

Minutes of Funtington Parish Council Meeting

held at St Mary's Church Hall, Funtington on Wednesday 1st November 2023 at 6:30pm

Present:

Cllr J Mottershead [JBM] (Chair), Cllr D Ash [DA], Cllr V Cathie[VC](arr. 19:00), Cllr C Donnelly [CD], Cllr N Laurence [NL], Cllr R Littler [RL], Cllr B Mousley [BM], Cllr J Mousley [JM]

In Attendance: District Cllr J Brookes-Harmer [JB-H]

Members of the Public: There were 13 members of the public present

The meeting commenced at 6:30

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Jack Mousley [JM]

2. Declarations of Interest

BM declared an interest in agenda item 7a)

3. To Receive and Confirm the Accuracy of the Draft Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 4th October 2023. It was unanimously CONFIRMED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on the 4th October 2023 were an accurate record. They were duly signed by the Chair.

4. Open Forum. No matters were raised

5. Planning Applications. To Consider and Agree Action on the following, if appropriate.

The Parish Council's full comments on these and all other relevant Applications can be read via either the SDNP website: at <https://planningpublicaccess.southdowns.gov.uk/online-applications/> or the CDC planning website: at <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/article/24073/Comment-or-search-on-a-planning-application>

- a. **Developments at Broadley Copse.** Mr Nick Baird commented from the floor on progress with plans for the site and his desire to keep the local community informed. He noted that there was a high likelihood that the farming operation would switch to indoor pig rearing, with adjacent land to be used for crops. Mr Baird was also investigating alternative uses if this operation was not possible, the most likely of these being a change of use for the existing buildings to light industrial and storage, similar to the development at New Barns, but with an emphasis on sustainability. In response to a question regarding local concerns about traffic increases to supply the biodigester on the site, Mr Baird noted that maize provided more power to the biodigester than pig waste and it was already being grown on some of the land. If the pigs were to leave the site altogether, it was projected that there may be a reduction in traffic accessing the site as vehicles associated with pig rearing would no longer be required. A traffic assessment is currently underway with respect to plans for a new access road from the B2146.

Mr Baird also confirmed that a HELAA (housing and economic land availability assessment) had been carried out on some of his land, but he had no plans to apply for housing to be built on this land.

EP recommended that as things progressed, Parish Council understanding be maintained through regular plan review sessions.

- b. **Enforcement and Appeals** – BM will be meeting with Cllr Brookes-Harmer to go through the issuing of enforcement notices and their follow up in the Parish

- c. **Weekly Lists**

- week 40**

- SDNP/23/03059/HOUS - Funtington Parish Council has no objections to this application

- week 41**

- no new applications

- week 42**

- SDNP/23/03385/HOUS - Funtington Parish Council has no objections to this application

- week 43**

- no new applications

6. **To Receive Reports from County and District Cllrs and Other Delegates.**

A report had been received from Cllr Brookes-Harmer which had been previously circulated to Cllrs. This report will be published on the Parish Council website. It was noted that District Councillor 'surgeries' were to be held on the last Saturday of every other month at 11am at the Fox and Hounds. Parishioners are encouraged to bring along questions, comments or any concerns. These will be publicised on the Parish Council website, noticeboards and Facebook pages.

7. **General Matters for Decision** – To consider and agree action on the following:

- a. Repair works across the Parish – to reconsider and agree contractor. *BM left the room.* As the previously agreed contractor was no longer available to complete the work, Cllrs had reviewed the remaining quotes. It was unanimously AGREED to instruct MKH Build to complete the work.
It was noted from the floor that the low fence on the unmade road side of The Dell was rotten. Quotes for its replacement will be obtained.
- b. Clerk's contract of employment – to agree terms. Cllrs had reviewed the contract and it was unanimously AGREED to accept the Clerk's contract of employment
- c. To approve the updated Parish Asset Register and Parish Asset Register Policy. It was unanimously AGREED to accept the Asset Register Policy. Several amendments were made to the Asset Register and the final version will be presented to Cllrs at the next meeting for approval
- d. To approve the 2022_23 CIL reporting submission for SDNP.
The clerk reported that a previous agreement by Cllrs to spend £23,794.82 (Nov 2022, item 15.b) on the new playground equipment at West Ashling, will be reported to SDNP. All remaining CIL monies were also spent in the previous year, and subsequent to consultation with SDNP, and in the absence of clear agreement in previous minutes, Cllrs were asked to consider that part of the remaining costs for the installation of the playground and part of the costs for the new bus shelter be retrospectively assigned. It was unanimously AGREED to assign as stated and report these expenditures to SDNP.

8. **Financial Matters for Decision** – To Consider and Agree Action on the following:

- Schedule of Payments, for authorization – It was unanimously RESOLVED to AUTHORISE the Schedule of payments for invoices from October (circulated previously). Cllrs voted unanimously to accept all payments

A list of payments is included below (incl VAT where appropriate, which is reclaimable by the Council)

OCTOBER 2023

Method	Amount	Pavee	Reason
IBT	£121.50	Azets	Quarterly fee
IBT	£11.70	Rachel Foister	Admin expenses
IBT	£10.99	Rachel Foister	Stationary refund
IBT	£250.00	CDC	WA playground annual rent
IBT	£99.99	Canva	Annual Subscription

IBT = Interbank transfer

- Report on Council's Bank Accounts as at 31st October 2023, for acceptance: The clerk presented the bank reconciliation for October 2023. The reconciled current account balance is £36,857.27 and savings account balance is £66.70

Matters for Discussion

- a. **Flood prevention and WSCC Operation Watershed Funding** - 3 locations where regular flooding takes place were under consideration by Cllrs.
 - (i) Stoke Road
 - (ii) Watery Lane
 - (iii) the South end of Mouthey's Lane
 Mr Baird offered to help create soakaways on the agricultural land bordering these flood zones with landowner permission. JM to contact the landowner adjacent to Stoke Road. Mr Baird also offered to help clear the culverts at Mouthey's Lane.
- b. **Clearing land next to West Ashling playground** – investigations had shown that some of this land belongs to WSCC Highways and the remainder is not claimed. WSCC Highways had agreed to cut back the overgrowth, but so far nothing has happened. JM to obtain a quote from the ground maintenance contractors for the playground for clearing the land.
- c. **Cllr Vacancies** - The Chair noted that she was keen for more representation on the council from residents from West Stoke, East Ashling and Funtington.
- d. **The Parish Council Business Plan** – Cllrs agreed to defer discussion until after the finance committee had held their budget meeting.
- e. **The Dell – next steps for the pavilion and pavilion site** - The pavilion had been offered to local schools, but there had been no takers. A local fitness and rowing group were keen to have the building for use in Birdham as a changing and exercise equipment room and were content to cover the costs for its removal. Cllrs will discuss the restoration of the pavilion site to grass with this group in lieu of payment for the building.

9. Matters for Information

- a. **Summary of Parish Correspondence:** Members acknowledged recent correspondence.
- b. **West Stoke Sign** - the clerk reported that the claim was currently being handled by loss adjusters.

- c. **SDNP Local Plan Review** – Cllrs agreed to prepare submissions for the SDNP Local Plan Review which would be presented for approval prior to submission at the next Parish Council meeting.

- d. **In response to a question from the floor, JM summarised progress with the Neighbourhood Plan.** Questionnaires will be delivered to all households in November. The design statements have been completed as have the questionnaires to local businesses. The target date for completion has not yet been set.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 6th December 2023 in The Church Room, St Mary's Church, Funtington

The meeting closed at 19:37