

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 March 2014 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, and of the Planning Meeting held on 20th February 2014

Present: Mr Ian McBryde (Chairman)
Mr Brian Apps
Mr David Archer
Mrs Linda Hainge
Mrs Joan Harwood
Mr Ken Harwood (District Councillor) (attended part of meeting)
Mrs Rosalind White (in attendance)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Mr Jeremy Clarke, Mrs Bridget Huntington and Mr Michael Sydney (County Councillor)

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

There were no additions to those previously registered.

3. **APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th February 2014 and the Planning Meetings held on 19th December 2013 and 16th January 2014 were approved and signed.

The Chairman welcomed the three committee members from the Felbridge Website Team who wished to speak about funding for the website, which is run on a voluntary basis. In previous years, the team have raised funds through pub quizzes, raffles, etc, plus £10 contributions from local businesses. The cost for hosting the website is £70 pa. The Chairman agreed that FPC would discuss a grant to help with hosting costs.

4. **CHAIRMAN/CLERK'S REPORT**

- (i) **Tandridge Transport Survey – Review of Freight Activities:** The interim report produced by Peter Hitchings, SCC Transport Policy Team, was circulated in the March bag.
- (ii) **Access Road onto Crawley Down Road:** Michael Sydney has had a meeting with Surrey Highways, who are considering all the information before making a decision regarding the proposed Charles Church development.
- (iii) **Wall outside Felbridge Court:** Colin Pearse, SCC, is in contact with resident and liaising with May Gurney who are dealing with this matter.
- (iv) **FOI Request:** The reply from SCC does not highlight which repairs were carried out free of charge by the contractor. Michael Sydney agreed to follow up with Surrey Highways.
- (v) **Pavement along Rowplatt Lane:** EG Access Group looked at the pavement and consider that there is a narrowing problem at both ends of Rowplatt Lane on the west side. Colin Pearse, SCC, spoke to the Clerk on 21.1.14 and agreed to inspect and if needed add the work to the community gang schedule. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact Colin Pearse and report hole in pavement near junction with Copthorne Road.
- (vi) **Felbridge Housing Needs Survey:** Ian McBryde has requested a copy of the results from WS Planning and Architecture.

- (vii) **Speed limit outside school:** FPC discussed the information on SCC's Policy re 20mph speed limits outside schools and agreed to raise this again once a decision has been made on the proposed access road onto Crawley Down Road.
- (viii) **Felbridge Footpath books:** These are available for sale at £3.50. **Resolved:** Jeremy Clarke agreed to ask the village shop to offer them for sale.
- (ix) **Skateboard Ramp:** TDC's current contractor, 9c Solutions, have been asked to provide a quote for the replacement of the existing ramp. Current users seem happy with the existing ramp, with possibly one a little wider.
- (x) **TDC Local Committee:** A letter has been received from Gordon Keymer, Leader of TDC. District Councillors are encouraged to attend Local Committee meetings if they have an issue to discuss.
- (xi) **Building Site in Crawley Down Road:** Clerk has reported the damage to the grass verge to Steve Hyder, TDC. TDC Planning Enforcement can only deal with matters that represent a breach of planning control and damage to a verge would not be considered as such. **Resolved:** Ian McBryde agreed to write to TDC Planning to suggest that a condition be placed on future planning applications that grass verges are reinstated on public land.
- (xii) **Lack of street lighting by village shop:** Skanska have replied saying that SCC do not have a budget for installing any new lighting.
- (xiii) **Sewage problems in Rowplatt Lane:** SCC clean gulleys in Rowplatt Lane yearly in July but arranged an extra clean on 3rd March following requests from residents and FPC.

5. **ONGOING ITEMS**

- (i) **Community Consultation:**
Transport/Environment and Green Issues: –
 Actions completed:-
 - a. Survey of bus stops – Clerk attended meeting with representatives from SCC, Surrey Police and Metrobus to discuss reinstalling bus stops outside the school, in the layby and on the verge outside Nos 64 and 66 Copthorne Road, plus one on the eastbound carriageway at the end of Mill Lane. Ian agreed to draft a follow-up letter to Metrobus in reply to their letter dated 31st January.
 - b. One-way option at school times – It was agreed that this would not be workable in Felbridge until improvements are made to the junction of Crawley Down road and Copthorne Road.
 - c. Gullege Bridleway – 5 residents have agreed to attend an initial meeting with David and Jeremy on a 15th March to discuss ways of raising funds to improve this bridleway.Leisure and Health Actions:-
 - a. Goal posts in village hall grounds – The posts have become loose. Clerk to contact TDC to ask if they can be re-installed.
 - b. Outdoor gym – Ian contacted several councils to ascertain usage and will visit Burstow and Forest Row.
 - c. Doctors/dentist survey in Felbridge – Clerk sent letter to Surrey Healthcare Trust on 14.1.14 – reply awaited. Clerk to send follow-up letter.
 - d. Footpaths – Footpaths 283, 365 and 367 have been surveyed by Ken and Joan. Joan agreed to prepare a brief list of work required which can be emailed to SCC.
 - e. Whist/Bridge – Linda has several residents interested in attending a group on a Monday or Friday afternoon.
 - f. Evening Exercise Classes – Julie Nottingham will contact the school about hiring their hall.

Felbridge Luncheon Club – 6 volunteers have shown an interest in running a luncheon club at the village hall. Clerk to assess viability if sufficient local retired residents are interested.

6. FINANCE

- (i) **Cheques:** Issue of the following cheques was approved by the council under Standing Orders and the cheques were signed:

050	B. Wright	Bus shelter cleaning for Mar 14	£35.00
051	R. White	Clerk's salary for Mar 14	£232.61
052	HM Revenue & Customs - Income Tax for Mar 14		£58.00
053	R White	Office Allowance for Mar 14	
		+ Petty Cash Feb 14	£74.30

- (ii) **VAT Return:** This will be submitted in time for the repayment to be shown in this year's accounts.

- (iii) **Section 137 Payments:**

Felbridge Village Website: FPC agreed a grant of £70 and would be willing to consider a further grant next year, provided that the website is by then modernised. FPC are willing to help with this modernisation.

St John's Church Footpath Improvements: It was agreed that St John's Church should find out who actually owns this verge so that permission for the work can be obtained. FPC are willing to consider a grant when this information is known.

7. FPC STANDING ORDERS

The revised Standing Orders were adopted and copies circulated to all councillors.

Ken Harwood joined the meeting.

8. COUNCILLORS' FEEDBACK

- (i) **Caravan Site:** FPC have been informed about a possible caravan site behind Doves Barn. FPC to monitor.
- (ii) **Lay-by at start of Hedgecourt Lake:** This has become very muddy but is not an official parking area. FPC to monitor.
- (iii) **Rat Problem in Village Hall Grounds:** This has been reported to TDC who have arranged for a pest control company to solve the problem.

9. SURREY HIGHWAY REPAIRS:

- (i) **Pavement near BT boxes at junction of Rowplatt Lane/Crawley Down Road:** This was repaired in early March 2014.
- (ii) **Crawley Down Road:** Potholes by the request bus stop and outside the village hall. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to SCC.
- (iii) **A264 Copthorne Road:** Still numerous potholes by Furnace Wood.

Mr Harwood left the meeting.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Meeting held on 20th February 2014 attended by David Archer, Linda Hainge, Joan Harwood and Jeremy Clarke.

Applications Acknowledged 3rd – 7th February 2014

TA/2014/100: Churchill House, West Park Road, Newchapel. Demolition of existing garage and link wall. Erection of single storey L shape extension to the west elevation incorporating garaging for 3 cars, workshop and storage. **Resolved:** No Action.

TA/2013/1860: 36-38 Copthorne Road, Felbridge. Demolition of existing single storey side extension. Erection of 4 x dwellings at the rear of 36-38 Copthorne Road. Removal of existing access and formation of new associated access. **Resolved:** FPC strongly object to this application for the following reasons:- FPC strongly object to this application for the following reasons:- There is currently no housing need in Tandridge, and the 2013 Community Survey identified that the residents of Felbridge do not want further Large homes built such as the 5 bed dwelling in this application. The properties are too close to the existing dwelling and therefore represent overdevelopment of the plot. The entrance road is un-neighbourly to the existing dwelling, passing too close to its west wall, this was a MSDC reason for refusal on another recent Felbridge application. The 2½ storey dwelling height is inappropriate in this location, the elevation of the land rises considerably towards the rear of the plot and thus the highest property being at the back exaggerates the impact on the nearby properties. This development represents another multi-dwelling access road onto Copthorne Road which is already at/over capacity at the neighbouring A22-A264 junction. The large bound-gravel and tarmac area compared to the current vegetative ground will lead to significant rainwater runoff down the driveway and onto Copthorne Road. This was recently seen over a period of some days at the eastward neighbouring property and caused flooding of the dwelling on the south side of Copthorne Road. Photographs were sent to TDC Planning to demonstrate the impact of rainwater run-off from the property drives on the north side of Copthorne Road.

Applications Acknowledged 10th – 14th February 2014

None in Felbridge

Parish Council Meeting held on 6th March 2014**Applications Acknowledged 17th – 21st February 2014**

None in Felbridge

Applications Acknowledged 24th – 28th February 2014

TA/2014/203: Lake View Cottage, Eastbourne Road, Newchapel. Erection of two storey side extension. **Resolved:** FPC believe the special circumstances do outweigh the size being past the 50% in this specific case but FPC would prefer to see the front elevation of the extension more closely match the visual appearance of the existing extension on Lake Cottage.

Mr Harwood returned to the meeting

11. CLERK'S REPORT

- (i) **Northern Football League:** To mark the 125th anniversary of this league, whose founder, Charles Samuel Craven, retired to Felbridge around 1926, there will be a service at 1.30pm at St John's church on Friday, 21st March. Ken Harwood and David Archer will attend on behalf of FPC.
- (ii) **Village Hall Grounds:** TDC have arranged for a contractor to clear the moss from the playground flooring and tarmac around the skateboard ramp.
- (iii) **Felbridge Bowling Club:** With the support of FPC and TDC, the club have applied for a grant of £3,000 from the QEII Legacy Fund towards the cost of replacing some paved areas.
- (iv) **Tandridge Casualty Reduction Officer:** At the end of March, Moira Cocks will be moving to a new role within Surrey Police. **Resolved:** Clerk to send letter of thanks to Moira on behalf of FPC.
- (v) **TDC Local Committee:** A meeting will be held on 7th March in South Godstone.

(vi) **Surrey Local Council's Forum – Elections and Social Media:** This meeting will be held on 1st May in Dorking.

12. **BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETNG** - Request for more seats in Village Hall Grounds.

13. **DATES OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL AND PLANNING MEETINGS**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd April 2014 at 8pm following the Annual Parish Meeting. A Planning Meeting will be held on 20th March 2014.

The meeting closed at approximately 9.35pm.

RW

17th March 2014

Copies sent to:- all Parish Councillors, District Councillor, County Councillor, EG Courier and Observer, EG Library, Felbridge School, Surrey Police, Felbridge School Governors, Focus@ Felbridge.