

MINUTES OF FALMER PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday December 3rd 2020 7.30pm

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

APOLOGIES None.

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. Fans could attend home matches from Dec 7th but only 2,000 were allowed in Tier 2 rules.
- Football car passes would be distributed by then.

2. Maintenance

- ESCC had completed cutting roadside verges as agreed with us. We had paid for 4 extra cuts. All councillors agreed to 4 extra cuts for 2021 cost £168.
- The pond grass area had only been cut once in 2020 which was in August. MC would like to use some of the new CIL award to pay for a general tidy up around the pond of self seeded vegetation. This vegetation was becoming substantial bushes and small trees and taking away beautiful views.
- The cycle barrier on Middle Street had been repaired.
- The road sign for Park Street had been put up again having been knocked down by a car.

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 still empty
- 71 Park St vacated Sept 2017 was still derelict but MG reported that it had just been gutted and work was expected to begin.

3. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

- Old Granary conversion. Mr and Mrs MacRae SDNP/20/02491/FUL. Application refused.
- Court Farm Barns .Mr Huxham. Change of use to a dance studio and art gallery.
- SDNP/20/ 02491/FUL More audio checks requested.
- Park Farm Shop. Matthew Lenihan non illuminated signs.SDNP/20/03405/ADV.
- Application granted.
- New house in the garden of Rose Cottage. East Street. SDNP/20/04592/FUL. Comments to be submitted by Dec 17th. All councillors agreed to an objection. Overdevelopment of a small area and zinc roof and rooflights not in keeping with the conservation area

4. FINANCE

- Current account £1.504.17
- All councillors agreed to precept again for £500.
- We had a 2020 CIL community infrastructure levy award of £1876. This came from the building of holiday cottages in Falmer at Court Farm. It had to be spent within 5 years and details on what had been spent had to be announced annually. CIL awards can be spent on

infrastructure maintenance and Jessica Riches from SDNP planning had said that it could be spent on Falmer pond maintenance subject to landowner's consent.

7. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD.

- AD suggested we made a donation to citizens advice who do such valuable community work. All agreed to donate £200.
- Denis Plowman had repaired the notice board that was situated on the wall outside the Swan Inn.
- Lewes Local Plan was nearly 5 years old and housing targets had been met. Until the plan was revised then housing numbers would be governed by housing need assessed at 800 per year. This took no account of land supply identified already as suitable. It could be a period of land grab for developers before the local plan was revised.
- BHCC were holding zoom consultations on the WEP ...Whole Estate Plan.... which was the land the city owned that surrounded the city, mainly acquired after the war from the Chichester estate and was now in the SDNP. The idea was to set a vision for the estates future. It would be a non statutory plan providing aspirations for the future. It was 12,800 acres of which 78% was farmland. Consultation would continue in the spring.
- Chairman's fund. MC asked councillors to approve a fund to provide things like gifts for volunteers. In particular Veronica Lenihan who did our accounts and Pat Asquith who weekly checked our rubbish bins, removed rubbish and put in new bin liners. All agreed this was a good idea and we should give a bottle of wine at Christmas and take them out for lunch.

NEXT MEETING April 13th 2021. 7.30pm