



MINUTES OF THE FERNWOOD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on 21st February 2022 at 7pm
at Fernwood Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors: R. Cullen, D. Harrison, H. Micah, J. Newton, B. Smith
 (Chair), J. Weale, M. Weale

Clerk: Marion Fox Goddard

Agenda, reports and accompanying information for this meeting is available on the Council's website here: [attachments.asp \(fernwood-pc.co.uk\)](http://attachments.asp(fernwood-pc.co.uk))

15. Declaration of intent to record, film or photograph the meeting by members, members of the public or the press

16. Public Forum

Two residents joined the meeting to discuss the following issues:

- Cars parked on pavement on Goldstraw Lane, making visibility poor and it dangerous to pull out from Youngs Avenue (item 28g). The resident had received a response from NCC with which she was disappointed. However, the problem seems to have improved with two cars now being parked in the car park rather than on the path. Another car has started parking on the path. The resident will ask the owner to park without impeding visibility.
- Tall Silver Birches on Dale Green – update was requested. The Parish Councillors had viewed the trees prior to the meeting but no further action has been taken with the trees being healthy and stable. – *Resident to establish what requirements solar panels installers who have respect to the height of the trees.*
- Unclear who is responsible for maintenance of hedges affecting access to homes with shared access – *Resident to send further details to the Clerk so this can be investigated.*
- Hollowdyke Lane Closure and the impact planned roadworks will have on Fernwood residents – reference email dated 28/11/21 (correspondence item 13c, January Parish Council meeting) – see item 24.
- Dog poo not being picked up and bags dropped by some dog owners (item 28g) – Resident outlined the issue, suggested a dog owners' group be formed and sought help from the Parish Council to tackle this issue. - *Clerk to add a reminder to Facebook and an article in the April gazette and contact the dog warden to see whether NSDC's Waste Investigations, Support and Enforcement (WISE) team can assist with tackling this issue in Fernwood.*
- Ditches along Hollowdyke Lane (item 28f) – Resident suggested the Parish Council should investigate who is responsible for the maintenance of the ditch on the Fernwood Central side of Hollowdyke Lane. Riparian rights needing to be considered before acquiring the open spaces in Fernwood Central – *Resident to send additional details to*

the Clerk so NCC/NSDC can be contacted for assistance on establishing what agreements were made at the time Fernwood Central was developed.

17. Apologies for absence

None.

18. Declarations of Interest

None.

19. Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 17th January 2021

The Parish Council minutes were approved as accurate record and signed by the Chair. Proposer: J. Newton, Seconder: R. Cullen, RESOLVED unanimously.

20. Councillors & Clerk Reports

Councillor J Weale – Asked if we are monitoring mud on the road/paths near the service station development as this has been muddy at certain times. Clerk to contact planning enforcement to see what can be done/if a wheel wash is in place and to contact the site manager so liaison meetings can be organised.

Councillor Micah – Had also noticed the mud and agreed that the Parish Council should investigate this.

Councillor Cullen – Had met with the Council's solicitor with Cllr J. Weale and the Clerk to discuss the search findings on the woodland. Noted concern that the TPOs had not been picked up by some of the searches.

Clerk's report	Agenda Item
Barratt David Wilson Homes (BDWH) transfer of the open spaces in central Fernwood as per the section 106 agreement to NSDC and then Fernwood Parish Council – Meeting held with NSDC and BDWH. Target date for completion has been set: October 2022. <i>Clerk to request a meeting with John Robinson and Matt Lamb to discuss this.</i>	21/46c
Derry's woodland purchase – Cllrs Cullen, J. Weale and I met with our solicitor on 4/2/22 to go through the legal work. Due to complete this month. Tidy up, bin installation and lighting repairs will be completed as soon as possible after the transfer into Parish Council ownership. <i>Risk assessment – see item 27a</i>	21/30 20/114g 21/125di
Trees – Awaiting date for tree surveys for the Village Hall and Dale Green. Contractor has been informed that we will require the tree work recommended for the woodland behind the nursery (once the land belongs to the Parish Council) Donation has been made to the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust.	22/8dii - iv
Parish Council Meetings – Alternative option for integrated solution for conducting hybrid meetings - see item 22di	21/45 21/125 22/6
Complaint regarding the grass/dyke maintenance at Hollowdyke Lane/Phoenix Lane - awaiting land transfer plans from BDWH which may help with clarifying who is responsible for the area in front of the substation.	21/87e
Townhill Square/Cormack Lane adoptions — BDWH are awaiting an update on the adoption from NCC – Cllr Lee has also received an enquiry regarding this and is seeking updates from County Council officers.	21/87h
Signage for the park – <i>see item 22diii</i>	21/98

<p>Youth Initiative – Recruitment has been further delayed. We are aiming to start the youth club after the Easter holidays, but further recruitment work is required. I have been in contact with Newark Youth Trust and as they are inviting grant applications for equipment; I recommend we wait until the group is up and running so we can ask the attendees what they would like to have funding for to ensure we get what they want.</p>	21/127
<p>Antisocial Behaviour – The temporary camera over the park has been in place for 3 months and is due to be moved elsewhere in the district.</p>	21/149
<p>Radar speed signs on Goldstraw Lane/Dale Way – Cllr Lee is arranging a temporary solution.</p>	21/152
<p>Administration Assistant – Interviews have been conducted and the Personnel Committee will be making a recommendation to Full Council – see item 30.</p>	21/156
<p>Meeting with local MP – I have called to request this again (9/2/22) so hopefully we can get a date set soon.</p>	21/154
<p>Request for signage for Fernwood from the Balderton roundabout – The following feedback has now been received: NCC do not want to look at signage in this area and they may look at it as part of a larger scheme in the future, but Cllr Lee has said he will pass on our email to the relevant officer to see if they will reconsider.</p>	21/154
<p>Coat of Arms – Letter has been drafted to request the granting of Arms.</p>	21/154
<p>Jubilee Celebrations – plans are underway for a community celebration on the evening of 2/6/22. Clerk suggests that funding be used for this celebration rather than contributing to street parties – as this will be difficult to administer fairly.</p>	21/159
<p>Construction traffic/Mud complaints – Planning enforcement have inspected the roads at the end of January and are now satisfied with the additional measures that the developer has put in. They will continue to periodically monitor this. The new construction traffic signage is still not in place – the latest update I've had is that we are awaiting an application to be submitted to NSDC (2/2/22). That being said, there have been no complaints regarding construction traffic in the village recently.</p>	
<p>Water Tower, Goldstraw Lane – broken fencing to the rear of the tower still hasn't been fixed. The owner has been reminded and has said he will get this repaired.</p>	
<p>Liaison Meeting held with Allison Homes (AH) on 27/1/22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the new roundabout off the B6326 leading into the AH site will be started w/c 31/1 – the half of the roundabout within the AH site will be constructed first with the aim of diverting traffic on the completed AH site half whilst the half on the B6326 is being constructed. This will hopefully minimise disruption to road users. Working with NCC to finish phase 2 of the safety audit. • AH site manager is planning to get water from the industrial estate rather than Phoenix Lane 	
<p>Scrapyard – No further feedback from NCC regarding activity on this site. Correspondence has been copied to Cllr Lee as requested.</p>	22/6

21. County Councillor and District Councillors Reports

No reports received. The Council noted Councillor Lee has written to say he will no longer come to Fernwood Parish Council meetings.

22. Finance

- a. [Bank reconciliation](#) – noted.
- b. Year to date income – noted.
- c. Expenditure since last meeting under delegated powers/previously agreed expenditure - noted

d. Items of Expenditure considered

Expenditure	Budget Area	Total £	Decision
i. Remote meeting alternative solution	Parish Council – individual items	-	Unanimously rejected. With the reduction of Covid restrictions and limited take up of online visitors to Parish Council meetings since physical meetings were resumed, the Council decided to no longer hold hybrid meetings and therefore not proceed with this.
ii. Heating pipework improvements	Boiler maintenance/plumbing	1609.48	Unanimously approved Prop.: H. Micah, Sec.: D. Harrison
iii. Signs for the park	Individual items – Parish Council	864.00	Unanimously approved Prop.: R. Cullen, Sec.: J. Weale

e. Interim Audit Report – noted.

23. Planning

a. Planning applications considered:

22/00245/FUL	Cowtham House A1 Fernwood to Balderton NG23 5EA	Change of use of agricultural building to one dwelling.	The Council unanimously agreed to support this application.
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- b. Foot Path Diversion Order – Fernwood No.1 Diversion Order 2021 – noted with no objection.
- c. To consider Claypole's draft Neighbourhood Plan – noted - *Clerk to write to Claypole Parish Council to thank them and to ask for Fernwood Parish Council to be kept up to date on the progress of the plan.*
- d. The Council noted the following decisions made by Newark and Sherwood District Council:

21/02472/TPO	Various locations	Undertake works to trees identified as being protected by TPO N302;	Grant Works to Tree/s Protected by TPO
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24. Discussion on how to proceed regarding Hollowdyke Lane

The Council shared the concerns raised during the public forum regarding the impact of future traffic works would have on Fernwood with Hollowdyke Lane being closed adding to the issue. The Council also noted that the 'perceived dangerous junction' onto Main Street Balderton had no evidence of accidents on NCC's [Nottinghamshire Insight Mapping website](#) bringing into question the need for its planned long term closure. *Clerk to write to NCC/NSDC/National Highways to outline the issues and concerns and ask what is planned to mitigate the delays major works will cause to Fernwood residents.*

25. Antisocial Behaviour meeting notes from a recent meeting between local stakeholders

– notes noted including statistics received on antisocial behaviour instances in Fernwood since December 2021. *Clerk to arrange a meeting with NSDC's CCTV officer and antisocial behaviour officer to discuss permanent CCTV over the playing field. Chair of Balderton Parish Council to also be invited.*

26. Village Hall Management Group – The Council noted the Village Hall Management Group notes from 7/2/22 and the Council made the following decisions regarding the group's recommendations:

- Purchase bird feeders for in the garden – not agreed due to concerns regarding avian pox.
- Remove bench under the trees as dilapidated – agreed.
- Dispose of cups and saucers – agreed.
- Look how the fence can be adapted to stop children coming under the fence – *Clerk to obtain quotes.*

27. Policy

New document considered:

- a. Risk Assessment for the Woodland behind the nursery

The Councillors unanimously agreed to adopt this. Proposer: H. Micah, Seconder: D. Harrison - *Clerk to add to the Council's website once the Council owns the woods.*

Current documents that were reviewed:

- b. [Personnel Committee terms of reference](#)
- c. [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- d. [Equality and Diversity Policy](#)
- e. [Armed Forces Covenant](#)

The Councillors unanimously agreed that no changes were required to items b-e. Proposer: D. Harrison, Seconder: J. Weale.

- f. Planning and Strategy Committee Terms of Reference – The Council agreed to archive this document and continue to consider planning business during Full Council meetings.

28. Correspondence

- a. Consultation on the Draft Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan - *Clerk to add reminder to local Facebook pages regarding this consultation and respond on behalf of the Parish Council to request greater number of item types to be recycled and support retaining the Brunel Drive recycling centre.*
- b. Email from National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc regarding maintenance on the overhead electricity line between Cottam Power Station and Ufford – noted.
- c. Introductory email from NSDC's new Community Relations Officer – noted.
- d. Email regarding Parking Issues - Youngs Ave/Goldstraw Lane – see item 16.
- e. Draft Criteria for Identifying Non-designated Heritage Assets – consultation – *Clerk to contact NSDC's conservation to request a visit with a view to having the Water Tower, Icehouse and Balderton Hall included in the listings when possible.*
- f. Email regarding responsibility for the ditch along Hollowdyke Lane - see item 16.
- g. Email regarding dog poo bags being dropped in the village - see item 16.

The Council resolved to exclude the public and press. Proposer: J. Weale, Seconder: R. Cullen

EXEMPT ITEMS

Under the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

29. Consideration of quotes for Maintenance of the Woodland behind the nursery

The Council unanimously agreed to use Newark and Sherwood District Council to do this work. Proposer: J. Weale, Seconder: D. Harrison

30. Consideration of the Personnel Committee's recommendation for a job offer to be made for the Administrative Assistant post

The Council unanimously agreed to offer the post to the recommended candidate with a view to her starting on March 14th.

Meeting closed at 21:20

Next Meeting Monday 21st March, 7pm Fernwood Village Hall