



MINUTES OF THE FERNWOOD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on 20th February 2023 at 7pm
at Fernwood Village Hall

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

Clerk: Marion Fox Goddard

Residents/Public 1 person joined the meeting

Agenda, reports and accompanying information for this meeting is available on the Council's website here: [Agenda pack for this meeting](#)

19. Declaration of intentions to record the meeting

The meeting was not recorded.

20. Apologies for absence

District Councillors I. Walker and K. Walker

21. Declarations of Interest

None.

22. Public Forum

A resident enquired whether the felled trees in Costall Woods (behind Fernwood Day Nursery) will be replaced. It was confirmed that replacing the trees was a condition of the approved works to trees covered by a Tree Protection Order. N&SDC approved our suggested replacement trees earlier this month. The Parish Council will water them (5 litres per month/to be increased if conditions require) and replace them, should they die. See agenda item 26div.

23. Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 16th January 2023

The minutes were unanimously approved as an accurate record and Councillor Smith signed them.

24. Clerk's Report

February 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 – Our solicitor is liaising with N&SDC's legal representative.	21/46c
Youth Club – Worker in Charge recruitment is ongoing. Youth Club opening time has changed to 6.30-8.30pm. Positive review meeting held in January. The club is now well established	
Safer Neighbourhoods Group (SNG)/ Antisocial Behaviour (ASB)/CCTV –N&SDC have said they will get an update to us by 20/3/23. Next SNG meeting due later this month. An article will be in the Fernwood Gazette re SNG/ASB. PCSO Hewardine has reported that N&SDC are reviewing the current Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs);	21/149

February Clerk's report	Agenda Item
once this has been done, she will come to a Fernwood Parish Council meeting to discuss having a PSPO in Fernwood.	
Hollowdyke Lane – Following the January Parish Council meeting, I wrote to NCC (18/1/23) as agreed. No feedback has been received. Speeding tubes results – see item 30. I still need to get quotes for a feasibility study for keeping the north end of Hollowdyke Lane open – <i>Clerk to action</i> .	22/24 22/139 22/153 23/17
Responsibility for ditches Hollowdyke Lane – a note was sent to NSDC regarding this, and they have asked their solicitor to investigate this. No further feedback at this stage.	22/16
Interactive Speed Sign on Dale Way – I met with Via EM staff shortly after the last meeting. The sign will be on a separate post. Awaiting full costing and timescales.	22/114
Community Infrastructure Levy – Policy has been published on the Parish Council website . The March issue of the Fernwood Gazette has a consultation article, and an online survey will go live in line with the gazette distribution.	22/163f
RAF Balderton Marker – see item 35b	22/161
Dignity at Work and Petition Policies - have been published on the Council's website	22/159
Warm Hub – sessions are at the Village Hall on Tuesday mornings. Attendance is picking up.	23/5
Welcome Break - Awaiting confirmation that they on schedule to open on March 1st.	
Number of seats on Fernwood Parish Council – Enquiry was sent to N&SDC's Electoral Services Manager – see item 35g for the response	23/8
Gym Equipment on Dale Crescent – This was replaced w/c 30/1/23.	23/9dii
Woodland Update - Costall Woods – N&SDC's Tree and Landscape officer has approved the trees that our tree specialist suggested to replace the felled trees. See item 26div. Once planted, the Parish Council will need to implement a minimum monthly application of 5 litres of water per tree during the summer (to be increased if conditions require). Should any of the trees die within 5 years of planting, the Parish Council will need to replace them. The bat survey on protected tree (853) is booked in for May 2023. Lamp upgrade – awaiting date from contractor. Community bat/bird box making planned for 4/6/23 - full details will be in the gazette. Path repairs – see item 26diii. Wildlife Garden costings - see item 26dv and consultation results - see item 34.	23/15
Grit Bin Phoenix Lane - A new grit bin has been installed for residents to use when it is icy. The developer has reimbursed the Parish Council for this. It is owned and maintained by Fernwood Parish Council – details of grit bins will be in the gazette.	9dix
Rumble Strips Replacement – following the last meeting, one resident contacted the Council with concerns about them being replaced. A consultation has been sent to the homes near the rumble strips to consult residents on whether they are being affected by noise/vibration and whether they would be happy for them to be replaced with tarmac. The consultation period has ended, with the majority of respondents in favour of replacing the rumble strips. A report with collated responses is being worked on so this can be sent to NCC with a request to address this issue and offer CIL to fund works required.	

25. County Councillor and District Councillors Reports

None.

26. Finance

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

d. Items of Expenditure considered with unanimous decisions:

Expenditure	Budget Area	Total £	Decision
i. 3 new dog bins	Individual items – Parish Council	1152.72	Unanimously agreed.
ii. Emergency light repairs	Emergency Lights	252.00	Unanimously agreed.
iii. Path repairs	Costall Woods (CIL)		The Council agreed to approach NCC to request repairs to the paths including a request for them to quote to repair the part of the path owned by Fernwood Parish Council
iv. Replacement trees – Costall Woods	Costall Woods (CIL)	768.20	Unanimously agreed.
v. Wildlife garden delivery, maintenance, and watering.	Costall Woods (CIL)	*TBC	Unanimously agreed to opt for quote 3 including watering and annual maintenance. *No more than £12000 for initial delivery plus Establishment Maintenance £300, Watering £78 per visit
vi. Additional Garden waste bin (increase to 3 from 2)	Grounds Maintenance	35.00	Unanimously agreed.
vii. SLCC HR summit	Training	72.00	Unanimously agreed.
viii. CCTV – Rubys Walk/over the park	Individual items – Parish Council (CIL)		Deferred – awaiting quote from N&SDC

27. Planning

a. Planning Application considered:

23/00137/HOUSE	1 Kenny Close, Fernwood, NG24 3GP	Installation of Air Source Heat Pump (Retrospective)	Noted
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28. Proposed Parking Restrictions ([TRO 3367](#)) on Rubys Avenue

Five Councillors were not in favour of the proposal. The following feedback to NCC was agreed: The Council sees no need for the double yellow lines. Cars rarely park in the area where the double yellow lines are proposed. (In the past double yellow lines had been enquired about as football matches were played on the playing fields at weekends leading to lots of cars parking on the bend; this no longer occurs as football matches are no longer held there. Should we ever arrange a large community event, we would apply to close the road temporarily).

29. Policy*New documents considered:*

- Updated Complaints Procedure – The Council unanimously agreed to adopt the policy.
- Vexatious Complaints Policy – The Council unanimously agreed to adopt the policy with amendments to cover vexatious communications.

- c. Updated Communications and Engagement Policy - The Council unanimously agreed to adopt the policy with an amendment to confirm Parish Council email addresses must be used for Parish Council correspondence.
- d. Updated Fernwood Parish Council Strategic Plan - The Council unanimously agreed to the updates regarding Community Infrastructure Levy.

Clerk to publish items a to d on the council's website.

Current documents reviewed:

- e. [Internet Policy](#)
- f. [Memorials Policy](#)
- g. [Personnel Committee terms of reference](#)
- h. [Equality and Diversity Policy](#)
- i. [Armed Forces Covenant](#)

The Council unanimously agreed that no changes were required to these policies.

30. Defibrillators in the Parish

The Council unanimously agreed to proposed agreement. *Clerk to arrange sign off with Chuter Ede School*

31. Hollowdyke Lane Speeding Tubes Results

The Council unanimously agreed to write to Nottinghamshire County Council to request a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for a mandatory speed limit of 30 miles per hour; with an offer for the Parish Council to fund this (using Community Infrastructure Levy).

This was considering the following:

- the data showing that during the survey period 88% of traffic did not adhere to the advisory 20mph speed limit
- the data showing that 50% of traffic on the road was recorded travelling above 30mph
- the timescales for a 30mph TRO to be delivered as a condition of a developer's planning application being estimated at 7-10 years.
- residents been concerned about the speed of traffic on the lane and a significant number of survey respondents being in favour of the Parish Council attempting to get the 30mph mandatory speed limit.

32. Village Hall Management Group

The Council noted the meeting notes and made the following decisions:

- a. Regular coffee mornings will be held 4 times per year – dates to be published in the Fernwood Gazette.
- b. Free Use of the hall by Gifts from Fairies for a charity one off event in September.

33. Village Hall Extension investigations

The Council noted the advice from Nottinghamshire County Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would explore additional parking possibilities. Once potential options were known, a meeting with NCC and our highways consultant should be arranged to ensure the parking survey meets the highways authority requirements for assessing a future planning application. The Council noted and agreed that an interim payment for the consultant's time to date was necessary.

34. Wildlife Garden Consultation results

The Council noted the results of the survey and agreed the garden should be implemented the current planting season. *Clerk to arrange with Newark and Sherwood District Council*

35. Administration

- a. The Council deferred a decision on increasing the number of meetings to 11 per year.
- b. The Council noted that the Fernwood Gazette will be published at the beginning of March.
- c. The Council set the Annual Parish Meeting date: May 24th.

36. Correspondence

- a. Suggestion from resident regarding protecting the owl carving – the Council did not think this was necessary.
- b. Email regarding planting purple crocuses – a project helping to rid the world of Poliomyelitis – sender to be invited to a future parish council meeting to discuss this.
- c. Response from Historic England regarding RAF Balderton Marker – details have been sent to RAF Balderton Research Group.
- d. Email regarding results of an online poll regarding having double yellow lines on Rubys Avenue – noted. See item 28.
- e. Request for dog bins – with the proximity of the dog bin on Dale Way at the entrance to the meadow and one at the end of the meadow leading onto Hollowdyke Lane, the Council agreed additional bins should not be necessary. There was also concern that having a dog bin on the meadow would spoil the appearance of the area. *Clerk to reply to the person who requested the additional bins and contact N&SDC again for signage to help with this issue.*
- f. Suggestion regarding elections and getting young people interested – Details will be included in the Gazette, and we will continue to share elections information on social media.
- g. Response from N&SDC regarding number of seats on Fernwood Parish Council – noted. The Council can consider asking for a community governance review in future.
- h. Letter from the Secretary of State for Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities regarding His Majesty King Charles III's Coronation and covering note from N&SDC – noted. *Clerk to add links for street parties to local social media.*
- i. Open space map from N&SDC – noted.

EXEMPT ITEM

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.

The Council unanimously agreed to close the meeting to the press and public.

37. Discussion regarding the legal arrangements for the transfer of Fernwood Central open spaces

The Council agreed to contact N&SDC to arrange a meeting to discuss the progress of the transaction. *Clerk to arrange.*

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Next Meeting: Monday 20th March 2023, 7pm, Fernwood Village Hall