

MINUTES OF FALMER PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday January 23rd 2018 7.00pm

PRESENT. Chair Melanie Cutress (MC) Martin Gapper (MG) John Burt (JB) Helen Herbert (HH)

APOLOGIES none.

5 villagers attended.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None

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

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

MATTERS ARISING:

1. Stadium Issues

- Match times and days continued to be changed. Crystal Palace v Brighton on Monday 8th Jan in the FA cup created no problems..
- Parking on Saturday for the match v Chelsea had seen less parking in Falmer North with 2 stewards but still only one barrier. Whereas Falmer South had got worse. MC had reported this to BHA .
- Quite a few cars had been parked on double yellow lines. MC had reported this to ESCC and asked for parking wardens to come out on match days.
- MC had attended a meeting of BHA's traffic management group in December and reported back. Firstly altogether 400 cars were being parked on match days on Brighton university campus and at the Health club. BHCC were investigating this as this quantity of cars exiting Village Way on match days was creating flow problems and impeding the P&R operation.
- Secondly for the Liverpool game Dec 3rd, the road From Falmer to Woodingdean had been gridlocked which had had a knock back queuing on the A27 and the A270 as far back as Wild Park. MC had advised BHA and BHCC transport that the Woodingdean traffic lights were too slow and needed an improved operation.
- It had been discovered that legally the stewards at our village entrances were only allowed to be in situ for half an hour after kick off. Eg for a 3pm kick off this meant no stewarding after 3.30pm. This went back to the 106 agreement drawn up after planning permission had been given for the stadium. Problems had ensued with the opening of the stadium such as supporters trying to use the village as a pick up point at the end of the game. So stewarding was need until at least 30 mins after the final whistle. This was now being revised.

2. A27 Bus Stop

- Everything now seemed to be back to normal with no more problems..
- The glass bus shelter overgrowing vegetation had been cut back by the Highways Agency.
- The wooden bus shelter had been vandalised after the Crystal Place game with some low panels being knocked out and before Christmas which wasn't connected to any football match.. Denis Plowman had very kindly repaired the shelter. Cost £29.70

3. Maintenance Issues.

- ESCC had taken responsibility for the east street fence but had said it didn't need immediate repair. Darren Little would also quote for a repair job.
- The 3 litter bins had been delivered to the Swan pub and MG would install them at the 2 bus stops and opposite the Swan pub either this week or next week .
- An issue had been raised by Hugo Davis as to the state of the wall from the graveyard extension to Court Farm. MC had reported it to Eric Huxham. Eric had reported back that BHCC would repair the wall at a cost of £6,000.
- JB said that The graveyard wall which also needs repair is still being looked into. Tree root damage had caused serious problems. Trees may have to be removed.
- The graveyard extension now looked very smart due to great efforts By Denis and June Plowman and some work from Balfour Beatty.
- MC would speak to Mickey Gapper about a tidy up round the pond to maintain views.

- HH said that Middle St still needed a clean up at the junction with Ridge Rd. Lots of mud in the corner obscuring double yellow lines. The drains might be blocked. MC to contact ESCC.
- LDC would supply a new street name sign for East St at the entrance to Falmer South.
- John Warton was helpfully dealing with Mill Street pavement as it was dangerously muddy and unfit to walk on. Perhaps BB would take the grass verge away?
- It was also suggested that BB might sweep the verges of Ridge Rd to clean up and enable ESCC to re paint the double yellow lines.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

- Falmer church yard extension had permission to cut back Leylandii and Beech.
- Falmer Court had their application for metal electronic gates turned down by the SDNP on the grounds of being out of keeping with the conservation area.

FINANCE

- The accounts were presented.
- The precept would remain at £500 for the next financial year.

ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD.

- At the September PC meeting Camper vans parking around Falmer pond in the summer months of June July and August had been an issue. The months when there were no parking controls.
- The new problem was of overflow parking from Sussex and Brighton University parking in the village and taking up all 4 hr waiting bays around the Swan pub and on Ridge rd. Many of these cars stayed all day. Many cars came from Stanmer Park where there had been a parking clamp down. HH told the meeting that Sussex Uni would loose 300 car parking spaces by the summer.
- After discussion it was decided to liaise with ESCC highways ask for all year round parking Monday to Friday with parking permit bays and 2 hr waiting bays throughout the village and from 9-5pm.. This would combat the potential summer problem when university people unable to park in Stanmer for free could park in residents bays. A petition calling for the changes would be the best way forward.40% of Zone F residents had to agree.. The cost of permits would increase to go to all year round.
- Also a new neighbourhood scheme called **Neighbourhood First** would be rolled out in January to help keep the environment safe, clean and green. Would tackle issues like dog fouling and fly tipping and would be out in the community in uniform..
- Sussex University students summer ball at the sports pavilion ..no further news.
- Andy Pearce was considering being co opted onto Parish Council.

NEXT MEETING Tuesday March 20th. 7pm