



MINUTES OF THE FERNWOOD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on 15th May 2023 at 7pm
at Fernwood Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors: David Mack, Ian McGregor, Neill Mison, Leigh Rixon, Kimberley Shepherd, Jim Weale, and Mollie Weale

Clerk: Marion Fox Goddard

Residents/Public 3 Fernwood residents

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

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

The meeting was recorded by the Clerk.

86. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from District Councillors Allen, Haynes, and Kellas. County Councillor Lee (Apologies for all future meetings received March 2023).

87. Declarations of Interest

None.

88. Public Forum

A resident asked what the plans were for the Coat of Arms, with concerns that if it is not used for signage, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) could no longer be allocated for the payment which has already been made. A decision has yet to be made but this will be on a future agenda.

A resident raised concerns regarding CIL being used for a bus service to/from Fernwood. There was discussion regarding this with the Council outlining that this was something the Council will be looking into as the existing bus service is not fit for purpose. The resident advised that Facebook not be used as the driver for decisions. The Council noted the resident's concerns.

89. Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 17th April 2023

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

90. Councillors' and Clerk's Report

No Councillors reports due to it being the first meeting of the new Council.

May Clerk's report	23/26 Agenda Item
Barratt David Wilson Homes (BDWH) transfer of the open spaces in central Fernwood – Our solicitor has not received documentation. Our solicitor is liaising with N&SDC's solicitor on this to move this forward.	21/46c 23/37
Youth Club – Service Level Agreement signed by both parties for service delivery until March 2024.	23/50
CCTV for Rubys Walk and Over park off Rubys Avenue – Still awaiting formal quote from N&SDC – they will get this to us as soon as possible but cannot confirm when this will be.	22/113
Hollowdyke Lane – Via have said they will not change the mandatory speed limit to 30mph. They had offered this previously (2019), but the County Councillor opted for advisory 20mph signs. I have reminded them of the previous offer for a 30mph temporary limit (for 10 years) and asked them to reconsider Fernwood Parish Council's request with the reasoning for this (funded with CIL funding – Approx £1322, plus signage and design costs). Our transport planning specialist has suggested that the costs for keeping Hollowdyke Lane will be prohibitive – awaiting written confirmation.	22/24 22/139 22/153 23/17 23/31
Interactive Speed Sign on Dale Way – Still awaiting full costing and timescales – the lead time to obtain the sign is 12-14 weeks once we have received and approved a quote from Via East Midlands.	22/114
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – See item 96	22/163f
Woodland Update - Costall Woods – Wildlife Garden –N&SDC have finished their work but will be returning to water the plants/trees as necessary. Community bat box making – June 4th 2.30-5pm	23/34
Rumble Strips Replacement – A report with collated consultation responses was sent in March for NCC/Via with a request to address this issue and an offer for CIL to fund works required. A response was received from Via which did not seem to consider the evidence the FPC had sent. I have written to them sent to ask them to reconsider the letter fully as it provides references to Nottinghamshire County Council's policy not to have rumble strips in residential areas and of the effect they're having on some of the households that are close by.	23/17a 23/24 23/44
Double Yellow Lines Ruby Avenue – Via/NCC consultation ended on 10/3/23. A Via officer had advised 'Objections have been received for this scheme to which a report will be submitted to NCC to the Cabinet Member for the Environment for their adjudication.' The Traffic Regulation Order no longer appears on and NCC's website. The officer who was dealing with the consultation has said it is still going through the objection procedure.	23/28
Village Hall Extension Investigations – Parking survey is being conducted from May 11th to 15th. Parish Council staff have been surveying attendees to the village hall for this period to provide sufficient data to the planning authorities,	
Replacement Dog bins – We are awaiting a date from our contractor to install the replacement bin on Cross Lane (opposite the nursing home) – this one requirement digging out and concrete foundations.	23/26
Community Event – Road closure application – I have spoken to Via and the officer foresees no issues. First aid booked following receiving advice from EMAS. Volunteers meeting to be arranged and Event Management Plan being worked on.	23/45c
Village Hall Fencing – I have taken advice from N&SDC's planning team and applied for a Lawful Development Certificate. We should know the outcome for the end of June. If successful, the supplier will do this work in September (taking 5-6 days for completion).	23/45c
Request for improved Bus Service to/from Fernwood – A letter has been sent to NCC's portfolio holder for public transport (21/4/23). No response has been received so far.	23/51a
Phoenix Park – Antisocial behaviour concerns – A meeting has been held with the local beat team, N&SDC's antisocial behaviour team and the technical director of Barratt Homes. Suggestions were made to improve the park and BDWH will discuss these will N&SDC. Another meeting will be held in approx. 2 months to review this. Police reports are extremely low. We need to remind residents that ASB issues need to be reported to help us address this.	23/51b

91. County Councillor and District Councillors Reports

None.

92. 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:

Expenditure	Budget Area	Amount	Decision
i. Energy contract	Village Hall	Fixed rate 2 years, EDF, Standing charge 25p per day, 30.7p per kwh	Unanimously agreed.
ii. Summer play days	Events	£400	Unanimously agreed.
iii. Business Rates	Village Hall	£600	Noted
iv. Cellar cooler	Village Hall	£2105 plus VAT	Unanimously agreed.
v. Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire	Village Hall	£95 plus VAT	Unanimously agreed.
vi. A-board	Parish Council Administration	191.40 plus VAT	Unanimously agreed.
vii. Fire extinguisher refills and firestopping work	Village Hall	£464 plus VAT	Unanimously agreed.
viii. Insurance	Parish Council Administration	£1,261.82 per year for 3 years	Unanimously agreed.

- e. The Council noted the Community Infrastructure (CIL) letter from N&SDC, and the Clerk confirmed that the CIL receipts this month would be invested with CCLA as per the Parish Council's investment policy.

93. Planning

- a. Planning Application considered:

23/00630/HOUSE	14 Gilmores Lane, Fernwood	Wooden gazebo structure (part retrospective)	Noted. No response required.
--------------------------------	----------------------------	--	------------------------------

- b. Planning Authority decisions which were noted:

23/00370/ADV	Phase 1B - Greater Fernwood Development Fernwood	Installation of one large billboard sign for Fernwood Phase 1B.	Refuse Advertisement Consent
------------------------------	--	---	------------------------------

94. Personnel Committee

The Council noted the Personnel Committee minutes and unanimously agreed to the recommendations made by the committee, including updates to the Council's training policy.

95. Village Hall Management Group

- a. The Council noted the Village Hall Management Group notes from May 3rd.
- b. The Council unanimously agreed for the Clerk to arrange canvases with pictures of some of the regular hirers to reflect current bookings, using local suppliers for them. The Council agreed a photo competition would be a good idea and that this can be organised once the Communications Policy has been updated and the Council has decided a suitable time and media for promotion.
- c. The Council unanimously agreed to allow Ciarán's Bags to use the hall free of charge for one event in June.

96. Consideration of the Annual Parish Council Report

The Council unanimously agreed to the report. The Chair will add a section which he will deliver at the Annual Parish Meeting on May 24th.

97. Consideration of the Community Infrastructure Levy Results

This item was deferred for consideration of the Parish Council when reviewing the Parish Council's Strategy. This will be discussed at the July Parish Council meeting.

98. Business Continuity Plan

The Parish Council noted this, and the Clerk will update it now the Chair and Vicechair have been elected.

99. Correspondence

- a. Local Government Pension Scheme: Funding Strategy Statement consultation – noted.
- b. Message raising concerns regarding drainage near Phoenix Park – noted. Councillor Shepherd will continue to keep a record of rain, when the path floods and how long it takes to drain to allow the Parish Council to provide evidence of the issue to the developer. It was agreed the Clerk should ask the developer to move the dog poo bin away from the affected area in the meantime.
- c. Feedback from NCC/Via regarding highways issues Fernwood Parish Council has raised – The Councillors agreed to defer any new decisions regarding the feedback until the Council's strategy has been reviewed in July.

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.

100. Discussion on how to proceed with communications with Nottinghamshire County Council

The Council noted the background to the issue and unanimously agreed to uphold the complaint and continue with the arrangements that had been made with the previous Parish Council for communications with Nottinghamshire County Council and Via East Midlands.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm

Next Meetings:

Monday 19th June 2023, 7pm, Fernwood Village Hall

DRAFT