

MINUTES

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 6th September 2023, Foulden Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Carole Balding; Joseph Green; Simon McMahon; Stephen Parker (Chairman); Billy Pye.

In attendance: Judith Lawson (Clerk)

1	To receive apologies (LGA1972, s85(1)(2)) Cllr Cooper (unwell); Cllr Parnham (unwell). Apologies accepted.
2	To receive declarations of interest in any items to be discussed and grant any dispensation requests None.
3	To approve Minutes of the annual meeting held on 10th May 2023 and the ordinary meeting held on 15th June 2023 AGREED.
4	Reports Parish Council Clerk: following success by the Recreation Ground Charity in ordering free hedging from the Woodland Trust, it was agreed that similar should be ordered on behalf of the Village Hall Charity. Query regarding current status of remedial action for trees on village hall land, given current absence of Cllr Cooper. Clerk to follow up with CP Tree Services. SAM2: ongoing thanks were expressed to the resident who undertakes the moving and monitoring of the SAM2 units. It was noted that broadly speeding had reduced since the units had been deployed, though there were still a few outliers in terms of excessive speed. Parish Councillors: Cllr McMahon reported on the progress of installation of white gates at village entrances. He had confirmed with Highways that 30mph signs may only be installed where the speed restriction boundary is located. He continues to liaise with Highways. Cllr McMahon raised the issue of the recent unplanned power outage, caused by a tractor damaging overhead cables. It was queried whether there were a possibility of compensation for the village in recognition of the loss. Cllr Balding queried whether this incident had been reported to the Health and Safety Executive. Cllr McMahon agreed to follow up.
5	Public Participation None.
6	Correspondence (if any) None.
7	Planning (if any): to review School Road Development (standing item) Cllr McMahon reminded the meeting that this development had been approved some time back, with an estimated start date of a year's time. 21 dwellings are planned. It remains a standing item so that the parish council may monitor progress.
8	To consider granting dispensation to councillors for non-attendance during six months (as required)

	Given current personal circumstances experienced by Cllr Richard Cooper, it was proposed by Cllr Parker, seconded by Cllr Balding and unanimously AGREED that he should be granted a dispensation not to attend parish council meetings for six months.
9	To consider any actions arising as a result of the prior Village Hall Charity meeting It was queried, given the additional costs of temporary heating during the extensive amount of time the insurer has taken to resolve the subsidence issue (which required the switching off of the gas supply) whether this could be reclaimed from the insurer. If the reinstallation of the existing heating is delayed, would it be necessary to purchase new electric heaters and note any increase in costs, with a view to reclaiming those additional costs? To be explored with insurer. Cllr Balding agreed to explore whether this plan would be compatible with the existing electricity circuits and report into the next Village Hall Charity meeting.
10	To consider Internal Audit Report 2022/23 Noted. This has arrived in time for the statutory deadline for submission to the External Auditor.
11	To approve Payments and Bank Reconciliation to end August Payments AGREED. It was agreed that a specific schedule be created for Fendicks to ensure no duplication of payments. Reconciliation AGREED.
12	To receive update on streetlighting and decide upon maintenance contract Following the cessation of maintenance services by the existing supplier, clerk had obtained a quote from Cozens at a lower cost. It was AGREED that the clerk should accept the new quote, assuming that the service was like for like. Clerk to check
13	Further Public Participation None.
14	Date of next meeting and items for next meeting None further than already mentioned. Suggested date Wednesday 6 th December.

The meeting closed at 8.04pm.

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Chairman

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Date