



MINUTES OF THE FERNWOOD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on 17th April 2023 at 7pm
at Fernwood Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors: R. Cullen, D. Harrison, H. Micah, B. Smith (Chairman), J. Weale, M. Weale
 Clerk: Marion Fox Goddard
 Residents/Public 2 Fernwood residents attended the meeting until item 65.

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

51. Declaration of intentions to record the meeting

The meeting was not recorded.

52. Apologies for absence

Parish Councillor Newton. County Councillor Lee (Apologies for all future meetings received March 2023).

53. Declarations of Interest

None.

54. Public Forum

A resident raised concerns regarding the lack of bus services to/from Fernwood. The Councillors agreed that the provision is poor and committed to ask Nottinghamshire Council to address this – see item 64a for action agreed.

55. Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 20th March 2023

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

56. Councillors' and Clerk's Report

Councillor Cullen - asked if anyone had heard anything about the Southern Relief Road as he had expected to see work by now.

Councillor J. Weale – detailed that he has been proud to serve with the Parish Councillors over the years, noting the elections next month.

Councillor D. Harrison - Agreed with Councillor J. Weale, adding a lot has/is being achieved.

April Clerk's report	23/18 Agenda Item
Barratt David Wilson Homes (BDWH) transfer of the open spaces in central Fernwood – We had a productive meeting with N&SDC at the end of March. Our solicitor will review documentation as soon as possible and we are due to meet after the elections to progress this.	21/46c 23/37
Youth Club – Annual review meeting held at the end of March. Councillor Cullen and I have been DBS checked and now are helping once a month with the club.	
CCTV – N&SDC officer has given indicative costings verbally and I have requested a formal quote.	21/149
Hollowdyke Lane – A reminder has been sent to NCC as we have not received a response to our letter requesting a 30mph Traffic Regulation Order on Hollowdyke Lane (funded with CIL funding). Our transport planning specialist has suggested that the costs for keeping Hollowdyke Lane will be prohibitive.	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) – The March issue of the Fernwood Gazette which includes a consultation article on CIL was delivered to all households and businesses in Fernwood at the beginning of March. The online survey went live on 28/2/23. Weekly reminders were added to the local Facebook groups to encourage residents to have their say. See item 61	22/163f
Woodland Update - Costall Woods –Wildlife Garden –N&SDC commenced the work w/c 10/4/23.	23/34
Rumble Strips Replacement – A report with collated consultation responses has been sent to NCC 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. A response has been sent to ask them to reconsider the letter fully.	
Double Yellow Lines Consultation – Parish Council response has been sent to Via/NCC. Their consultation ended on 10/3/23. A Via officer has 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.'	23/28
Village Hall Extension Investigations – A meeting has been held with our Transport Planning Specialist, a planning officer from N&SDC and a NCC highways planning officer. We are aware of their requirements and our specialist is obtaining revised quotes for the parking surveys so we can move this project forward. See item 58d.	
Replacement Dog bins – The dog bins at the end of Rubys Walk and near Code fitness have been replacement. We are awaiting a quote 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
Liaison Meeting with Allison Homes - Their landscaping contractor will be tidying up the Dale Way roundabout soon (the grass has been churned up during their recent works, but they have committed to sort this out).New owners of 6 of their new builds will be moving in soon. They confirmed that there are no current planning conditions for them to do the work to reduce the speed limit on Hollowdyke Lane. This may be possible for a future application but the timescale for this is approximated to be over 5 years away	
Community Event – Road closure application has been sent to Via. I have consulted with businesses on Rubys Avenue, and they are happy with this. Volunteers meeting to be arranged after the election. See item 58 d.	

57. County Councillor and District Councillors Reports

None.

58. 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	Total £	Decision
i. Fees for highways consultancy and parking surveys ¹	Professional Advice and Service Delivery – highways (CIL)	7650 + VAT	Unanimously agreed.
ii. Legal fees	Professional Advice and Service Delivery – Legal (CIL)	£275 ² per hour plus VAT	Unanimously agreed.
iii. Replacement fencing for the Village Hall	Village Hall (CIL)	£7280	Unanimously agreed..
iv. Community Event Items Live acts Portaloos Bins Road closure application Road closure management First Aid – see below	Community Event	1100.00 540 +VAT 220.48 + VAT 605.00 524 +VAT	Unanimously agreed.

The Council unanimously agreed to delegate the decision regarding which First Aid provider to use as the Clerk was waiting for advice on the level of cover proposed.

The Council unanimously agreed to increase the budget for the August event to £8000 (plus VAT) considering the increased provision/costs this year.

- e. The Council unanimously agreed to consolidate the TSB reserve accounts into one reserve account and the TSB current accounts into one current account,
- f. The Council unanimously agreed to suspend financial regulations in relation to the procurement of a new boiler and cylinder for the hot water and heating requirements of Fernwood Village Hall. The Council unanimously agreed to accept a quote from an alternative Viessmann Trained Installer and Partner for £12,970.98 plus VAT.
- g. Financial year end
- i. The Councillors noted the internal auditor's report.
 - ii. Annual governance statement 2022/23 - The Council unanimously resolved to accept the annual governance statement, and this was duly signed by the Chairman.
 - iii. Financial return for the year 2022/23 - – The Council unanimously resolved to accept the financial return, and this was duly signed by the Chairman.

59. Planning

- a. Planning Authority decisions which were noted:

23/00137/HOUSE	1 Kenny Close Fernwood	Installation of Air Source Heat Pump	Grant Householder Application
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¹ Original quote approved November 2022. Scope of work has changed hence reconsidered.

² Estimated number of hours for initial work is 3. However, this will be dependent on documentation received. Hopkins to be asked to keep the Clerk updated.

60. Policy

New Document considered:

- a. Business Continuity Plan – The Council unanimously agreed to adopt this.

Updated documents considered:

- b. Ad hoc Village Hall Terms and Conditions
- c. Regular User Terms and Conditions
- d. Investment Policy

The Council unanimously agreed to the proposed changes on items b, c and d.

Documents reviewed

- d. [Tree Management Policy](#)
- e. [Village Hall Environmental Policy](#)

The Council unanimously agreed no changes were required to items e and f.

61. Consideration of the Community Infrastructure Levy Results

Due to the proximity of the local elections, this item was deferred for consideration of Parish Council at the May Parish Council meeting.

62. Consideration of the Post Inspection report for the gym equipment on Dale Crescent and decision on how to proceed

The Council unanimously agreed to respond to the installer with a counteroffer of £500 for them to return to relay the concrete on the double air walker and address the issues detailed in the play inspection report.

63. Youth Club Service Level Agreement

The Council noted the annual data for 2022/23 and unanimously agreed to accept and sign the SLA.

64. Correspondence

- a. Letter regarding Bus service cuts in Fernwood – The Council agreed to write to Nottinghamshire County Council's Cabinet member responsible for bus provision to ask for this issue to be addressed.
- b. Messenger note regarding Phoenix Park – The Council agreed to arrange a meeting with the Police, N&SDC's antisocial behaviour team and Barratt David Wilson Homes to see what can be done to address the issues raised.
- c. Complaint regarding parking on Goldstraw Lane – The Council noted the email and the Clerk's response. Fernwood Parish Council has written to Via/NCC regarding how/if this issue can be addressed and are awaiting feedback.
- d. NALC consultation the government's technical consultation on the Infrastructure Levy – The Council agreed to write to NALC to express support for their suggestions on CIL contributions to Parish/Town Councils.

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.

65. Discussion Nottinghamshire County Council's emails regarding Communications

The Council noted the Monitoring Officer's email following Fernwood Parish Council's letter regarding their handling of the complaint and agreed to write to the Local Government Ombudsman about this.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Next Meetings:

Monday 15th May 2023, **6pm**, Fernwood Village Hall – Annual Parish Council Meeting

Monday 15th May 2023, **7pm**, Fernwood Village Hall – May Parish Council Meeting