

# WEST FARLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017 AT THE GOOD INTENT, WEST FARLEIGH

**PRESENT:** Cllr B Scott (Chairman), Cllrs M Merritt, G Martin, J Morgan and Borough Cllr B Mortimer

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Three parishioners were present.

Cllr Scott requested, if anyone intended to record the meeting, that they inform the Parish Council. He also reported that Larry Johnson had resigned from the Parish Council.

There was no public discussion.

### 1. APOLOGIES

Mrs A Broadhurst (Clerk), Cllr C Stockwell, Cllr H Swan, Borough Cllrs R Webb and Borough Cllr E Fermor

### 2. COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations.

### 3. MINUTES of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017

The Minutes of the meeting had been previously distributed and Cllr Martin proposed that the minutes were a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Morgan, with all in favour. The Chairman signed off the official copy.

### 4. POLICE MATTERS

There was no Police or Community Warden in attendance and Councillors voiced their disappointment especially as it had been stated that shift patterns were to be adjusted to ensure that a PC or PCSO would always be in attendance. Councillor Scott stated that he was disappointed with the new format for the Police & Neighbourhood Watch meetings and felt that it was almost a waste of time attending. The general consensus of opinion was that the percentage contribution from council tax payments for the police are not seen as good value for money for the residents of West Farleigh.

There were 5 reported crimes (3 burglaries and 2 thefts) but it was noted that there had also been damage caused at the Sports Club.

### 5. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATH MATTERS

#### 5.1 Highways Issues in West Farleigh

Cllr Scott stated that he had been made aware that pedestrians using Mill Lane were constantly in danger of being hit by vehicles travelling too fast and without any regard to pedestrians using this public bridleway.

Councillor Mortimer gave a report on Kent Highways lack of reactions to concerns about traffic problems associated with large housing and industrial developments in the Local Plan.

Concerns were also raised about the problems with the junction of the B2101 Lower Road and B2163 Teston Lane where fast moving traffic on Lower Road from the west were having near misses with traffic turning both into and out of Teston Lane. It was requested that a meeting be set up on site with the Highways Steward to both observe and discuss the issues around this junction.

**ACTION: Clerk**

#### 5.2 Teston Bridge

The damage caused to Teston Bridge, over the Summer, which has led to the bridge being closed was discussed. It has been declared by Kent Highways that the bridge will reopen to traffic on the 8<sup>th</sup> October. It was suggested that this could be another subject to be discussed with the highways Steward regarding the quantity and size of vehicles using this bridge.

#### 5.3 Speedwatch

There was an update on Speedwatch from Mags Zak as Cllr Stockwell was not in attendance. Mags stated that she would be happy to co-ordinate if required. Cllr Scott thanked Mags for her offer.

### 6. RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

#### 6.1 Coffee Morning

Cllr Morgan stated that the next couple of Coffee Mornings will be held on Saturday 21<sup>th</sup> October and 20<sup>th</sup> January.

## 6.2 Sign Post on the Village Green

Cllr Merritt had investigated and found that the post was broken and beginning to rot, possibly caused when a large vehicle demolished the corner of the green. The cost to replace the sign would be in excess of £300.00 and he decided to investigate an alternative by cutting the post at ground level and setting a metal sleeve onto a substantial concrete base to receive the existing post. Estimated cost would be in the region of £150.00 and members agreed to proceed on this basis. **ACTION: Cllr Merritt**

## 7 MATTERS OF REPORT

### 7.1 County Councillor's Report

No report provided.

### 7.2 Borough Councillor's Report

Borough Cllr Mortimer had spoken earlier in the meeting regarding MBC, the Local Plan and Kent Highways.

### 7.3 Individual Councillor's Reports

Cllr Martin stated that Lambing Day would be on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and it is expected that more lambs will be born this year due to a new method being introduced, which he explained to everyone. Cllr Scott thanked the Martin family for all their hard work. Cllr Morgan had already been purchasing disposable cups and plates for the occasion. Cllr Scott offered thanks on behalf of all Councillors.

Cllr Scott stated that a working party would be arranged to assemble and install the remaining picnic table and carry out the works to the signpost when the metal sleeve had been made.

### 7.4 Clerk's Reports

On the Clerk's behalf, Cllr Scott reported that the external audit had concluded, with no issues found. Cllr Scott thanked the Clerk for her hard work.

## 8 FINANCE

### 8.1 Budget Monitoring

The Budget Monitoring Report to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 was **Noted**.

### 8.2 Income received since the last meeting

MBC – Parish Service Scheme (1 <sup>st</sup> payment)	£ 728.00
HMRC – VAT Refund	£1,506.45

### 8.3 Cheques for signature

It was proposed by Cllr Morgan, seconded by Cllr Martin **“that the Council approve the following payments”**.

101170 – Mrs A Broadhurst – Nett Salary for September	£679.06
101171 – PKF Littlejohn LLP - External Audit	£120.00
101172 – Post Office Ltd – HMRC	£589.78
101173 – Mrs A Broadhurst – Nett Salary for October (Post-dated)	£678.86

#### **Direct Debits from the Account (Back dated)**

People's Pension April Contribution	£ 20.00
People's Pension May Contribution	£ 20.00
People's Pension June Contribution	£ 20.00
People's Pension July Contribution	£ 20.00
People's Pension August Contribution	£ 20.00

## 9. PLANNING MATTERS

### 9.1 Any planning applications received before the meeting

No applications had been received.

## 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next full Council meeting will be held on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 7.30pm** at The Good Intent.

With no further matters to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.30pm