



FAWKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held remotely by video link following agreed legislation on Tuesday 18th February at 7.30 pm to transact the following business.

Laura Marchant
Clerk to Fawkham Parish Council

Members of the Parish Council:

Cllr Laura Evans (Chair), Cllr Alun Evans (Vice Chair), Cllr Duncan Harker, Cllr Maxine Fothergill, Jolene Truder

Parish Council Meeting Agenda

During the period of Government restrictions due to Coronavirus, agenda items are being limited to those that are critical and/or can be actioned under the restrictions.

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr D.Harker gave his apologies as he was at work.

2. Declarations of Interest for items relating to the Agenda:

Councillors to make any declarations that may be required by virtue of the Parish Council's adopted Code of Conduct.

None

3. Members of the Public:

The Council's meetings are open to the public, however, only the first half hour is given for members of the public to raise any matters and partake in discussions. There are no further opportunities for members of the public to speak during the full Parish Council meeting. At the end of the agenda items the public will be asked to leave if the council will be discussing confidential matters.

Kent CCllr D.Brazier and DCllr L.Harrison were both present.

9. Road issues

Respond to issues and comments raised by residents, following the recent update provided on our website and Facebook.

Update on HIP/maintenance issues

Comment: Cllr L.Evans told the PC that just one comment had been received on Facebook and that was a request for Speedgate Hill, Scudders Hill and Three Gates road to be gritted during inclement weather. Cllr L.Evans did mention that Scudders Hill had been gritted during the recent snow, and Cllr J.Truder advised that it had been gritted from the Mushroom Farm down to Valley road by a local resident. Speedgate hill is a secondary gritting route and so gritted during prolonged icy weather. Kent CCllr D Brazier mentioned

that there were salt bins available for residents to use on the roads mentioned. These roads mentioned are also not main roads or strategic local routes such as Valley Road. Cllr L.Evans informed the PC that there was damage to the pipe at Sun Hill /Valley Road junction which could have been contributing to the flooding seen in the area. This has now been repaired and will be tested in the coming weeks.

Thames Water had been due to cut tree roots in their sewage drains by the Village Hall, however the roads were too icy and so this work is being rescheduled.

Traffic surveys of Valley road are being organised by KCC. The survey will cover 6 sites and should be scheduled to take place in April with results hopefully back in May.

4. Planning applications:

None

5. Planning decisions/updates/notices:

Comments: Cllr L.Evans informed the PC that both the listed building consent (ref 20/03642/LBCALT) and planning application (ref 20/02299/FUL) for Fawkham Manor has been refused, solely on the grounds of harm to the heritage asset.

Noted: Planning application for West Minch, Castle Hill (ref 20/03772/HOUSE) has been approved.

Comment: Cllr L.Evans mentioned that the public enquiry for the Salts Farm development (SE/20/00882/OUT) is due to take place at the beginning of March. An email was sent out informing the PC how members of the public can register to take part in or be an observer of the inquiry.

Comment: Cllr L.Evans informed the PC that several planning enforcement cases are being investigated around the village.

6. Approve Minutes:

Proposed: To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 18th February 2021, as attached.

Resolved: It was proposed through the Chair that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chair, seconded by Cllr A.Evans.

Signing will take place at the next face to face meeting of the Council

7. Matters Arising:

Matters arising relating to the Minutes, not on this agenda.

Comments: Cllr L.Evans informed the PC that a chaser email had been sent to Laura Trott MP. The office of Laura Trott apologised that there had not been a reply sent sooner to the email due to an oversight. A response is now expected by next week, W/C 22nd Feb.

Comments: Kent Cllr D.Brazier is going to look into the possibility of Fawkham being added to the proposed areas where electric charging points could be installed.

8. Finance Approval

Expenditure and Income - details tabled.

Approval of cheques and payments

Resolved: Expenditure and Income was reviewed, invoices reviewed and approved by all.

Online payments will be approved and authorised as per FPC financial regulations.

Payment list summary

Fawkham Parish Council February 2021 Payment List				
Date	Cheque No./ Online payment	Payee/For	Amount	Entry Number
03/02/21	DDR	British Gas - electricity	£2.65	78
03/02/21	ONLINE	SDC Dog Bins	£28.08	80
03/02/21	ONLINE	clerk salary	£468.39	81
03/02/21	ONLINE	CPRE membership	£36.00	82
		Total	£535.12	

10. Neighbourhood Plan

Update since last meeting.

Proposal: approve the appointment of Laura Marchant to the Steering Group to act as Secretary and Treasurer, with the same hourly rate as the Parish Clerk role. Hours are expected to average no more than 1 per week at the moment; any increase in average hours will be notified to the Parish Council for agreement.

Comment: Cllr L.Evans gave an update with regards to the Neighbourhood Plan. A Neighbourhood Plan page has been created on the PC website to keep the local community up to date. The first Steering Group meeting was held for members to become familiar with one another and to discuss the initial first steps. Various project management processes have been put in place. The working groups will start to gather and review information.

Resolved: It was resolved by Cllr L.Evans and seconded by Cllr M.Fothergill to appoint Laura Marchant to the steering group to act as both Secretary and Treasurer.

11. Census 2021

Overview and how to promote within Fawkham.

Comment: FPC were contacted by SDC to ask for support in publicising the Census 2021. It was discussed and thought that the PC could promote and encourage people to complete the Census via the PC website and facebook page. It was discussed that it might be suitable to wait approximately 2 weeks before the Census is due to advertise it.

12. Future meetings

Remote meetings due to end 7th May; discuss how this would affect FPC if it is not extended

Comment: The possibility of not holding remote meetings was discussed. The Village Hall does not have a router for Internet access and there is also little to very poor mobile internet coverage. It is hoped that the option to hold remote meetings will be extended.

13. Community ideas

Update

Comment: Recent community ideas have been posted on facebook including: The Big Garden Birdwatch, Star Count week and photos of the local area in the snow. Cllr L.Evans will be running a runner bean competition around Easter time.

14. Chair and Councillors reports:

To note any items not listed on the agenda

Cllr L.Evans informed the council of a recent conversation she had with the office of Laura Trott MP who clarified and explained the local areas response to the vaccination programme.

Two members of the public had enquired as to whether litter pickers could be obtained from the Parish Council, and a local school girl had initiated a litter pick along the Fawkham Valley footpath. It was explained that the PC do not own any litter pickers currently as most of Valley Road is very dangerous to litter pick, and group litter picks could not be carried out at the moment. Once such activities can resume, the volunteer cleaning group will look to do some litter picking.

Cllr A Evans advised of a planned power cut in the Castle Hill area and would look for further details to see how extensive it was.

Cllr F.Parkin entered the meeting at 8.12pm due to being in a previous meeting.

15. Open Forum for Councillors to raise matters to be placed on the next agenda: Members are asked to consider agenda items for the next meeting. The details of the agenda item will be sent to the Clerk by the Thursday (one week) before the published meeting. Late details will cannot guarantee inclusion on the proposed agenda.

None

16. Dates for the year 2021:
Parish Council Meeting -
Thursday 18th March 2021, 7.30pm

The Annual Council Meeting (ACM) will be held once face to face meetings resume. All meetings will be held virtually via Zoom until face to face meetings resume.