



FAWKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Fawkham Village Hall on Thursday 15th December 2022 at 7:30pm to transact the following business.

Grace Champion
Clerk to Fawkham Parish Council

Members of the Parish Council:

Cllr Laura Evans (Chair), Cllr Maxine Fothergill, Cllr Will Johnstone, Cllr James Cherry, Cllr Laura Marchant

AGENDA

The meeting opened at 19:40.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Fothergill (holiday) and Cllr Cherry (family commitment).

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.

Noted: Cllr L Evans declared a pecuniary interest in repayments for FPC expenditure awaiting approval.

Noted: Cllr L Evans declared an interest in a planning matter being discussed due to it being a neighbouring property.

3. Public Session

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.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2022.

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

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

Noted: Baldwin's Green – FPC had not received any further update from KCC Cllr D Brazier on the brick pathway.

Noted: Brandshatch Floodlights –Cllr L Evans reminded the PC that photos need to be taken where possible so they can be sent on.

Noted: FPC salt bins. It was agreed that the Clerk would chase KCC to see when the salt/grit would be delivered. Cllr Johnstone and Cllr Cherry to empty/break up waterlogged bins and empty this salt into the bins once delivered. It was agreed that the Clerk would email the headteacher of Fawkham Primary School to request if they are able to grit the path from the village hall to the school when required using the salt from the salt bins in FVH car park. FPC had contacted KCC following the

recent icy weather regarding additional gritting and salt bins. Our KCC Cllr has offered to fund an additional salt bin and the meeting discussed the best place for this to be sited. KCC has advised they will consider gritting the further lanes highlighted to them; Castle Hill was gritted as an additional route this week.

Noted: HIP. No response has been received from KCC following submission.

Noted: Small Grains. The Chair informed the PC that a response had been received from SDC, following Dst Cllr Lynda Harrison also chasing for a response, advising that no decision has been made for the use of this land and that the PC's suggestions regarding grass cutting and car parking had been forwarded to Direct Services. All were in agreement that this was extremely frustrating as no movement had been made on this since initially asking SDC in February 2021.

6. Planning Applications:

To agree the Parish Council's responses to the following planning applications:

SE/22/03126/LDCPR : Carters Cottage Valley Road Fawkham, Kent, DA3 8NL

Proposed outbuilding containing gym, pool-house and workshop, with an outdoor pool and associated servicing/ancillary areas and landscaping.

Consultation expiry date: decision made via delegated authority to the Clerk

Resolved: Decision made via delegated authority to the Clerk on 30 November 2022.

22/03228/HOUSE : Fawkham Hall Scudders Farm Valley Road Fawkham Longfield Kent

Demolition of existing single storey side extension and infill and erection of:

(1) two-storey side extension; (2) infilling of existing front porch with replacement glazed roof; (3) infill single storey rear extension to provide separate bedroom to annexe outbuilding

Consultation expiry date: 20 December 2022

Resolved: It was proposed by the Chair for this application to be resolved via delegated authority to the Clerk due to the Chair having an interest in this application as it is a neighbouring property, and her leaving the meeting would make it inquorate. This was seconded by Cllr L Marchant and agreed by all. Clerk to email all other councillors for their input on this application.

22/02599/FUL : Land North West Of Horton Wood Canada Farm Road South Darent Kent

Installation of a solar park to export up to 49.9MW (AC) electricity, including solar panels, inverter cabins, associated infrastructure and associated hard landscaping.

Consultation expiry date: 28 December 2022

Resolved: It was noted that FPC changed their stance to no objection in relation to the updated application and informed SDC of this change on 2 December 2022. The Clerk informed the PC that Wessex Solar had emailed querying if FPC would like to sign the legal document relating to community funding prior to SDC's decision and it was proposed through the Chair that this be signed following SDC's decision on the application, seconded by Cllr L Marchant, and agreed by all.

22/00365/LDCEX : Woodlands Park Three Gates Road Fawkham Longfield Kent DA3 8NZ

Confirmation of the use of a dwelling.

Consultation expiry date: 28 December 2022

Resolved: A brief summary was given by the Chair of the updates to the application. It was agreed by all that FPC would reiterate their previous comments and stance of objecting to this application.

22/01464/FUL : Eureka Manor Lane Fawkham Longfield Kent DA3 8ND

Cessation of the existing use, clearance of the existing built development and the erection of 3no. detached dwellings with enhancements to the landscape and ancient

woodland. Associated parking and landscaping. *Ancient woodland assessment now provided.*

Consultation expiry date: 30 December 2022

Resolved: Following a short discussion, it was agreed that FPC would not comment further on this application.

SE/22/03323/DETAIL : Hatchfield Lodge Valley Road Fawkham, Kent DA3 8PB

Details pursuant to condition 2 (damp proof course) of 22/02284/FUL

Consultation expiry date: *Not currently available*

Resolved: The application was discussed and it was proposed through the Chair, seconded by Cllr L Marchant, and agreed by all that FPC would object to this application due to the level of lighting proposed being inappropriate and excessive for this location. All were in agreement that the current lighting proposals appear to be contrary to Policy EN6 of the ADMP, specifically point (e) regarding the potential impacts on wildlife given the open countryside location and nearby Ancient Woodland and point (f) as the number of lights proposed in this open countryside location seems excessive rather than essential for safety or security reasons.

7. Planning Decisions:

To note planning decisions received from Sevenoaks District Council:

22/01550/MMA : Salts Farm Depot Fawkham Road Fawkham

Amendment to 20/00882/OUT for the erection of 26 dwellings with some matters reserved (allowed at Appeal APP/G2245/W/20/3260956) with revised ecological management plan and strategy.

GRANTED

Noted: The Clerk also informed the PC that the following application decision had also now been received:

22/02876/LDCEX : Canada Farm Kennels Canada Farm Road South Darent

Composite use of land comprising residential, cattery and kennels (sui generis) **REFUSED**

8. Finance Approval

Expenditure and Income - details to be tabled. Approval of cheques and payments.

Date	Payee/For	Amount
15/12/22	SDC Dog Waste Collection (Jul - Sept)	£28.08
15/12/22	Clerk Salary - G. Champion	£408.98
15/12/22	HMRC Tax & NI payment	£102.20
15/12/22	Repayment L. Evans Defib battery	£256.80
15/12/22	RH ground maintenance November	£150.00
15/12/22	Repayment L. Evans Christmas selection boxes	£31.00
	Total	£977.06

Resolved: It was agreed to approve the payments listed in the schedule above.

9. Budget for 2023/24

Update.

Noted: The budget was discussed briefly and it was noted that a final update would be provided in January. The following would be looked into by the Clerk to add to the misc/repairs budget for discussion at the next meeting: solar motion sensor pathway lights for school path, additional salt at the value of £100, quotes for visual inspection of trees on the village green, cutting back the Christmas tree by tidying up the lower part of the tree and one more training session.

10. CIL

- Update on ideas and costs for potential projects, including hall heating, hall curtains and parish signs.

Noted: It was agreed that the Clerk would look into recommended heating options for the kitchen in the village hall and if possible for these to have a timer option so it is only used when necessary. The Chair also gave a brief overview of quotes she had received for new village signs.

- **Proposal:** agreement of CIL report for April 2021 to March 2022.

Resolved: It was proposed through the Chair that the CIL report be approved and published on FPC's website, seconded by Cllr L Marchant. Clerk to add to website and inform the CIL team of this.

Noted: The Clerk had to leave the meeting at 20:35 due to a family emergency. Cllr L Marchant agreed to minute take for the remaining duration of the meeting.

11. Defib Battery Replacement

Update.

Noted: Clerk to contact Cllr Cherry to check this has been replaced.

12. Local Plan

Update: timescale for and scope of FPC's response to SDC's Reg 18 consultation.

Noted: The draft response from the Planning Consultant to the Local Plan Policies is awaited; the Chair is drafting responses to various Evidence Base documents; these will be discussed and agreed at the meeting on 5th January. The Local Housing Needs Study for Fawkham, which was missing from SDC's Evidence Base, has now been added.

13. Neighbourhood Plan

Proposal: to write to Halstead PC to commend them on their Ancient Woodland study and to share information with them regarding the hedgerows study undertaken as part of Fawkham's Neighbourhood Plan.

Noted: It was agreed to write to Halstead PC

Small Grains amenity area - update on response awaited from SDC.

Noted: see Matters Arising above.

Noted: The next Steering Group meeting is in early February.

14. Community Events:

- Feedback on Christmas tree lights and time capsule event.

Noted: A good number of residents and children attended the burial of the time capsule and switch on of the lights. Thanks to the Rising Sun for mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. The remaining chocolate packs were taken to the Community Cupboard by the Chair.

- His Majesty The King's Coronation – further discussion and ideas of how to mark this occasion.

Noted: Initial feedback from residents suggests support for a similar event to the Jubilee celebration. Cllr Marchant and the Clerk will seek further feedback, including via a Facebook post/poll, and further planning will be undertaken at the next meeting.

- AED training at village hall – potential dates for session.

Noted: this item not discussed in the absence of the Clerk. Clerk to circulate information by email, and Cllr Marchant to advise of details of people who expressed interest in this training prior to the Covid-related postponement of it.

15. Fawkham Water Pumping Station:

Proposal: to contact South East Water to ascertain whether the internal lights at the pumping station, which are on 24/7 although the station is understood to be unmanned, can be switched off when the building is not manned.

Resolved: Agreed, and noted that it is Southern Water, not South East Water, which operates this site. Clerk to action.

16. Chair and Councillors reports:

To note any items not listed on the agenda.

Noted: Cllr Johnstone will be reading a lesson on behalf of FPC at the Carol Service this year.

Noted: Road name signs - SDC has advised missing signs will be replaced but that the damaged signs do not meet their criteria for replacement as they are legible and not dangerous. FPC will monitor their condition. A post to Facebook and Website will be made regarding this.

Noted: Brands Hatch Firework - a post by a resident was made to Facebook regarding the sound levels of this year's display, with some residents finding it excessive. The resident contacted DCllr Harrison about this, who in turn contacted Brands Hatch, and the response was posted to Facebook.

17. 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 cannot guarantee inclusion on the proposed agenda.

Noted: Agreement of budget and precept for 2023/24

18. Date of Next Meeting:

To note the next Parish Council meeting is being held on **Thursday 5th January 2023** at **Fawkham Village Hall**.

19. Confidential Item - Planning/ Planning Enforcement:

Proposal: to review, update and agree actions for cases.

Resolved: A numbers of items were discussed and actions agreed.

The meeting closed at 21:32.