

**FAIRLIGHT PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at Fairlight Village Hall on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7 pm.**

Present: Councillors Mrs J Annetts, Mrs C Gallagher, Revd. V Gibbs (Chair), D Greenup, N Jones, T King, S Leadbetter, A Mier and D Thatcher. Also, present: Parish Clerk K Darbyshire, Cllr Saint.

**17091 Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Bird

**17092 Code of Conduct and Disclosure of Interests:** Cllr Leadbetter advised he is a member of the Friends of Rye Harbour (Agenda Item 5a).

**17093 Item 2 Updated disclosures forms from members to be published with Rother District Council:** The Clerk asked members to check their entries prior to the meeting, and received updates from Cllrs accordingly.

**17094 Item 3 Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017.**  
The minutes having been distributed prior to the meeting and made available to the Public at the meeting, were approved and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**17095 Item 4 Matters arising from the Minutes not otherwise on the Agenda.** There were none.

**17096 Item 5 Financial Matters -**  
(a) Council considered a grant application from Sussex Wildlife Trust. Although Council are very supportive of this project and the work carried out by the Sussex Wildlife Trust, they were unable to consider the grant fully, as Council only approves grant expenditure at the beginning of the financial year. The Clerk was asked to write to them to invite them to apply for a grant before April 2018, when Council will consider an application in full.

**17097** (b) Council **resolved** to approve the monthly statement of budget against income and expenditure, and the bank reconciliation, which was then signed by the Chair and Clerk.

**17098** (c) Council **resolved** to approve the attached schedule of payments and receipts as below:

**Schedule of payments and receipts** **27<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

Payments	Gross	VAT	Notes
Mrs K Darbyshire	XXXX		June salary & expenses
Mrs V King	XXXX		June Salary
Miss T Robertson	30.00		Bus shelters invoice May 2017
Keith Robertson	102.45		Internal Audit 2016-17
AB Fire & Security	277.99	46.33	Inv 321617, 321987, 321993
Fairlight Playgroup & Nursery	500.00		Grant 2017-18
<b>Receipts</b>			
NatWest	0.55		Interest to 30.05.17

Please note that due to the cancellation of the Council meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017, the above payments were paid by cheque. They were signed on the 4th July following authorisation by e-mail, by a majority of Councillors.

**Schedule of payments and receipts** **25<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

Payments	Gross	VAT	Notes
Mrs K Darbyshire	XXXX		July salary & expenses
Mrs V King	XXXX		July Salary
Miss T Robertson	30.00		Bus shelters invoice July 2017
Fairlight Village Hall	133.00		Hall hire Apr/May/June
AB Fire & Security	151.39	25.23	Inv 322883 & 323005
HMRC	419.41		PAYE & NIC Cont Apr/May/June
Ahs Ltd	228.00	38.00	Play bark Wood Field
<b>Receipts</b>			
NatWest	0.46		Interest to 30.06.17

- 17099** (d) Council **resolved** to approve an annual subscription to RBS Software for accountancy software to be used by the Clerk, as per quote received.
- 17100** **Item 6 Policies -**  
Council **resolved** to adopt the Financial Control Risk Assessment
- 17101** **Item 7 Highways and Transport Matters Report**  
Cllr Jones has reported the broken sign post by the Church on the Highways website. Cllr Jones will write a report about the inconsistency of measuring potholes for scheduling repairs to send to the Highways Steward.  
Cllr Reverend Gibbs has received an e-mail from Cllr Maynard suggesting a village walkabout with himself, Councillors, the Clerk and the Highways Steward to look at various issues in the village, with a view to discussing a repair schedule for next year.  
Cllr Mier informed Council that several potholes on Waites Lane had been repaired today.  
Cllr Greenup expressed serious concerns about the condition of the Parish roads and opined that there is a high risk of serious accidents as a direct result of the condition of the roads. Council **resolved** to ask the Clerk to write to the ESCC Lead Councillor for Transport to advise him of Council's concerns.
- 17102** **Item 8 Planning**  
(a) The Planning report was noted.
- 17103** (b)The Neighbourhood Plan. The site assessments have been sent to the consultant for review. They will need to be assessed as part of the environmental study, before consultation with residents. The public consultation will be taking place after the summer break.
- 17104** **Item 9 Land Management**  
a) Cllr King gave a report, which was noted as follows:  
There was a week when the dog bins were not emptied. This was reported to RDC and they have now been emptied. Cllr King wished to thank all the volunteers who helped carry and distribute the playpark in the playground. The two wooden picnic benches are beyond repair and need replacing. Cllr King gave an estimate of approximately £150 per table, and Council **resolved** to authorise Cllr King to order them. After the summer holidays Cllr King will make arrangements to have the equipment in the playground repainted. An inspection of the Council's play equipment is due. The Clerk will obtain quotes and report back to Council.
- 17105** b) **Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)**. Cllr Thatcher advised that Andrea Ingram (RDC) visited Fairlight last year, with a view to placing TPOs on some of the trees in the village. Since then Cllr Thatcher has had no response from Ms Ingram. Cllr Saint asked Cllr Thatcher and the Clerk to forward copies of correspondence to Ms Ingram, to himself and Cllr Maynard, and he would follow the matter up.
- 17106** c) Council discussed the offer of some voluntary work from The Conservation Trust to clear some of the overgrown holly etc in Knowle Woods. Cllr Thatcher expressed he would be grateful for some help, and he has already confirmed that the Trust have adequate insurance in place, and that they would need to complete their own risk assessment. Council agreed for Cllr Thatcher to get more information from the Trust.
- 17107** **Item 10 Country Park and Firehills**  
a) An overview of a report on the new visitor centre was given and noted.
- 17108** **Item 11 Fairlight and Pett Level waste and surface water managing meeting 12th June 2017**  
Cllr Bird provided minutes of the above meeting to Council prior to the meeting. Cllr Saint explained that the meeting had taken 3 months to organise, and that the various agencies involved do not normally communicate effectively, so it was very important for the local area to get the agencies working together. Southern Water reported that they are under maximum capacity, but will be carrying out tests on the water in the sewer system to establish where the water is coming from. At present, they are unable to advise how often the system overloads. Cllr Saint believes there will be another meeting at the end of September.  
There was a lengthy discussion between Councillors about the minutes, and Councillors opined that the sewer system in Fairlight is not adequate, resulting in foul water over a road, and that the Parish Council actively discourage the use of soak aways.  
Cllr Gibbs suspended standing orders to allow members of the public to make comments to Cllr Saint. Standing orders were then reinstated.  
Cllr Gibbs opined that she had made a strong representation for a Parish Councillor to be present at the meeting, but her request had been turned down.

**17109 Item 12 Clerk's report**

The report was noted, and the Clerk gave the following updates: RDC are due to remove the old bin from the junction of Battery Hill and Waites Lane, and a new bin has been ordered for the bus stop on Knowle Road. Various new street name plates are on order and should be in place by October.

**17110 Item 13 County and District Councillors Reports.**

Cllr Maynard advised that he is now the Lead Member for Adult Social Care. Cllr Maynard is aware of the condition of some of the road in Fairlight, and is trying to organise a walkaround the village with Councillors, the Clerk and Highways Steward, hopefully in September. Cllr Saint confirmed that developers do not require planning permission to clear scrub land at the Market Garden site. Concerns about badger sets is a matter for the police.

**17111 Item 14 Correspondence.**

**a) Community Governance Review for Bexhill- to respond to questions for review stage 2**

The Clerk suggested that Councillors provide their responses via e-mail, and she will compile the answers ready for review at the next meeting.

b) Cllr King advised that MOPPS are experiencing financial difficulties following funding cuts from ESCC. They are currently having to consider cutting the hours worked by salaried staff.

**Open Forum**

A request was made for a salt bin to be placed on the grass verge on Meadow Way (approximately half way up). Council advised that a concrete base would be needed first. It was agreed that this would be added as an agenda item for further discussion in the next couple of months.

The Speedwatch team are experiencing a lack of co-operation from the police, and are regularly finding that their reports of speeding incidents are discarded by them. They are currently looking for more volunteers. The Council expressed their support for the work of the Speedwatch team.

Residents expressed concerns about the proposed telephone mast at Wakeham's Farm, and that they had not received notification of the application. Cllr Revd Gibbs explained that RDC are not obliged to notify neighbours of planning applications. The Parish Council had been notified by the company wishing to erect the mast, and that this appeared on the agenda and minutes, which are available to view on the village website, noticeboards and circulated via the Fairlight Residents e-mail scheme. Cllr Leadbetter advised that any future applications that affect the whole village will be made available on the village website. He also explained that Council can only make comments on a plan that has been submitted, and cannot make suggestions on alternative locations. Cllr Saint advised that he had spoken to the Planning Department at RDC and they will be making a decision by the 4<sup>th</sup> August. As the application is by a utility company the deadline cannot be extended.

A resident reported an incident where a cricket ball came out of the cricket boundary, passed someone sitting at a bench, and down into the woods. He expressed safety concerns for members of the public when cricket matches/practice sessions are taking place. He asked if the Council had a Risk Assessment in place. The Clerk advised that she would carry out an assessment, ready for review at the next meeting. In the meantime, the Land Management Committee will look at the spikes that the Cricket Club have used to cordon off the wicket.

Concerns were raised about the overgrown hedge opposite the post office, and also opposite the junction with Martineau Lane. This causes visibility problems for drivers.

**17112 Item 15** The Chairman thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

**17113 Council Meeting Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017 - 7.00 pm at Fairlight Village Hall**

----- **Dated** -----

**(Cllr Revd V Gibbs – Chair)**

## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 - Planning Report for Fairlight Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017

#### 1) Planning Applications

##### Planning report week 21

**RR/2017/1177/P**

**15 Covehurst, Rockmead Road, Fairlight TN35 4DJ**

Erection of garage, mower store and car port.

Parish Council comments:

- 1) Neither the weekly list, nor the list of applications on the Rother website show that this is a retrospective application, this only being evident from Q3 of the application. This should have been made more prominent.
- 2) Fairlight Parish Council have no objection the application but might have wanted conditions imposed to protect this sensitive cliff top area had the application been made before work was carried out.
- 3) Any comments made by Neighbours should be taken into account.

##### Planning report week 22

Nothing for Fairlight

##### Planning report week 23

**RR/2017/1222/P**

**Skyscape, Channel Way, Fairlight TN35 4BP**

Extension and improvements.

Parish Council comments:

- 1) Fairlight Parish Council has no objection to this application in principle.
- 2) Planners should satisfy themselves that the first floor front balcony is sufficiently screened at each side to protect the privacy of residents in adjoining properties.
- 3) Planners should consider whether the rear first floor windows should be glazed with obscure glass to protect the privacy of residents of adjoining properties.
- 4) Any comments made by Neighbours should be taken into account.

##### Planning report week 24

**RR/2017/1309/P**

**Green Dolphin Cottage, Fyrsway, Fairlight TN35 4BG**

Proposed single storey side extension. Creation of new roof. Re-render whole property.

Parish Council comments:

- 1) Fairlight Parish Council has no objection to this proposal.
- 2) Any comments made by neighbours should be taken into account.

##### Planning report week 25

**RR/2017/1107/TN**

**Wakehams Farm, Pett Level Road, Fairlight Cove, TN35 4ED**

The installation of 1no. 20.0m PHOSCO monopole with 3no. antennas, 3no. dishes, 3no. equipment cabinets and ancillary development thereto within a fixed enclosure.

Parish Council comments: Not yet considered by Parish Council

#### 2) Planning Decisions

**RR/2017/794/P**

**Alborada, Farley Way, Fairlight TN35 4AS**

First floor extension to form attic bedrooms.

Decision: Refused

The proposed first floor extension by virtue of its overall height and mass in close proximity to its neighbouring boundary to the east and its rearward extent beyond the rear elevation of the adjoining property (Annandale) would result in a dominant, overbearing structure, detrimental to the residential amenities of this neighbouring property.

**RR/2017/655/P**

**5 Battery Hill, Fairlight TN35 4AP**

Extension to existing car park to provide 5 car parking spaces.

Decision: Approved

The proposal results in an improvement to highway safety, with parked cars being parked within the site and off the main road. The proposal is not considered to impact upon the visual amenities of the locality, nor on neighbouring properties.

**RR/2017/834/P**

**Seaways, Fyrsway, Fairlight TN35 4BG**

Single storey extension to dwellinghouse.

Decision: Approved

**RR/2017/871/P**

**Seaglint, Channel Way, Fairlight TN35 4BP**

Ground floor extension. (Retrospective)

Decision: Approved

**RR/2017/889/P**

**11 Woodland Way, Cherry Berries, Fairlight TN35 4AU**

Proposed extension, alterations and new external materials.

Decision: Refused for the following reasons:

1. The scale and design of the proposed single storey extension to the north side elevation would have a detrimental impact to the character and setting of the property on the open corner of Woodland Way and Knowle Road.
2. The proposed single storey extension to the north side elevation would appear as a large dominant structure, overbearing to the adjoining neighbour's property at no. 10 Knowle Road and detrimental to the light and outlook currently enjoyed by this property.
3. The proposed rear veranda would introduce a new raised structure in close proximity to the adjoining neighbour at No. 10 Knowle Road. The height of this and its close proximity to the adjoining boundary would impinge upon the privacy and current amenities between the properties.

**RR/2017/970/P**

**Mermaids, Fyrsway, Fairlight TN35 4BG**

Removal of existing sun room to rear of property, proposal of single storey flat roof extension to replace.

Decision: Approved

**RR/2017/1010/P**

**Lowenva, Fyrsway, Fairlight TN35 4BG**

Erection of single storey rear conservatory.

Decision: Permitted development – No planning consent required.

**RR/2017/376/P**

**Stella Maris, Fyrsway, Fairlight TN35 4BG**

Variation of condition 3 imposed on planning permission RR/2016/496/P to allow change in roof tiles.

Decision: Approved

**RR/2017/1030/P**

**Spark Cottage, Fyrsway, Fairlight TN35 4BG**

Replacement of front entrance porch with extension, replacement of timber garage and side porch with side extension.

Decision: Approved

Stephen Leadbetter  
Planning Committee Chairman  
20<sup>th</sup> June 2017

## Appendix 2 - Planning Report for Fairlight Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017

### 1) Planning Applications

#### Planning report week 26

Nothing for Fairlight

#### Planning report week 27

**RR/2017/1455/PN**

#### **Applewood, Farley Way, Fairlight TN35 4AS**

Notification for Prior Approval for the erection of an extension which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling by 4.6 metres, for which the maximum height would be 3.5 metres and for which the height of the eaves would be 3.5 metres.

Parish Council comments: No comments. As this is a notification only It does not need consent.

#### Planning report week 28

**RR/2017/1588/T**

#### **Junipers, Farley Way, Fairlight**

Oak tree - Fell.

Parish Council comments: Not yet considered by Parish Council.

#### Planning report week 29

**RR/2017/1631/P**

#### **81 Battery Hill, The Mountain, Fairlight TN35 4AL**

New car port, new home office and new extensions to existing property.

Parish Council comments: Not yet considered by Parish Council.

**RR/2017/1632/P**

#### **55 Lower Waites Lane, Springers Too, Fairlight TN35 4DB**

Erection of a conservatory to front elevation.

Parish Council comments: Not yet considered by Parish Council.

**RR/2017/1651/P**

#### **30 Blackthorn Way, Fairlight TN35 4BJ**

Single storey rear extension and raised decking.

Parish Council comments: Not yet considered by Parish Council.

### 2) Planning Decisions

**RR/2017/1222/P**

#### **Skyscape, Channel Way, Fairlight TN35 4BP**

Extension and improvements.

Decision: Approved

Stephen Leadbetter, Planning Committee Chairman , 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017