will remain as a FPC project or if it will be managed by a new group. It was agreed to invite representatives from Teasel to the April meeting to explain how they manage the Nature Reserve in Stotfold. **Action: KH**

308.2 Following a discussion it was

RESOLVED

That MBS would chip all brash in East Orchard and spread in West Orchard at a cost of £1,035.

REASON

The price is competitive and the wood needs to be removed.

The clerk to place the contract. **Action: KH**

308.3 Following a discussion it was

RESOLVED

That MBS would be awarded the contract to do more cuts in the Orchards this year

REASON

The price is competitive and more cuts are needed to get the brambles and stinging nettles under control.

The clerk to place the contract. **Action: KH**

309 Speed Limit in Fairfield

309.1 CBC has not received any responses from Bovis, Taylor Wimpey and David Wilson for permission to have a 20mph speed limit on unadopted roads but agree that that should be seen as permission by lack of response. Ringway Jacobs will have the highways contract from April 1st. CBC will not have the time or resource to promote the 20mph zone before the new contract starts. Once CBC know the new structure and who will be delivering such items CBC will arrange a meeting to take this forward.

310 Additional Parking at Kipling Crescent

310.1 FPC hosted a Public Meeting on 25th February to advise residents of the proposals and received very positive comments.

310.2 CBC has confirmed planning permission would be required and has suggested moving the railing 600mm so a footway can be created. Councillor Hanks to ask permission from FRL and FPRA. **Action: NH**

310.3 Councillor Hanks to provide quotations from three contractors. **Action: NP**

310.4 Councillor Hanks to submit planning application on behalf of FPC. **Action: NP**

311 Car Park Signage for Bowls and Cricket Clubs

311.1 This is included in FHMC signage plan so no further action from FPC.

312 People driving on paths around the school

312.1 The bollard will be installed in March.

313 Signs

313.1 New Directional signs to Fairfield from Wilbury Hills Road have been ordered with HCC.

314 Allotments and Recreation Space

314.1 To be discussed at a later date when clarification on land is received from CBC.

315 The Parish Plan

315.1 To receive an update at the April meeting.

316 The Neighbourhood Plan

316.1 Hopefully the NHP will be ready for pre-submission next month and will be for FPC approval at the April meeting. After this there will be a six weeks consultation period for all residents to comment on it.

317 Public Art Money (S106)

317.1 FPRA has agreed to produce a proposal for Urban Park. FPC to look if Public Art can be featured in this proposal once it has been received.

318 Fairfield Hall

318.1 The Directors of FHMC are extremely disappointed that Councillor Dixon has not supplied any dates for a meeting as agreed at the February meeting (item 288.1). FHMC have therefore requested a meeting with FPC as a matter of urgency. FHMC to supply suggested dates.
Action: SJ

319 Roof at Beeton Court

319.1 Linden Homes have now accepted responsibility for fixing the roof. These works are being scheduled and there should be a date shortly for works to commence.

320 Planning Applications

320.1 CB/16/00445/FULL 15 Brunel Walk
Single storey extension.
FPC has no objection to this application other than conditions are that all materials are to match existing bricks and windows.

321 Planning Decisions

- 321.1 CB/15/04561/VOC Former Pig Unit
Variation of Condition to planning permission CB/14/04048/FULL (Erection of 116 dwellings and a 70 bedroom care home with access, parking, open space and ancillary works):
Condition wording.
Variation of Condition – Granted by CBC 5th February 2016.
- 321.2 CB CB/15/04801/FULL Fairfield Park Lower School
Retention of temporary classroom unit with new lean-to canopy.
Regulation 3 – Granted by CBC 8th February 2016.
- 321.3 CB/15/04759/FULL 1 Paxton Drive
Single storey rear extension following demolition of conservatory.
Full application granted by CBC 5th February 2016.
- 321.4 CB/16/00037/FULL 11 Bronte Avenue.
Rear extension.
Full application granted by CBC 9th February 2016.

322 Finance

322.1 Bank Account

BDO has advised that if FPC is holding excessive reserves then this will need to be clearly earmarked for projects. It is then up to FPC to ensure that the money is safe guarded and is in low risks accounts receiving the best interest. The clerk to supply councillors with details of why Unity Trust Bank is a low risk and where they hold the money. **Action: KH**

322.2 Bowls Club Grant Application for a new lawnmower.

Following a discussion it was agreed that more information was required before a decision could be made. The clerk to ask the Bowls Club if they had considered sharing the mower with the cricket club and if they had investigated the second hand market. **Action: KH**

322.3 Receipts and Payments

Councillors were provided with payments totally £13,189.35 and receipts totally £3,464.40. It was

RESOLVED

That all monies on the payments list be paid and receipts be noted.

323 Exclusion of Press and Public from items 33.1 and 34.1 of the agenda (324.1 and 325.1 in the minutes)

323.1 Following a discussion it was

RESOLVED

That the public and press should be excluded from items 33.1 and 34.1 of the agenda (324.1 and 325.1 in the minutes).

REASON

Under section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

324 Planning Application for 18 bungalows on land to the rear and side of East Lodge

324.1 The proposed revised contract that forms part of the application was discussed. The main change is that PJ Livesey has agreed to gift all the West Orchard (Areas 8 and 9 under the land registry title BO277421) if permission for the 18 bungalows on land to the rear and side of East Lodge (CB/15/04320/OUT) is granted with satisfactory conditions. PJ Livesey is not, however, prepared to withdraw the application for the 2 bungalows in West Orchard (CB/15/04299/OUT). If CBC grant permission for both applications this could result in FPC having land with permission to build two bungalows on. Following a discussion it was

RESOLVED

That FPC had no intention or interest to build on this land whilst the outline permission is valid.

REASON

FPC wishes to preserve the Orchard.

It was agreed that FPC will speak at the Planning Meeting on 30th March on both application. The clerk to notify CBC. **Action: KH**

325 Planning Development, Hitchin Road

325.1 The revised planning application regarding the proposed new school and housing development were discussed. It was agreed

1. To arrange a meeting with the School Head Teacher.
2. To advise residents that Campbell Buchanan would be submitted an outline planning application for 180 houses and the previous proposed site for the school had changed.

3. To facilitate a Public Meeting on 24th March allowing Campbell Buchanan to show residents the proposed plans and answer questions.
4. To advise residents that there will be an opportunity at the APM on 31st March to talk to CBC Ward Members and FPC about this proposal.

326 Date of next meetings

326.1 The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 31st March 2016 at 7.30 pm

326.2 The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 14th April 2016 at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

Print name of Chairman _____