



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 on 6th April 2023 **at 7.30 pm in Felbridge Village Hall**

Present:

Cllr. Bridget Huntington (Chairman)
Cllr. Ian McBryde
Cllr. Joan Harwood
Cllr. Jeremy Clarke
Cllr. Lesley Steeds (County Councillor) attended part of the meeting
Cllr. Judy Moore (District Councillor) attended part of the meeting
Mrs. Patricia Slatter (in attendance)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Chapman, Cllr. King and Cllr. Horwood

2. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS**

None in addition to those already disclosed

3. **APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 2nd March were approved and signed.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Annual Parish Meeting

The meeting which immediately preceded the Parish Council meeting was well attended with more than 40 members of the public taking part. MSDC developments (including road closures), roadworks, potholes and the damaged surface of the Gullege Bridleway features in the Q&A session

Coronation Planter

The planter has been ordered and the Clerk is meeting with the contractor to discuss options for the base and location and will report back.

5. FINANCE

(i) Receipts and Payments for March 2023

| Date | To / From | Description | Amount | Current Account | Deposit Account |
|--|--|----------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 28 th Feb | | Brought Forward | | £20959.86 | £25048.38 |
| | | Receipts | | | |
| 24 Mar | HMRC | VAT Refund | 1274.76 | 1274.76 | |
| 31 Mar | Lloyds Bank | Interest | | | 43.71 |
| 31 March | | Sub Total | 1318.47 | 22234.62 | |
| | | Payments | | | |
| 2 March | Wright | Bus Shelter Cleaning | £45.00 | -45.00 | |
| 2 March | HMRC | Tax and NI | £406.14 | -406.14 | |
| 2 March | John Edge | Signwriter | £45.00 | -45.00 | |
| 2 March | Clerk | Payroll February | £1189.83 | -1189.83 | |
| 14 March | NEST | Pension Contribution | £232.75 | -232.75 | |
| 31 March | Clerk | Payroll March | £1189.63 | -1189.63 | |
| | | Sub-Total | £3108.35 | -£3108.35 | |
| | | Transfers | Nil | | |
| | | Carried Forward | | £19126.27 | |
| | | Bank Balances | | £19126.27 | £25092.09 |
| 31 March | Available Funds - Current a/c plus Deposit a/c | | | £44218.36 | |
| 31 March | Allocated Reserves - traffic calming £2K, bus shelter £6K, playground £15K, skateboard ramp £2k) includes restricted use CIL revenue | | | -£25000.00 | |
| 31 March | General Reserve (Available Funds minus Allocated Reserves) | | | £19218.36 | |
| Current Account statement was circulated to councillors on 4 th April 2023, along with the above record of receipts and payments, for transparency and confirmation of accuracy | | | | | |

(ii) **Year End Finance:** The contents of the finance report circulated by the Clerk/RFO were noted.

(iii) **Audits:** The Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer will now prepare the documentation for the Internal and External audits.

6. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

(i) **Grass Cutting:** First cut will take place in late April

(ii) **Football Goalposts:** The ground has been prepared for the sockets which hold the posts in place and the posts will be installed within a week.

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr. Steeds has continued to put pressure on Surrey Highways to deliver a full repair to the damaged ironworks at the Star Junction during the road closure. The Cabinet Member for Highways had promised these works would be completed by Ringway some weeks ago. With the submission of a new application for land to either side of the Gullege Bridleway now submitted, Cllr. Steeds would be pushing Surrey Highways for a further meeting with Planning Chairman Cllr. Jeremy Clarke. The promised resurfacing of West Park Road is still outstanding. Cllr. Steeds had met with at Highways officer on the Cophorne Road near the Furnace Wood layby for the seriously damaged surface to be surveyed and is expecting this to be added to the resurfacing list. Cllr. Steeds was looking at football pitches across the Lingfield Division with a view to addressing drainage problems.

8. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr. Moore reported that the wooden sign at Felbridge School appeared to be damaged and was asked to raise this with the school.

Affordable Homes Application Land South of Double Dee, Eastbourne Road (2021/2187)

Cllr. Moore was asked for an update on this application following her statement that it had been withdrawn. Cllr. Moore said she thought this was the case but wasn't sure where that information originated. The TDC Planning Portal shows the application as "awaiting decision". **Action:** Clerk to ask TDC to confirm the status of this application.

9. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS/UPDATES

Skips at Beaver Farm: Cllr. Clarke reported that there were still a number of skips which appeared to be stored on land at Beaver Farm. **Action:** Clerk to report to Planning Enforcement

History Boards: Cllr. Huntington suggested that the History Board between Felbridge School and the Village Green needed to be replaced and the 70th Anniversary of Felbridge Parish Council could be recognised on a new board. **Action:** Chairman and Clerk to follow up.

10. SURREY HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY/TDC :

Surrey Highways

Star Junction Ironworks: Highways have been asked to carry out a permanent fix during the road closure 3-14 April. Also reported online to generate a reference number – 2516583. This has been followed up since there is no sign of any works taking place half way through the works.

Vehicle Activated Sign Crawley Down Road: On investigation it appears that the powered post which held this sign was damaged and has been removed. **Action:** Clerk to follow up

Playground: TDC have cut back the vegetation which had broken through the playground base.

Cllr. Steeds and Cllr. Moore left the meeting.

11. PLANNING

(i) **Applications in Felbridge**

Applications considered at the Planning Meeting on 16th March attended by Cllr. Clarke, Cllr. Huntington, Cllr. Horwood, Cllr. King and Cllr. Harwood:

2023/221 Chester Lodge, London Road, Felbridge, RH19 2RD

Resolved: Felbridge Parish Council are concerned about this latest application for Chester Lodge. Again the application drawing shows a very small red area lined, yet the applicant is the same as that for the last applications. The area they stated they had an interest over on the previous application is not red lined in this application. This hides the overall scale of their site and the ever growing built form upon it. There have now been 25 planning applications for this site under various similar addresses since 2003. Whilst it is accepted that each application is for relatively small additions, there appears to be no consideration by Tandridge District Council of the cumulative impact upon the openness of the green belt. The graphic below shows the built footprint changes 2005 to 2021 this obviously does not show the significant increase in hardstanding or take any account of built volume which is the criteria used to control the cumulative impact of commercial property extensions within the Green belt. While Felbridge Parish Council support rural businesses, there is also a responsibility to protect the Green Belt.

2023/187 2 Wheelers Way, Felbridge, RH19 2QJ

Resolved: No Action

Applications considered at the full Parish Council meeting:

2023/237 Doves Barn Nursery, Copthorne Road, Felbridge, RH19 2PB

Resolved: Felbridge Parish Council object to this application on the grounds that businesses operating with this location should be horticultural. It was noted that working on cars creates a specific noise. Whilst the existing footprint would not be expanded, the business itself could expand and the types of operation could increase within the footprint creating further noise nuisance and disturbance.

While supporting small business where possible, it is felt that this is the wrong location for this type of business. There are also concerns that adding more businesses to this site could lead to a further increase in the number of advertising signs in the verge between the site and the Copthorne Road despite Felbridge being located within an Area of Special Control of Advertisements.

2023/50 10 Hedgecourt Place, Felbridge, RH19 2PJ

Resolved: No Action

(ii) Applications Received by Neighbouring Authorities

None which directly affect Felbridge

(iii) MSDC Development on Felbridge Border

11a Crawley Down Road – Antler Homes

Access Road: While acknowledging that the access road height is higher than intended, MSDC do not consider this needs to be changed and will instead look at options which they consider will ensure that neighbouring properties are not adversely affected. This decision was taken by MSDC Planning Enforcement. Concerns regarding the drainage ditch which was filled in and privacy issues associated with new properties being built higher than those of existing properties remain.

HGVs There continue to be issues with HGVs trying to turn right into Crawley Down Road from the Copthorne Road and damaging both the grass verges, kerbstones and Village Green. Antler Homes have been asked to properly manage deliveries to their site. HGVs turning at this location are doing so in full view of the Antler staff at the site entrance.

Land to either side of the Gullege Bridleway, Crawley Down Road – Barratt Homes

It was noted that the original application for 61 dwellings on this site has been withdrawn and a new application submitted for the full 200 dwellings approved in the MSDC Site Allocations. Felbridge Parish Council have not yet been consulted on this application.

12. CLERK'S REPORT

Litter Pick: St. John's Church are organising a litter pick in the village

Parking Enforcement: SCC have taken back control of parking enforcement with immediate effect

Roadworks: Aside from the disruption caused to residents, there have been reports of vehicles driving at speed along the wrong side of the road; moving barriers to access the Copthorne Road; cutting through the pub car park and driving across the Village Green. Highways have been alerted.

Correspondence: Issues include roadworks, speeding and development.

13. DATES OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL AND PLANNING MEETINGS

The next full Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday 4th May in the Club Room. A Planning Meeting is scheduled for 20th April.

The meeting closed at approximately 2055.

Patricia Slatter
Clerk to Felbridge Parish Council
www.felbridge-pc.org.uk

