

FAWKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

I hereby summon you to attend the Parish Council Meeting of Fawkam Parish Council to be held at Fawkham Village Hall, Valley Road Fawkham to be held on **Thursday 17th October 2019 at 7.30pm. To transact the following business:**

Clerk to the Council.
Lynda Harrison

Members of the Parish Council:

Cllr L Evans (Chair), Cllr Duncan Harker, Cllr A Evans, Cllr Mike Pearsall and Cllr Maxine Fothergill.

Planning Agenda

Planning:

SE/19/0270/HOUSE: West Rays , Valley Road: Erection of a single storey rear extension with two hipped gable roof sections.

SE/19/02668/HOUSE: 6 Small Grains,Fawkham. First Floort extension at rear of house:

SE/19/02748/FUL: Redlibbits Golf Club West Yoke Ash: Installation of glazed infill panels between existing external posts to form new internal spa space at Lower Ground Floor Level and construction of new platform to form new entrance and lobby at Ground Floor Level. Alterations to the fenestrations.

Appeals:

SE/18/03789/FUL:Hillside and the annex of Hillside, Valley Road : demolition of two exisiting dwellings and ercetion of two replacement dwellings with integral garages, parking and landscaping. APP/G2245/W/19/3229444/

Parish Council Meeting
Agenda

1.Apologies for Absence:

2. Members of the Public:

The Councils meetings are open to the public; however only the first half hour is given for Members of the public to partake and raise anything matters. Prior to the full council meeting 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 as the council will be discussing confidential matters.

3. Declarations of Interest:

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

4. Approved Minutes:

To approve as a correct record the MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th Setember 2019, as attached.

5. Matters arising:

Matters arising relating to the minutes.

6. Correspondence:

A.Rembrance Day:

The Church have confirmed that they will carry out a servive on the green at 12 noon on Sunday 10th November, this will be carried out by one of their licensed lay readers Susan Heads . It is planned to do a potted history biographies of the men commerated on the memorial

7. VE 75.

Members are to discuss Cllr A Evans attached paper for the VE day celebrations in May.

8. Village Hall:

FVHMC are passing a resolution at a meeting on 14/11 at 7pm to transfer management of FVH to FPC as Sole Trustee. Members to attend that meeting where possible. FPC to formally resolve to accept that role.

9. Local Plan EIP:

The first two weeks of sessions have now taken place. These focused on the policies within the plan, such as the Strategy for Growth and Green Belt, rather than individual sites. Alun, myself and people from No Hartley Expansion (NHE) attended, between us, at least one of every Hearing Session (some were held AM and PM due to the numbers of participants) and took copies notes, running to 7-8 pages at each session.

Action: I attach NHE's summary of each week which provide an excellent overview of what was discussed. Please take the time to read them as, although they are quite detailed and technical, they will help to bring you up to speed with what is happening. I expect the Local Plan will be a popular topic at Saturday's event.

As you know, FPC requested to participate in three of these hearing sessions. I outline below the comments I made at two of these; Alun was due to participate in the question around the definition of exceptional circumstances but this ran out of time, and is being rearranged. The vast majority of the participants are either QCs/barristers or Planning Consultants, with only 1-3 'lay people' such as councillors or local residents' groups.

A further two weeks of sessions takes place in November, which include the two sites in Fawkham on the 7/11, at which FPC will again be participating. Alun and I will be working on the Hearing Position Statements for these over the next two weeks.

Day 3 - Strategy for Growth

Part of the discussion looked at the Settlement Hierarchy and the proportion of development/sites allocated in the plan at the higher level settlements, ie the four towns of Sevenoaks, Swanley, Edenbridge and Westerham. The residents' group for Halstead and Badgers Mount commented on the number of new homes planned for those villages. I said the following regarding Fawkham:

"The Parish Council believes the focus on the four towns is right. Fawkham is a hamlet in the lowest tier of the settlement hierarchy. Sevenoaks has said it would be unrealistic to expect these settlements to accommodate much new development [ref paragraph 6.6 of ECO 006]. Fawkham has some 221 houses - it is small, it is washed over by the Green Belt. 113 houses are proposed in the Local Plan - 2 site allocations and 1 with existing planning permission. These represent a more than 50% increase in housing, and delivered over the next five years. This should be considered unrealistic."

SDC response was that 5% of all allocations are in hamlets and both Fawkham sites are previously developed land (brownfield).

The Inspector probed SDC further, asking them to address my point of the numbers proposed vs existing, to which SDC responded that Fawkham has a score of 10 in the Settlement Hierarchy "which makes it one of our more sustainable hamlets". I was asked by the Inspector if I wanted to ask anything further: I said I would return to this point at the 7/11 Fawkham specific hearing.

Whilst Fawkham does score 10, many of these points are for items which relate to being an old hamlet (church, school, pub) or are facilities people travel to (Brands Hatch Place, Speedgate, Corinthians). The other points are for the hall, mobile library, 3G pitch, and recycling at Corinthians. In my view, Fawkham is not a sustainable hamlet as there is no public transport, and you can't walk or cycle to any of the facilities unless you live next door due to the lack of footpath and nature of the road (and given Fawkham is a linear village of some 3 miles that's not likely). These points will be made in the Hearing Position Statement Alun and I are drafting; please let us know if you have anything further to add.

Day 5 - Housing Need, Housing Requirement and Distribution

This day focused on numbers and spatial distribution. SDC handed out new documents to show how the distribution related to the Settlement Hierarchy and gave numbers for each settlement. This shows Fawkham with 32 new houses ie GPF. I said the following at the Hearing:

"A point of detail regarding the footnote to the chart regarding ST2-52 which is Fawkham Business Park. The table states the nearest settlement to this is Longfield, which is in Dartford BC area. However, FBP is in Fawkham. Indeed the entry sign for Fawkham is right outside this site. I don't wish to repeat what I said in Day 2, but this is relevant as the two site allocations for the hamlet of Fawkham are disproportionate to its size, at a 28.5% increase. I will return to this at the site specific hearing session that includes Fawkham."

SDC response was that although the site is in the *Parish* of Fawkham, the closest settlement is Longfield as measured by their mapping system.

I then made the point that Fawkham is a linear settlement of some 3 miles along the valley floor. The residents of the houses that surround FBP live in Fawkham, and the FBP is in Fawkham.

Again, this point will be further addressed in the Position Statements being prepared. Key points are that the 221 houses include those either side of the business park (to be checked) and that Fawkham Green is part of Fawkham (as I think that is the point the measurements are made from), and that up until the table was produced, the site was stated as being in Fawkham, including by SDC at the Day 2 hearing. The table also doesn't include the 50 beds at Salts Farm, so this will also be raised. Again, please let us know if you have anything further to add.

10. Village Hall:

FVHMC are passing a resolution at a meeting on 14/11 at 7pm to transfer management of FVH to FPC as Sole Trustee. Members to attend that meeting where possible. FPC to formally resolve to accept that role.

11. Finance: Expenditure and Income: Details to be tabled

12. Christmas Tree and Lights:

Lights - please see the attached paper with options for lights. Members are asked to agree the purchase of 100m of new lights from a range of options at a cost of between £230 and £490, plus the cost of purchase of battery lights up to £40. Installation - Members are asked to agree cost of installation of up to £520 +VAT, based on the quote received from SL Tree Care. Additional quotes were sought from two other tree surgeons, but neither was able to do the work. A second quote is being sought by the Clerk from Kevin Watts.

13. Highways Improvements Plan:

a. Village Gates

Cllrs A Evans and L Evans had a useful meeting with KCC Highways Schemes Project Manager on 4/10/19.

Pleased to report that the location of the southern (Brands Hatch) village gate is now agreed. A Highways approved contractor needs to be used to install the gates and a number will be contacted for quotes. The contractor will need to liaise with KCC Highways over work permit. The contractor will also be asked to remove an existing empty pole at the location.

Gate size: gates are either 1.3m or 1.8m above ground un height, and 1.5m or 2.0m wide. Price varies by size.

Proposal: gate rigid Everwood, wood effect materials in white, with three horizontal slats 1.3m above ground and 1.5m wide - this size needs to be agreed by KCC Highways. Cost including the metal signs provided July 2019 as £944.65+VAT. Up to date quote to be obtained for agreement at November's meeting.

Proposal: approved contractors to be approached and quotes obtained for agreement at November's meeting.

The northern gate (Longfield) is proposed to be sited on private land, for which written permission will now be sought. As such, a local handyman could be used to install this gate, subject to the landowner's agreement, and a quote of £100 has been given for this. The gate may require one leg to be longer than the other, due to the site's slope and this will be investigated with Glasdon, the manufacturers.

Proposal: gate 1.3m high above ground, and 1.5 m wide. Cost including metal signs provided July 2019 as £944.65+VAT. Up to date quote to be obtained. Proposal: the £100 handyman quote is accepted for this work.

A quote for the gates can be obtained direct from the manufacturer, if possible, or via the chosen approved contractor, or through VolkerHighways via Cllr Fothergill. Members to agree the way forward.

Proposal: KCC Highways have agreed that other village signs can be removed, at FPC cost, by the approved contractor. These are:

- i. "Fawkham" on the verge near Fawkham Primary
- ii. Reverse of the "Fawkham Green" sign at the junction of Fawkham Green Rd/BrandsHatch Rd which says "thank you for driving carefully" but is still within the 30mph zone. This message will instead appear on the new sign.
- iii. The front of the "Fawkham Green" sign (see item on Wikipedia).

b. Contact to be made with SDC regarding the road name sign on the village green which says "Fawkham Green" to clarify whether that is, in fact, the road name and whether it can be straightened and/or removed - way forward to be agreed by members. The electoral roll shows XXX house name, Fawkham Green, Fawkham DA3 XXX. The Post Office shows XXX house name, Fawkham Green, Fawkham, Longfield DA£ XXX. So it appears Fawkham Green is indeed the name of the road at this point. (For clarity, Fawkham Green Road is the road heading from the green towards Billet Hill/Battersea Cats and Dogs Home). Action to be agreed.

c. Contact to be made with Fawkham Primary to ascertain how the wig wag flashing signs are operated and whether they are functioning, particularly the one near the village hall. If the wig wags are not working we need to report these using the on line reporting tool at: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem> and this will be assigned to the correct department. Action to be agreed.

d. Please see updated HIP for details of other items. As tabled

e. Chair to attend KCC Highways Parish Seminar on 20/11 and will report back to full Council.

14. Updating Wikipedia

Propose changes are made to correct the entries for Fawkham and Fawkham Green. Members to review proposals contained in a separate paper.

15. Projects and Actions List:

Review progress and provide updates against each item

16. Lorry Watch:

Update to be given by Cllr Laura Evans regarding the results of recent lorry watch sessions

17. Open Session Drop in 12th October:

Following a successful open day, a summary will be given for those not able to attend. The total number of residents who attended was 31

18. Future projects and consideration

Quiz night
Historian Evening
Walks through the seasons

19. Dog Bin:

The new post has been ordered and should arrive this week. The handyman is ready to install the post as soon as it arrives.

20. Website:

Members agreed to discuss further the Parish Website and its contents. This item was to be kept on the agenda.

21. Village Hall Kitchen project

Members are asked to consider a specification for the refurbishment to be tabled by Cllr Fothergill to Members for the village hall kitchen using CIL and grant monies, Members to agree on contractors to contact for quotes

22. Floral Fawkham - Bulbs around the village:

Bulbs have been bought and some have already been planted in various locations in the village.

23. 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 not guarantee inclusion on the proposed agenda.

24. Proposed dates for the Year to be agreed for 2019/20

Village Hall Management Committee Meeting Thursday 14th November 2019

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 21st November 2019

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 19th December 2019

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 16th January 2020

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 20th February 2020

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 19th March 2020

Annual Parish Council Meeting Thursday 16th April 2020

AGM village Hall - TBC

Fire safety in the Village Hall

The village hall does not have a fire alarm system, in the event of a fire or other hazard requiring rapid exit of the building please use either the main entrance or one of the emergency exits. The emergency exits are located at the end of the main Hall nearest to Valley Road end (furthest from the main entrance) and in the kitchen at the rear/left of the building. Please make your way to the far side of the village Hall car park, furthest away from the building. The Clerk will advise if and when it is safe to return to the building.