

## **Minutes of the Meeting of Froxfield & Privett Parish Council held at Froxfield Village Hall on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7.30pm**

Present: John Ellis (Chairman), Richard Moss, David Rymer, Philip Madgwick, Dave Redding, Cllr Clarke and Cllr Drew. In attendance: Helen Marsh the Clerk and 8 members of the public.

**1.9.16 Apologies for absence** Apologies were received from Peter Doyle and Tim Passingham

### **2.9.16 Comments from the public or press**

Jane Soul took some 10 minutes to complain about the councillors and villagers.

Molly Butters described the Field Farm Project and the Outdoor Learning Centre which provides schools with outdoor after school clubs. She made a request to be able to use a small section of the recreation ground for an after school club for pupils of Froxfield School. The item will be put on the agenda for discussion at the January meeting.

Ian Payne on behalf of the cricket club asked for the payment be made towards the grass cutting of the cricket pitch and surrounding areas, although he was fully aware that there had been some issues with the this. It had been the intention of the council to arrange a meeting between all the groups involved with the recreation ground and village hall but a mutually convenient time had proved difficult to agree. To be discussed under item 11. Ian also mentioned littering and dog fouling on the recreation ground.

Brenda King brought up the issue of the extremely slow broadband speed. Cllr Redding explained that he would be reporting back in January after his trial was completed.

Kate Allen also reported the slow to non-existent broadband speed. Cllr Drew recommended contacting the district and county council. Cllr Clarke said it was possible to arrange a meeting with Glenn Peacey, BT and representatives of the village and the parish council. A meeting will be arranged.

Richard Goodall told the council that the Barnet Side planning application had been turned down and it was their intention to appeal. He asked the council if they would be in a position to support the application at appeal. Cllr Rymer asked if the application had been turned down on policy. One of the reasons given had been on loss of employment. To be discussed further under item 10c.

**3.9.16 Approval of the minutes** The minutes of the meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016 were agreed and signed.

**4.9.16 Matters Arising** – there were no matters arising

**5.9.16 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest** Cllr Ellis declared an interest in 10b

**6.9.16 Bonfire and Fireworks** to be deferred until January

### **7.9.16 Report from District Councillor** Cllr Drew said

- 1) The Leafing Program, previously distributed, did not include one road in his ward. He urged the councillors to suggest roads to be included that could become dangerous if the leaves are not removed.
- 2) The EHDC enforcement team has been under revue and is being reviewed again in late December.
- 3) The litter police should be called out to problem areas as they are for the benefit of the rural communities as much as for the towns.
- 4) A grant request had been received from Rev Joanna Farrell
- 5) The Soalwood Lane application had been rejected
- 6) Following the SDNP review there will not be any traveller sites in the parish.
- 7) Fly-tipping is on the increase and he urged people to report all fly-tipping to the council

### **8.9.16 Report from County Councillor** Cllr Clarke made these points

- 1) Unemployment rate continues to move downwards.
- 2) The change of hours for the household waste recycling centres is being delayed due to a legal challenge

- 3) There is a real problem with fridges at recycling centres.
- 4) Ian Janes is conducting a survey with the intention to drop the speed limit to 30mph on Stoner Hill. The parish councillors felt that this was not a good use of county money.

**9.9.16 Hedge Cutting Letters** A list of overgrown hedges was given to the clerk for her to write letters to the owners.

#### **10.9.16 Planning**

- a) **SDNP/16/05391/LIS Trees Newcut Rapley Lane** – Internal and external alterations NO OBJECTION
- b) **SDNP/16/05506/FUL Hurst Farm House, Hurst Lane** - Change of use from storage to two bedroomed self contained annex to main house. NO OBJECTION
- c) **Barnet Side Farm** After some discussion on the preference for more smaller houses versus the negative effect of additional vehicles joining the C18 on this dangerous stretch of road, the council resolved to support this appeal at the appropriate time.
- d) **Planning Policy** Cllr Rymer's finished draft was distributed before the meeting. The councillors are invited to make comments prior to the document being finalised then signed at the next meeting.
- e) **Report on Meeting with EHDC of 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016.** Attended by Cllrs John Ellis, Peter Doyle and David Rymer. 5 issues were discussed. It was difficult to understand the decision regarding land next to Hurst Farm as a mobile shelter that is too large to be moved without dismantling it, hasn't been moved for over a year and is sited on concrete doesn't give the impression of being mobile.

#### **11.9.16 Report on Playground/ Recreation Ground**

- a) **Playground works and issues update** Cllr Ellis asked Cllr Moss to ensure he would replace the bark in the play area before Christmas.
- b) **To receive weekly playground inspection copies** the playground inspections had been carried out each week. These would be copied into the new book and delivered to the clerk.
- c) **Cricket Club Grass Cutting** The councillors agreed to make a payment £250.

#### **12.9.16 BOAT Updates**

- a) **Green Lane** A letter was received stating that Green Lane was again impassable along the repaired stretch due to 4x4s. The councillors did not agree with this. Photographs taken last weekend showed the repaired sections looking in perfect condition but other craters still to be repaired were full of water. Cllr Rymer to draft an email to Elliot Rowe to request some TROs on the worst affected by-ways.
- b) **Ridge Top Lane** Chris Budd is expected to be able to complete the works before Christmas.

#### **13.9.16 Road Issues**

- a) **Hedge Cutting Radian** A radian representative refused to cut back the hedge at the entrance to High Cross although it was obstructing site lines and the hedge was overhanging the verge.
- b) **Road Surface Issues** Cllr Madgwick said that the repairs done to High Cross Lane by Hampshire Highways were unsatisfactory and a waste of public money.

#### **14.9.16 Finances**

- a) **Financial Statement including agreeing and signing cheques** Cheque numbers 300462–3004657 were agreed and signed.
- b) **Budget 2017/18** The draft budget was distributed for further discussion at the next meeting.
- c) **Charity Aid Cheque** the clerk explained the difficulties she had had with the Charity Aid Foundation. Cllr Redding suggested donating the money to the village hall charity. This was agreed.

**15.9.16 Correspondence** No further correspondence

**16.9.16 Lengthsman** The road signs had been cleaned by the lengthsman

**17.9.16 Future Agenda Items** No additional agenda items

**18.9.16** A resolution was passed in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act to exclude the public and press to discuss a legal matter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15pm.

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