

MINUTES OF FALMER PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday September 1st 2020 7.30pm

PRESENT. Chair Melanie Cutress (MC) Helen Herbert (HH) Andy Pearce (AP). Annie Davies (AD)

APOLOGIES Martin Gapper

1 villager attended.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING. were signed as a true record of that meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None

QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR. To be dealt with as the meeting progresses.

MATTERS ARISING:

1. Stadium Issues

- ⌚ Football matches had restarted but without fans due to the pandemic
- ⌚ The coach park was no longer a coronavirus testing site.
- ⌚ BHA was hoping some fans might be allowed back to watch from the 1st October. Their next home game after that date was October 24th. Football car passes would be organized and distributed by then.

2. Maintenance

- ⌚ Most potholes around the south side of the village had been repaired. Only a few had been repaired on the north side.
- ⌚ ESCC had continued to cut roadside verges as agreed with us. We had paid for extra cuts.
- ⌚ The pond grass area had been cut once since sept 2019 despite MC requesting cuts from BHCC. The lack of rain fall has left the pond looking in a sorry state and fish had died. A BHCC ranger had removed the dead fish. He thought there were only 10-15 large fish left. It was difficult to remove these and place in other water due to the possibility of disease. The pond only had 4-5 inches of water on top of 3-4 feet of mud.
- ⌚ MC had written to Robert Walker head of BHCC parks and gardens with concerns over lack of maintenance. He had replied stating that any improvements to the pond would cost a lot of money and no money was available. But he agreed to cut back some overgrown vegetation.
- ⌚ AP had a copy of the 2018 report into the pond and a lot of work was needed. We hadn't known of this report. It had been brought to our attention by Sue Craig chair of Stanmer Preservation society.
- ⌚ MC had also had a meeting with Richard Waring our SDNP representative to ask for help. He had said he would write to BHCC.
- ⌚ The cycle barrier on Middle Street had fallen down possibly due to vandalism. MC would report this to East Sussex Highways..

3. Sussex University

Two of the three empty properties had now been renovated.

- ⌚ 80 Mill St vacated Nov 2016 now occupied.
- ⌚ 81 Mill St vacated June 2018

- ⌚ But 71 Park St vacated Sept 2017 was still derelict.

3. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

- ⌚ Old Granary conversion. Mr and Mrs MacRae SDNP/20/02491/FUL. No decision yet. It was expected on July 6th.
- ⌚ Court Farm Barns .Mr Huxham. Change of use to a dance studio and and art gallery. SDNP/20/ 02491/FUL decision expected on 10th September
- ⌚ Park Farm Shop. Mr Matthew Lenihan BARN 3 non illuminated signs. SDNP/20/03405/ADV.

Mr Lenihan attended the meeting to explain what was happening. There was intention to convert the barn opposite Park Farm shop into a coffee shop. He had sought advice from the planning dept. The people who would run this enterprise were doing the planning application asking for change of use and conversion. They had yet to go ahead. They had however already placed an application for the signage that would be on the outside of the barn.

The PC agreed that it was impossible to reach a decision without any idea of the cladding or appearance of the potential converted barn. It was an application out of sequence. This would be communicated to the planning dept at Lewes District Council.

4. FINANCE

- ⌚ Currently we had £6473.25. some could be spent on pond maintenance.
- ⌚ We had 2019 CIL community infrastructure levy award of £157.84. It would be spent on maintenance as it was too small an amount for a project.

7. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD.

None.

NEXT MEETING December 3rd 2020 7.30pm.