



FELBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month (except January and August)
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held online on 3rd December 2020 at 7.30 pm

As permitted by the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 No.392, the meeting of Felbridge Parish Council which took place on 3rd December at 7.30pm was held online.

Present:

Cllr. Georgina Chapman (Chairman)

Cllr. Bridget Huntington

Cllr. Jo King

County Councillor Lesley Steeds (attended part of the meeting)

Mrs. Patricia Slatter (in attendance)

Cllr. Jeremy Clarke

Cllr. Ian McBryde (Vice Chairman)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Joan Harwood

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No additions to those already registered.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th November 2020 were approved and signed.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Nothing new to report

5. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

(i) **Grass Cutting**: Complete until March 2021.

(ii) **Bus Shelter**: Broken panel has been replaced.

(iii) **Pavement Clearance**: Completed w/c 9th November.

(iv) **Verges at Ward Farm**: The proposal for wild flower seeding will be progressed once the agreement for verge maintenance has been agreed with SCC. **Action**: Clerk to monitor.

6. FINANCE

(i) Receipts and Payments for November 2020

Date	To / From	Description	Amount	Current Account	Deposit Account
1 Nov		Brought Forward		£27235.19	£25035.55
		Receipts		0.00	
		Sub-Total			
		Payments			
5 Nov	Brian Wright	Bus Shelter Cleaning	£45.00	-£45.00	
5 Nov	Nick Dance	Grass Cutting	£468.00	-£468.00	
5 Nov	Clerk	Payroll October	£951.14	-£951.14	
5 Nov	Clerk	Office Expenses	£39.39	-£39.39	
9 Nov	NEST	Pension Contribution	£187.25	-£187.25	
		Sub-Total	£1690.78	-£1690.78	
		Transfers	Nil		
		Carried Forward		£25544.41	£25,035.55
		Less Unbanked Transactions		0.00	
		Bank Balances including unbanked transactions		£25544.41	£25,035.55
30 Nov	Available Funds - Current a/c plus Deposit a/c excluding unbanked transactions			£50579.96	
30 Nov	Allocated Reserves (traffic calming £2k, bus shelter £6k, playground £15k, skateboard ramp £2k, grass cutting £1k)			-£26000.00	
30 Nov	General Reserve (Available Funds minus Allocated Reserves)			£24579.96	
Current Account Bank statement was circulated to councillors on 2 nd December 2020 along with the above record of receipts and payments for transparency and confirmation of accuracy					

(ii) External Audit

Completion certificate has been issued with no issues raised

(iii) Appointment of Internal Auditor

The Clerk proposed retaining Peter Frost as Internal Auditor for the financial year 2020-2021.

Resolved: Councillors approved the appointment and suggested that a new auditor be appointed for the following financial year.

(iv) Approval of Budget for 2021-2022

Approved: Councillors agreed the proposed budget for the next financial year which forecast an increase in costs of £1000

(v) Precept Level for 202102022

Approved: Councillors agreed not to increase the precept amount for the next financial year and will instead meet any shortfall from reserves. The annual precept will remain at £24000 which is the lowest in the Lingfield Division.

(vi) Grass Cutting Contact

Councillors considered the draft contract prepared by Surrey Highways which will allow Felbridge Parish Council to take control of grass cutting and receive a payment towards the total cost.

Resolved: It was agreed that although not within the Felbridge boundary, the Newchapel roundabout and verges could be included in the contract (with the approval of Horne Parish Council).

Action: Clerk to progress with Surrey Highways.

(vii) Proposal for Outdoor Table Tennis Table

Awaiting third quote to cover the cost of the table, base, delivery and installation. **Action:** Clerk to monitor.

7. **COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE:**

County

Councillor Steeds reported that Surrey County Council's proposal for a Unitary Authority had been shelved indefinitely. The precept would rise again to fund the care budget. The sale of the SCC property in Kingston was progressing and agreement had been reached on a new location in Reigate.

District

A second interim Chief Executive has been appointed and it was anticipated that interviews to fill the role permanently would take place soon. There are significant delays in the Planning Department processing applications and taking action on other matters. The Chairman put on record concerns regarding the situation at Tandridge District Council and the effect on the service being received by residents.

8. **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS/UPDATES**

- (i) Fly Tipping: Councillor Joan Harwood sent a report to say that TDC had placed signs in the Hedgecourt Lake area warning offenders of fines and have also placed a covert camera in one of the worst affected areas. She would continue to monitor the situation.
- (ii) Pop Up Cycle Lane: Councillor Huntingdon reported that following the removal of the bollards installed as part of the cycle lane, the road surface on the A22 from the Star Junction was damaged and could be a hazard. **Action:** Clerk to report to WSCC
- (iii) Stiles on Footpath 253: Councillor King reported that the stiles on footpath 253 on either side of Ward's Farm were damaged and suggested that they might be replaced with Kissing Gates. **Action:** Clerk to raise with the Rights of Way team and establish feasibility and costs.

9. **SURREY HIGHWAYS:**

Reported deep pothole on Lake View Road (layby) was reported and quickly repaired. Response to a report of damage to road leading to large pothole being created by contractors working on the 17 Copthorne Road development was also responded to quickly and put right the next day.

10. **PLANNING**

(i) **Applications in Felbridge**

Applications considered at the full Parish Council meeting:

TA/2020/1959 (CLEUD) Land at Brook Nook, Lake View Road, Felbridge RH19 2QF Proposed transfer to two car sales areas to a revised location within the same premises.

Resolved: Felbridge Parish Council object to this application. Councillors feel it is detrimental to the openness of the Green Belt to move areas away from the existing buildings and structures into the open areas to the north closer to the SSSI. We are repeatedly told by the Inspectorate that it does not matter if it is hidden from public view, the harm to the Green Belt still exists; therefore, any reduction in visibility created by the fence and vegetation does not reduce the harm. It is of concern that the proposed new area is at high risk of surface flooding as demonstrated on the government website (map attached). The existing use specified in the planning statement includes workshop buildings necessary for spraying and valeting but there is no reference to such buildings at the proposed new location. If Tandridge District Council are minded to permit this proposal, we would request that strong conditions are applied to prevent future construction of buildings ancillary to the permitted use of this area.

(ii) **Applications Received by Neighbouring Authorities**

None which directly affect Felbridge. It was noted that Felbridge Parish Council had not been consulted on the street naming for the 15-39 Crawley Down Road development. East Grinstead Town Council approved the name Mortain Road for the access road.

(iii) **Appeals**

TA/2020/643 Land Between The Laurels and Oakview, London Road, RH19 2QZ

Felbridge Parish Council repeat their objection to this application and have amended and added to the final paragraph of their original response.

Resolved: The applicant draws attention to housing need and how this will be met. The Examination of the TDC Local Plan was due to report just as the Covid-19 lockdown started. Therefore, it would be premature to progress this application until such time as the Inspector has reached a conclusion relating to housing delivery. In any event, FPC contends that the housing need should not be met by piecemeal construction causing harmful reduction in openness of the Green Belt surrounding Felbridge. Rather, additional housing should be provided within the built-up area. It should be noted that within the ‘defined village’ 21 net additional dwellings were approved between 2015 and 2020, and 18 net additional dwellings approved between 2010 and 2014. This is without taking into the account the 121 units consented to the land south of Copthorne Road and Crawley Down Road on the border of Felbridge and Mid-Sussex *which the Inspectorate states should be considered in support of the housing need in Tandridge. [ref APP/M3645/W/18/3198090] Para 15 “The housing would also contribute to provision within the housing market area which includes Tandridge District, and thus the housing land supply position in that district is also relevant.”*

11. CONSULTATIONS

(i) Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Aided Schools in Surrey

It was noted that proposed amendments include the removal of use of ‘nearest school’ as a criterion within the admission arrangements

12. RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Resolved: It was acknowledged that it will not be possible to resume public meetings for the immediate future. The decision will remain under review.

13. CLERK’S REPORT

Correspondence from Residents:

17 Copthorne Road Development: complaints about evening/weekend working and blocked access

15-39 Crawley Down Road Development: complaints about deliveries, access and parking

14. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY: Notices have been posted on the Felbridge Parish Council website and on the Village Hall noticeboard with a deadline for applications of 6th January.

15. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING

Nothing new to add.

16. DATES OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL AND PLANNING MEETINGS

The next full Parish Council meeting will take place online on Thursday 4th February 2021. Planning meetings are scheduled for Thursday 17th December, 7th January and 21st January.

The meeting closed at approximately 2100.

Patricia Slatter

Clerk to Felbridge Parish Council

