

FALFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 15th March 2011 at 7.30 pm at Falfield Village Hall

The 100 Club Draw took place at the start of the meeting.

Present

Parish Councillors: Mr P. Mair(Chairman), Mr A. Knight (Vice Chairman), Miss E. Jarvis, Mr C. Williams and Mr M. Pirie, Mr K. Fryer. **Clerk:** Mrs D. Bramley.

Public: Ward Councillor Sandra O'Neill, 7 Parishioners (An additional parishioner arrived at 8.45 pm).

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from: Cllr J. Whitney and PCSO Dawn Golding.

00155/11 To Approve Minutes of Last Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Fryer and seconded by Cllr Knight and **resolved** unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2011 be signed as a correct record.

00156/11 To Receive Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda

None

00157/11 Public Forum

00157.1/11 Report from PCSO Golding

The Clerk read the report below from PCSO Golding to the councillors.

Unfortunately myself and Natalie will not be available to attend the meeting this time.

There has not really been anything reported to us over the last few months, which is a good thing really.

The only thing that has been brought to our attention is speeding in Sundayhill Lane. A survey was carried out to see how bad the speeding was, but as the road was covered in ice and snow for part of this time the results were sufficiently affected.

South Gloucestershire Council have informed us that they intend to carry out another survey in April 2011.

Myself and Natalie will patrol the area and monitor the situation.

00157.2/11 'What does the Parish Council wish to Achieve for 2011'

This subject brought about a lengthy debate, the highlights of which are summarised below:

Cllr Mair stated that the Parish Council wished to keep the precept down and to protect and preserve the parish. The parish council has no specific spending agenda for 2011 except for the donations highlighted in the 2011/2012 budget. The achievements of the Parish Council are reported at the annual Parish Council meeting and this year included tree and bulb planting and clearing the bus shelters where past years included the traffic lights. The Parish Council does have a small amount of unearmarked funds and are open to suggestions made by parishioners.

The Councillors were asked what they were doing for the Royal Wedding and subsequently the Queens Diamond Jubilee in 2012. The council has not planned anything for the wedding but were open to suggestions. Ward Cllr O' Neill advised that another parish was circulating a flyer inviting everyone to bring a plate of food to a picnic at a specified place where tables and chairs would be provided. Unfortunately they did not know how many people would be attending. She also stated that it was not the Parish Council's role to organise events. The Parish Council will not be organising anything for the Royal Wedding next month but would be asking for suggestions for the Queens Diamond Jubilee in 2012.

Councillors were asked what they were doing for the community and that a picnic on the village green several years ago was very enjoyable. Councillors stated that they were trying not to ask for additional funds via the precept. Unearmarked funds are held for unexpected expenditure e.g. solicitors cost and there is money set aside for an election although it will be double this amount. Any grants that the Parish Council gives are usually decided at the meeting in November and this year they are coming out of the unearmarked funds. When asked if the Parish Council would do something with other local organisations e.g. Village Hall they stated they were willing to look at any suggestions put forward. They also stated that they had given grants to the Falfield Scouts, Brownies, Razzle and Benefice Office.

The Village Appraisal that was completed in the late 1990's was mentioned and how this led to the purchase of the village green. Parishioners at the meeting thought it may be the time to redo this exercise.

When asked if they had considered organising a Spring Clean as other parishes are doing this year councillors stated that they had looked at it in the past and an event had not been organised due to

insurance. Councillors were not able to say how other Parish Councils were able to obtain insurance for such events.

A parishioner stated that the Village Hall Management Committee had received a grant from South Gloucestershire and they had commented about the fact that the village hall had not received support from the Parish Council. The village hall committee had sent a letter requesting a grant from the council but had received no response. The Parish Council stated that it was the first time that they had heard about the comment from South Gloucestershire Council and that the village hall chairman had spoken at a previous meeting due to an article in the Gazette stating that repairs would cost £40K. He stated that the article was incorrect and the total cost of the repairs was unknown. Financial support was not requested at that time.

After being asked to the Clerk restated the following to clarify the contents of the minutes taken regarding these points:

That Jane Hathway, a parishioner had asked councillors if they would be prepared to help organise an event. The Parish Councillors stated they would not be prepared to help organise an event but Cllr Jarvis stated she would assist with delivering flyers.

That Mrs Mountford stated that she was unhappy with the conduct of the councillors at this meeting as a result of a comment regarding parishioner's attendance at the Parish Council meetings and that a number here tonight had not attended previously

It was concluded that the following would be logged for the incoming councillors after the elections in May.

The Parish Council would consider circulating a survey in the future possibly similar to a village appraisal

The Parish Council would ask the parish for suggestions regarding the Queens Diamond Jubilee in 2012, possibly via the 5 Alive Magazine. **Action: Clerk**

00158/11 Financial Matters

00158.1/11 To Note Payments Received for 2010/2011

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|---|---------|
| National Savings and Investments Account Interest | £ 14.70 |
| Village Hall Trust Deed Rental Payment | £ 10.00 |

00158.2/11 To Approve Payments for 2010/2011

It was proposed by Cllr Mair, seconded by Cllr Jarvis and **resolved** unanimously to approve the following payments.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Mrs D Bramley - Clerks Salary & Office Expenses | £ 872.00 |
| Village Hall 2011 Rental | £ 108.00 |
| ALCA Subscription – to be paid when the invoice is received | £ TBC |

00158.3/11 To Note the Account Balances

The following balances were noted.

NatWest Account: £ 1980.74. It will decrease to £ 1000.74 when the first 2 payments clear.

The ALCA payment will be approximately £100.00 and the notice board payment will be £204.

National Savings and Investments Account (NS & I): £6790.70, this includes the January interest payment

00158.4/11 To Discuss Donation Request from 1st Falfield Scouts for a Lawn Mower

The 1st Falfield Scouts have requested a donation towards a mulching lawn mower that will cost in the region of £300. It was unanimously **agreed** to discuss this at the meeting after the upcoming elections in May.

00159/11 Planning Matters

To Note the following notifications and applications that have been received and dealt with since the last meeting.

00159.1/11 Application PT11/0603/EXT Sundayhills House, Sundayhills Lane

Change of use of existing garage and stable block to facilitate residential annex, (Consent to extend time limit implementation for PT08/0260/F). **This application has been Withdrawn**

00159.2/11 Application PT11/0475/CLE Spring Barn, Home Farm House

Certificate of Lawfulness for the building works to form dwelling. **Council Response: No Comment**

00159.3/11 Permit PT10/3418/RVC Ambulance Station, Charfield Road

Variation of Condition 1 attached to planning permission PT10/1470/F - extend the time limit to 9th Feb 2012

00159.4/11 Permit with Conditions PT10/3362/F Pool Farmhouse, Gloucester Road

Conversion of barns to form 2 dwellings with garages and associated works. (Resubmission of PT10/2364/F) (*Agenda Reference: Agenda Dated 9th March 2011, Item 6.4*)

Cllr Williams gave an overview of the history of the planning applications for the site including the road safety aspects. (Agenda Reference: Agenda Dated 9th March 2011 Item 6.4)

The following **resolution** was proposed by Cllr. Williams, seconded by Cllr. Pirie and carried **unanimously**:

- a. that Falfield Parish Council records a vote of no confidence in South Gloucestershire Council regarding this subject.
- b. that a formal letter of complaint is sent to South Gloucestershire Council informing them of Falfield parish Councils vote of no confidence and encapsulating the reasons for this resolution.
- c. that copies of this letter should be sent to:
 - i. to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government
 - ii. the Deputy Prime Minister
 - iii. Member of Parliament for Thornbury and Yate

Action: Cllr Williams and Cllr Mair

00159.5/11 Lawfull PT10/3350/CLE Spring Barn, Home Farm House
Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of the stationing of a shipping container and lorry body.

00159.6/11 Lawfull PT10/3349/CLE Spring Barn, Home Farm House
Certificate of Lawfulness for an existing garden shed

00159.7/11 Permit with Conditions PT10/2962/F Land in Front of 1 – 14 Orchard View
Construction of 5no. parking bays, tarmac spur road and stone access track.

00159.8/11 Permit with Conditions PT10/2883/F Parking Area, Sundayhills Lane
*Erection of single storey rear extension to facilitate the conversion of storage building to residential dwelling with associated works. **Amendment Received:** to Remove dormer windows in front elevation.*

00160/11 Highway Matters

00160.1/11 Potholes

There are a number of potholes in the parish that are getting worse. Cllr Mair stated that there are large potholes from Country Wide going to the A38. Ward Cllr O' Neill stated the Streetcare are working on repairing the potholes and if any of the pot holes are dangerous she will push to have them filled quickly.

00161/11 Localism Bill

A Plain English Guide to the Localism Bill was emailed to Councillors after the last meeting. Ward Cllr O' Neill stated that the bill is still in the early stages and will develop with some aspects of it coming into force in 2012 whilst the rest following in 2015. When the bill evolves Town and Parish Councils will be involved.

00162/11 To Decide if Establishing a Play Area is to be revisited

Cllr's stated that establishing a play area in Falfield had been looked at several times in the past. The issues included road safety, maintenance costs, insurance costs, repair costs, safety checks and where would it go. Grants may be able to be obtained to purchase and install the equipment and previously South Gloucestershire Council were prepared to fund the equipment but not the on going costs which would therefore increase the Parish Council's precept.

Ward Cllr O' Neill stated that the play area in Charfield is regularly vandalised and that having a play area is a commitment undertaken by the Parish Council as every week two councillors have to perform a safety check of the area and record their findings.

It was proposed by Cllr Mair and seconded by Cllr Williams and **resolved** to defer this item until after the upcoming elections.

Action: Clerk

00163/11 To Receive Reports from Councillors

00163.1/11 Development Control Committee (West) Planning Meeting 17th February 2011

Cllr Mair attended the Development control Committee (West) Meeting and has emailed his minutes of the meeting to the other councillors.

00163.2/11 New Earth Solution Composting Plant in Falfield Update

Cllr Fryer emailed an article from The Gazette on the 18th February 2011 to councillors. The article included the following regarding the possibility of a composting plant in Falfield.

"At the time of the Hallen consent the company was also exploring the possibility of building a similar plant at Heneage Farm, Moorslade Lane, Falfield, but the company has since decided not to proceed with this project."

00164/11 To Receive Clerks Report

00164.1/11 Asset Repairs

Bus Shelters: They have been added onto the Streetcare maintenance schedule to be sprayed around the end of March. They will inform me once it has been completed.

The Clerk will ask if they could be sprayed regularly although Ward Cllr O' Neill stated that due to the upcoming elections we may have to ask again for them to be put on the maintenance schedule.

Action: Clerk

Notice board: The notice board has been rebuilt and has been made in oak at a cost of £204. It will therefore need a new Falfield Parish Council sign. I am waiting to hear when it will be replaced.

The Clerk will cost a Falfield Parish Council sign for the notice board.

Action: Clerk

Jubilee Bench: This will be replaced when the notice board is returned.

00164.2/11 Tree Survey – Sundayhills Lane and Scout Hut Area

The survey that was conducted was as a result of the Orchard View Planning application and I have been informed that there was a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on the trees on the south side of the Sundayhills Lane between Falfield Lodge and the Scout Hut including the land the Scout Hut is on but this has now lapsed.

Ward Cllr O'Neill has obtained a TPO map for Eastwood Park which I can email to those who are interested.

Ward Cllr O' Neill will contact the Tree Officer at South Gloucestershire Council with the view to obtain a TPO for the trees in and around Sundayhills Lane. Cllr Mair agreed to liaise with Mr Smith and mark on a map any relevant trees that can be passed to Ward Cllr O'Neill.

Action: Cllr Mair

00164.3/11 BT Red Phone Box Adoption Scheme

I have contacted the person handling the Red Box adoption scheme and the answers to the questions I asked are as follows:

What does the adoption scheme involve and who owns the red box?

Adoption transfers the ownership of the red telephone box to the Parish

What will happen if they do not take up the offer? It did mention future removal plans in a previous email but would it just be left to deteriorate as it currently has 'greenery' growing over it?

The consultation process to remove telephone service has already been completed without objection.

Year on year BT Payphones is obliged to commercially review the service provided and where it is used.

Originally we would cease the telephone service and the telephone box together. Over the years various Parish Councils lodged great interest in retaining the Sir Giles Gilbert Scott designed red telephone box, an icon of the of traditional British countryside. BT Payphones is now able to remove telephony and transfer ownership to the local community under the Adopt programme.

Does it have to be the Parish Council who adopt the box?

Recognised authorities are able to adopt the telephone box, that is Parish, Town councils and private landowners where the telephone box is situated on their land.

The power costs are currently paid for by BT but this will change in the future. What are the approximate annual power costs for the box?

I am not able to give an exact figure for power costs as they are individual to each regional power company. BT Payphones pay annual costs on each connection throughout the country

I have been contacted to see if we wish to go ahead and adopt the Red Box.

It was proposed by Cllr Pirie, seconded by Cllr Williams and **resolved** not to adopt the Red Box.

Action: Clerk

00164.4/11 Small Notice board Update

Cllr Pirie stated that he is waiting for Mr Davenport to collect the small notice board.

00165/11 Correspondence (*Italics – available by email*)

If councillors would like to view/borrow any item please ask the Clerk

Respond to:

South Gloucestershire Council: Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment Report - Request for Flood Event Data

The Clerk asked all those present at the meeting if they knew of any areas that flooded in the parish. It was stated that Sundayhills Lane and Moorslade Lane still flood. Mr Carpenter will contact the Clerk with details of another possible area. Clerk to relay information to South Gloucestershire Council contact. **Action: Clerk**

Request from Trace Hindle – She would like to come to a Parish Council meeting to discuss and promote the models of Youth Work delivery they will be using. They will be in Falfield every 4 weeks in the Urbie bus – more details to follow.

It was **agreed** to invite Trace Hindle to the Annual Parish Meeting on 17th May 2011.

Action: Clerk

For Information:

Trading Standards Notification about Bogus Clothing Collections

Event - Engaging with Vulnerable and Isolated People Living in Rural Areas on 30th March at Greenfields Centre, Winterbourne 10.30 – 3.00.

South Gloucestershire Core Strategy - Supporting Documentation - www.southglos.gov.uk/corestrategy

Policing Update – Keeping You In Touch – Thornbury

Consultation On Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance Document – Replacement Shop Fronts and Advertisements – Sent to Emma Jarvis

Revisions to South Gloucestershire list of Listed Buildings – None in Falfield

Change in First Bus Service 311 – Links with 309 and 310 Services

ALCA – Summary of ALCA Management Team Meeting

ALCA Newsletter – February 2011

CVS South Gloucestershire e-bulletin including Children and Young Persons – February & March 2011

NALC guidance materials for local councils – ‘Continuing Effective Engagement for Town and Parish Councils’

http://www.nalc.gov.uk/Publications/Booklets_and_Resources.aspx

Holding Street Parties – A Quick Reference Guide

SLCC Branch Newsletter + AGM Minutes

Minutes of the Charfield, Cromhall & Tortworth Safer Stronger Community Group

https://groups.southglos.gov.uk/connect.ti/charfieldssg/browseFolder?FID=2296848&SM_DOCS=2&done=DOCCreated

South Gloucestershire LINK e bulletin – February and March 2011

Rural and Parish Matters Newsletter – Spring 2011 Issue 13

Skills, Worklessness and Employment Bulletin – February and March 2011

South Gloucestershire Deaf Association Newsletter March 2011 Issue 41

North Bristol NHS Trust - Your Hospital - Spring 2011 (Email Version available)

Clerks and Councils Direct March 2011

SLCC - The Clerk – March 2011

South Gloucestershire News Spring 2011

00166/11 Matters for Further Discussion / Information

Election Nomination Packs are available online and have to be returned by Noon on the 4th April.

<http://www.southglos.gov.uk/NR/exeres/68dcae68-baaa-49e7-82dd-2400641a499b>

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 17th May 2011

This concluded the business of the meeting, which closed at 9.20 pm.