

MINUTES OF FALMER PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday July 19th 2022 7.30pm

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

6 villagers 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 addressed as the meeting progresses.

MATTERS ARISING:

1. Stadium Issues

- The new liaison officer was Tomislav Majic. His official title was Safety and Security co-ordinator.
- Tannoy announcement at 6.30am on a Friday was a mistake.
- Car passes for the 2022/23 season would be delivered before the first home game of the new season 13th August.
- Pre-season friendly was July 30th.
- There will be a winter break for the World Cup in Qatar from 14th Nov-26th Dec.
- Stewards are parking in the village on match days. MC has complained to NHA. Jill Burt gave the car registration WH06 WKR of a steward who had parked regularly.

2 Village Maintenance.

- Falmer pond was in a poor state with low water levels. There was danger of fish dying yet again. The park ranger Nick Lane had said it was impossible to oxygenate the ponds due to low water and mud. MC asked for BHCC to be alerted if fish were dying. There had been one grass cut round the pond by BHCC.
- A new bench had appeared which didn't match any other existing bench and was out of keeping. MC to ask for it to be swapped for an older style bench.
- Nick Lane had said there was nothing he could do about the terrapins. Would be impossible to find them in the muddy water.
- The broken cycle barrier had been fixed.
- Peter Hyde from The Cumbrian clock company had quoted £235 for a service, and this was better than Smiths of Derby who quoted £296. We had accepted their quote.
- St Laurence church graveyard extension had been hit by Storm Eunice and 3 large trees had uprooted and fallen over and 2 other trees needed attention. The PC had donated £500 toward the clear up.
- Mark and Fran Woolley were holding a garden party on Sunday 26th 12-5pm as a fund raiser to help with the clearance.
- Extra grass cuts from ESCC on their road verges had begun. Dates were, 14th April, May 27th, 21st July 18th August 14th October, 7th November.
- Request from Jill Burt for the Lewes bus shelter to be replaced with a new window. MC had tried to clean them after they had been graffitied but hadn't worked. The side window was clear enough to see buses approaching. MG said he would consult Lee Flippance who might be able to help.

3. St Marys Farm Polowood shoot and associated problems.

- Weekend problems with noisy shooting parties continued. Our LDC councillor William Meyer was now dealing with this issue. But no news of any action.
- MG reported that the situation had improved
- Traffic issues. As Ridge Rd was a single carriageway country lane the official speed limit was 60mph. FPC had requested a lower speed limited of 30MPH. Our ESCC councillor Sarah Osborne had taken up this issue on our behalf. She had received a reply from ESCC stating that a lower speed limit was not possible. The explanation being it was important for lower 30mph speed limits to be retained for built-up areas.
- If lower speed limits were introduced on rural roads it would diminish the message they provide to drivers in built up areas.
- We had now requested SLOW DOWN signage. No news from Sarah Osborne of this request.

Planning.

1. Tithe medieval Barn

- Events venue plus new 3 associated buildings at Falmer Court. SDNP/21/01191/FUL and SDNP/21/01192/LIS. Approved on February 10th.
- The first event had taken place held on June 17th, a graduation ball for Sussex Uni for 150 people. Villagers at Orchard cottages and the Old Granary had heard the noise> the music had stopped at 11pm but had ben followed by lots of chanting of 'we want more'.
- The conditions set by the SDNP to be discharged before events could take place. These were not yet in place.
- Events should not be taking place but there were weddings booked for July 23rd and 30th..
- Guests had been unable to find the barn as there was no direction signage and had been in Court farmyard. This was causing trouble.
- Music noise would not exceed 85 decibels.
- Work on the new buildings would begin toward the end of 2022 and into spring 2023
- MC would hope to arrange another meeting with Mr and Mrs Woolley in August.

2. Bennetts field

- Student halls of residences for 555 bedrooms. Planning application LW/22/0175.
- FPC had submitted an objection.
- The decision hearing of LDC planning committee would probably take place at their August meeting.

FINANCE

- The accounts were submitted and accepted by councillors.

ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD.

- There was Avian flu in Brighton and signs had been put up by Falmer pond.

NEXT MEETING September 13th 2022. 7.30pm