



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 1st February 2024 **at 7.30pm in Felbridge Village Hall**

Present:

Cllr. Jeremy Clarke (Planning Chairman)
Cllr. Alex Horwood
Cllr. Ian McBryde (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. Stephen Hall
Cllr. Bridget Huntington (Chairman)

Mrs. Patricia Slatter (in attendance)

The Chairman announced that she had received a letter of resignation from Cllr. Jo King who was stepping down due to work commitments. The Clerk has advised Tandridge District Council and a notice has been posted on the FPC website and noticeboard.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from County Cllr. Steeds, District Cllr. Moore and Cllr. Groom

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

None in addition to those previously disclosed

3. **APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7th December were approved and signed.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Playground Upgrade Awaiting a meeting date from TDC Parks and Open Spaces to agree how to progress this project without further delay. While FPC would still prefer the works to be completed during the Winter months, administrative delays may mean this is not possible. **Action:** Clerk and Chairman to monitor and report back.

Footpath from Star Junction to Mill Lane Cllr. Huntington reported that the path is inaccessible in parts due to mud from the grass verges encroaching on to the footpath, made worse recently by works to the verges. **Action:** Clerk to ask that these works are added to the list for the Community Gang and chase with Surrey Highways.

5. FINANCE

(i) Receipts and Payments for December 2023 and January 2024

December 2023

Date	To / From	Description	Amount	Current Account	Deposit Account
30 Nov		Brought Forward		£27983.70	£25197.45
		Receipts			
22 Dec	SCC	Grass Cutting Contribution		3108.00	
		Total		31091.70	
		Payments			
8 Dec	NEST	Pension Contribution Nov	£316.22	-316.22	
11 Dec	HMRC	Tax and NI November	£790.99	-790.99	
11 Dec	Clerk	Payroll November	£1579.71	-1579.71	
11 Dec	WR Hazeltine	Bus Shelter Cleaning Nov	£45.00	-45.00	
11 Dec	Hire-a-Loo	Temp Toilet Hire September	£128.52	-128.52	
11 Dec	Hire-a-Loo	Temp Toilet Hire October	£132.80	-132.80	
11 Dec	Nick Dance	Grass Verge Cut December	£528.00	528.00	
		Sub-Total	£3521.24	-£3521.24	
		Transfers	Nil		
		Carried Forward		£27570.46	
		Bank Balances		£27570.46	£25197.45
31 Dec	Available Funds - Current a/c plus Deposit a/c			£52767.91	
31 Dec	Allocated Reserves - traffic calming £2K, bus shelter £6K, playground £15K, skateboard ramp £2k) <i>includes restricted use CIL revenue</i>			-£25000.00	
31 Dec	General Reserve (available funds - including budgeted expenditure - minus Allocated Reserves)			£27767.91	
Current Account statement was circulated to councillors on 4 th January 2024, along with the above record of receipts and payments, for transparency and confirmation of accuracy					

January 2024

Date	To / From	Description	Amount	Current Account	Deposit Account
31 Dec		Brought Forward		£27570.46	£25197.45
		Receipts		0.00	
		Total		27570.46	
		Payments			
5 Jan	HMRC	Tax and NI December	£560.10	-560.10	
5 Jan	Holtye Windows	Bus Shelter Panels	£770.00	-770.00	
5 Jan	Clerk	Payroll December	£1255.18	-1255.18	
5 Jan	WR Hazeltine	Bus Shelter Cleaning Dec	£45.00	-45.00	
9 Jan	NEST	Pension Contribution Dec	245.26	-245.26	
		Sub-Total	£2875.54	-£2875.54	
		Transfers	Nil		
		Carried Forward		£24694.92	
		Bank Balances		£24694.92	£25197.45
31 Jan	Available Funds - Current a/c plus Deposit a/c			£49892.37	
31 Jan	Allocated Reserves - traffic calming £2K, bus shelter £6K, playground £15K, skateboard ramp £2k) <i>includes restricted use CIL revenue</i>			-£25000.00	
31 Jan	General Reserve (available funds - including budgeted expenditure - minus Allocated Reserves)			£24892.37	
Current Account statement was circulated to councillors on 31 st January 2024, along with the above record of receipts and payments, for transparency and confirmation of accuracy					

(ii) Application For S137 Funding

Recorded: It was noted that councillors approved a payment of £250 towards the cost of replacement tables and chairs for Felbridge Village Hall following a funding application from the Felbridge Village Hall Committee at the Planning Meeting on 4th January 2024.

(iii) Precept Figure for 2024-2025

Recorded: It was noted that Tandridge District Council has confirmed that in order to meet the £30K budget approved at Felbridge Parish Council's November meeting, the precept increase for an average Band D property will increase by £2.52 per property per annum. FPC's share of the precept will therefore increase from £23.21-£25.73 per property per annum. It remains one of the lowest in the Tandridge District.

(iii) Third Quarter Finance Update

Recorded: Councillors noted the third quarter finance update which showed that the forecast expenditure for year-end would be within the approved annual budget.

(iv) **VAT Reclaim** has been submitted

6. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

(i) **Grass Cutting:** Payment has been received from Surrey Highways towards the cost of grass verge cuts managed by FPC for 2023. Surrey Highways have been asked to confirm the position regarding grass verge cuts in Felbridge from 2024 following the suggestion that Surrey Highways may be devolving responsibility for grass verge cuts to Tandridge District Council. **Action:** Clerk to follow up

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

- Cllr. Steeds has taken part in two further meetings with Surrey Highways and Cllr. Clarke regarding the Barratt Homes application. The developers claimed their traffic survey dated 16th May was on a neutral date however Cllr. Steeds had written to the Cabinet Member for Highways on the same date regarding an unplanned road closure on the Copthorne Road. Evidence was provided.
- Emailed the TDC Leader and Chief Planning Officer asking TDC to support Felbridge residents by objecting to the latest Barratt Homes consultation specifically addressing Highways, Flooding and Education matters within her County Councillor remit.
- Requested on behalf of a resident that road signs were cleaned since they were no longer visible.
- Chased Highways following complaints about potholes on the A264 in the Furnace Wood area. SCC confirm that the area is included in the Horizons project but no timeframe is available.
- Liaised with Highways regarding A22 roadworks to ensure that confusing signage was amended and new signage showing that businesses were open as usual was added.

8. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

- Residents contacted Cllr. Moore about two planning applications on Wire Mill Lane
- Cllr. Moore said she had been in regular correspondence with TDC regarding the Barratt Homes application but when asked for more provide specific information did not respond.

9. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS/UPDATES**Surrey Highways Meeting with Cllr. Steeds**

Cllr Clarke had another telecon with James Lehane from Surrey Highways and County Cllr. Lesley Steeds on 1st February to discuss the latest Transport Assessment submitted relating to traffic counts at Crawley Down Road and Copthorne Road. Cllr. Clarke had created an analysis of traffic counts on both roads both on and around 16th May which Barratt Homes claim to have been a neutral date. James Lehane confirmed that he has been attending meetings with Tandridge District Council at the council offices discussing this application. There are also ongoing meetings which include both District Councils and both Highways authorities. It was confirmed that Surrey Highways strongly believe that the current Barratt Homes transport proposal impacts upon the already overloaded Star Junction and offers no mitigation for that impact. This is therefore against the policies and the conditions imposed by the Inspector as part of the DPD Site Allocations review.

10. SURREY HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY/TDC

Surrey Highways

Potholes on the A264: Doves Barn/Furnace Wood area were patched following intervention by Cllr. Steeds
TDC

Limes Pond Clearance: A request has been submitted for the pond and surrounding area to be cleared and for the fence to be repaired

SCC Rights of Way

Footpath 286 No option has yet been put forward to improve access to this footpath for regular users.

11. PLANNING

(i) Applications in Felbridge

Considered at the Planning Meeting on 4th January

2023/1341/T Semper Fidelis, Wire Mill Lane, RH7 6HJ

Resolved: Felbridge Parish Council objects to this application as the final outcome is an additional mast in the Green Belt in close proximity to an existing mast in a location that is detrimental to the landscape. The selected location for the new mast is further north than the existing and therefore further into the open Green Belt which is likely to increase its negative impact upon the Green Belt. Whilst the application states that this new mast will allow for relocation of the equipment from the existing mast to the new taller one, that relocation is not part of this proposal. Page 9 of the IET paper "Allaying health concerns regarding 5G and exposure to radio waves" submitted by the applicant covers the benefits of seeking new tower locations between existing location to reduce RF exposure, particularly from users of smartphones, yet this proposal has only considered location close to the existing mast. If TDC are minded to approve this new mast, then we would request that it is camouflaged in accordance with para.119 of NPPF-2023. Felbridge Parish Council would prefer to see a revised application for a single new mast, to replace the existing one (in that location) including the relocation of the existing equipment to the new (higher) mast and for this new mast to be camouflaged in accordance with Para.119 of NPPF:2023. This would provide the enhanced service that is being requested by the applicant and minimise the impact upon the local area.

2023/1447 5 Crawley Down Road, Felbridge, RH19 2NT

Resolved: Felbridge Parish Council have no objection to the development in principle but are concerned about the narrow gap between the proposed extension and the eastern boundary. We would prefer to see a 1.5m boundary gap considering the one and a half storey height of the end gable wall to the half-hip roof line. This would reduce the appearance of massing within the street scene.

2023/1470 St Mary's, Woodcock Hill, Felbridge, Surrey, RH19 2RD

Resolved: Felbridge Parish Council have no objection to the change from conversion of the existing buildings to a new build single storey dwelling. However, we have significant concerns about a new domestic drive entrance on to the A22 on the bend at the bottom of Woodcock Hill with limited visibility.

Considered at the Parish Council Meeting

2023/1513/TPO Camelot, Heather Way, Felbridge, RH19 2RF

Resolved: Defer decision to TDC Tree Officer

2023/1501 Ferndale, Domewood, Copthorne, Surrey RH10 3HD

Resolved: Felbridge Parish Council have considered this application and note the volume increase of the proposed house without the garage is +31% over the baseline within the levels previously approved by TDC. It is noted that along with the garage, the total proposed volume increase is +56% which is large is comparison to previous approvals.

2024/1 Farmside, Mill Lane, Felbridge, RH19 2PE

Resolved: No Action

2024/9/NC Semper Fidelis, Wire Mill Lane, Newchapel, Surrey RH7 6HU

Noted: This application was withdrawn

DM/23/0810 (MSDC Reference) TA/2023/482 (TDC Reference)

Land South of Crawley Down Road (Proposed 200 Dwellings on MSDC land)

Resolved: A further response addressing the latest Transport Assessment and providing an analysis of the Barratt Homes traffic counts on the Crawley Down Road and Copthorne Road was approved and can be viewed in full on the FPC website. **Resolved:** Felbridge Parish Council believe that Cllr. Moore should call this application to the TDC Planning Committee since such a large application which would have a major impact on residents should be debated by Tandridge District Councillors before being determined. **Action:** Clerk to email Cllr. Moore.

(ii) Adjoining Planning which may affect Felbridge

Nothing which may directly affect Felbridge

(iii) MSDC Development on Felbridge Border

11a Crawley Down Road (Antler Homes)

Still no advance notification of the road works required to be completed before occupation.

71 Crawley Down Road (Barratt Homes)

Barratt Homes were asked to cut back the hedge in November by MSDC but have still not done so. Steven King at MSDC has been asked to chase this up.

12. CLERK'S REPORT

Correspondence:

Tree Planting Resident who would like to plant a tree has been referred to TDC.

Flooding: Resident provided with link to SCC to report flooding on the grass verge at the junction of Rowplatt Lane with Crawley Down Road.

.Gov Email/Website Clerk is working with officers from the government's digital team will help move FPC to a .gov.uk domain with the website updated and councillor and Clerk email addresses updated.

Felbridge Annual Meeting, Thursday 18th April, 6.00pm-8.00pm Councillors agreed the format for this year's Annual Parish Meeting and noted that after the usual FPC meeting was closed by Cllr. Huntington, a public meeting chaired by Jeremy Clarke would follow. The main topic to be an update for residents on how recent boundary changes in the Tandridge District would affect Felbridge in the election on 2nd May. Information has been provided by TDC Democratic Services.

13. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING

None

14. DATES OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL AND PLANNING MEETINGS

The next full Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday 7th March. A Planning Meeting is scheduled for 15th February.

The meeting closed at approximately 2110.

Patricia Slatter

Clerk to Felbridge Parish Council

www.felbridge-pc.org.uk

