

FELBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month (except January and August)
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th September 2018 at 7.30pm in Felbridge Village Hall.

Present:

Mr. Jeremy Clarke (Chairman)
Mr. Ian McBryde (Vice Chairman)
Mrs. Bridget Huntington
Ms. Lesley Steeds (County Councillor)
Mrs. Patricia Slatter (in attendance)

Mrs. Joan Harwood
Ms. Georgina Chapman
Mr. Alan Woodroffe
Mrs. Linda Hainge

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from District Councillor Ken Harwood

2. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS**

There were no additions to those already disclosed.

3. **APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th July 2018 were approved and signed.

4. **ONGOING ITEMS**

Community Consultation:

(i) **Transport/Environment and Green Issues:**

a) Welcome to Felbridge White Gates: Refund now received from Surrey County Council for the gate which had to be removed.

(ii) **Leisure and Health Actions:**

a) Temporary Toilet: Will remain on the patio at the back of the Village Hall and until the end of October half term.

b) Drinking Fountain: **Action:** Linda Hainge to ask the Village Hall Committee if they will provide access to the existing water supply to reduce the cost of installing a water refill point/drinking fountain in the Village Hall grounds.

(iii) **Grass Cutting:**

a) Surrey Highway's response to Felbridge Parish Council's Level 2 formal complaint regarding their contractor's failure to manage or enforce the grass cutting contract for the village has been received. Despite FPC's feedback and complaints, Surrey Highways continue to accept the reports of their contractor and confirm that they will be paying the contractor in full. **Agreed:** Felbridge Parish Council will report Surrey Highways to the Local Government Ombudsman for their ongoing failure to manage this contract and for continuing to pay a contractor for works which FPC have repeatedly advised either did not take place or were not to a satisfactory standard. **Action:** Clerk draft a formal complaint to the Local Authority Ombudsman for approval at the next meeting.. **Action:** Clerk to make Tandridge District Council aware that the contractor has failed to deliver the works since TDC are paying towards the cost of the contract.

5. CIL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE:

Revenue: Works commenced on the development at Pixie Wood Farm off Rowplatt Lane in June. The Clerk has advised Tandridge District Council and asked for confirmation on the amount of CIL revenue to be paid from this development. **Action:** Clerk to monitor

Recorded Expenditure: The annual CIL return records expenditure on clearing footpaths and cutting back overgrown hedges on the Copthorne Road, Crawley Down Roads and A22 London Road and replacing bollards on the Crawley Down Road.

Suggested Future Expenditure

- (i) **All Weather Path** from the Copthorne Road through the woods to the rear of the Village Hall with new lamp post. Estimated cost for the powered post from Skanska is £4-£5K.
- (ii) **New Playground Equipment** – including accessible swings and swing boats.

6. FINANCE

- (i) Receipts and Payments for July and August 2018

Date	To / From	Description	Amount	Current Account
30-Jun		Brought Forward		£13,160.04
		Payments		
15-Jul	Clerk	Payroll	£524.32	
30-Jun	Clerk	Office Expenses (prev. month)	£15.99	
05-Jul	Cleaner	Bus Shelter Cleaning	£38.00	
31-May	Village Hall	Felbridge Village Hall - Rental	£308.80	
05-Jul	Air Ambulance	S137 Donation	£300.00	
15-Aug	Clerk	Payroll	£524.32	
02-Aug	Cleaner	Bus Shelter Cleaning	£38.00	
		Sub-Total	£1,749.43	£1,749.43
31-Aug		Carried Forward		£11,410.61

31-Aug	Deposit Account Balance	£20,016.30
31-Aug	Reserves (Traffic calming, bus shelter, playground resurfacing)	-£15,000.00
31-Aug	Available Funds (excluding reserves)	£16,426.91

- (ii) **Section 137 Payments:** None were received for this period.
- (iii) **Online Banking:** RFO is still working with the bank to set up the online banking account. **Action:** RFO to progress and report back when information is available.
- (iv) Contribution from County Councillor. Lesley Steeds has allocated £1250 from her funding towards the cost of village maintenance. **Action:** Clerk to submit claim forms to SCC

7. COUNCILLORS' FEEDBACK

- (i) **Gate by Birch Grove:** Three quotes have now been received. Jeremy Clarke recommended having the gates engraved for security. **Agreed:** It was agreed to have the gates engraved. **Action:** Jeremy Clarke to report back with final costs and recommendations.
- (ii) **World War One Commemoration:** Clerk has asked contractor to lay a concrete base on the Village Green on to which the WW1 Commemorative base will be fixed. Delivery is expected in October. **Agreed:** It was agreed to order an additional two 'silent soldier' silhouettes to be placed by the bench. The other three silhouettes will be placed at the Limes Pond, the top of Mill Lane and at Furnace Wood layby. Twelve replacement large poppies were ordered in 2017 and are scheduled for delivery in October. **Action:** Clerk to place order for silhouettes.
- (iii) **A22 Footpath Clearance:** Works are ongoing and scheduled for completion in early September.
- (iv) **Bollard:** Bridget Huntingdon reported that a bollard had been knocked down near to the Village Hall entrance. **Action:** Clerk to ask contractor to reposition when next in the village.
- (v) **County Councillor Update:** The issues with the resurfacing of Mill Lane were still being followed up. Surrey County Council continue to struggle with reduced funding from central government and additional costs for adult and child care in the county. This would lead to further reductions in resources and budgets. SCC had told county councillors that all expenditure had to deliver value for money.
- (vi) **Bench in Village Hall Grounds:** Linda Hainge reported that the grass around the bench near the playground had worn away and the area became muddy regularly. **Action:** Clerk to ask contractor to look at options and make a recommendation.
- (vii) **Outdoor Gym Use:** Linda Hainge asked if the Parish Council had any objections to fitness instructors using the adult gym equipment to conduct fitness sessions or classes. **Agreed:** Felbridge Parish Council had no objection and were pleased that it was being utilised.

County Councillor Lesley Steeds left the meeting.

8. SURREY HIGHWAYS:

- (i) **Highways Meeting with MP Sam Gymiah:** Jeremy Clarke is awaiting a date for his requested meeting with MP Sam Gymiah.
- (ii) **Mill Lane Resurfacing Works:** SCC's contractor was scheduled to repair/resurface in mid-June but not work has taken place **Action:** Lesley Steeds to follow up.
- (iii) **Crawley Down Road Developments** – Surrey Highways have now responded to Felbridge Parish Council's letter regarding the impact of further developments on the local roads. Jeremy Clarke considers that there is still not a clear answer to the issue.

9. PLANNING

Applications Considered at the Planning Meeting on 2nd August attended by Jeremy Clarke, Alan Woodroffe, Georgina Chapman and Joan Harwood

TA/2018/1164 Edenbrook, Wire Mill Lane, Felbridge, RH7 6HJ Erection of detached outbuilding.

Resolved: No Action

TA/2018/1008 Mill End House, Wire Mill Lane, Felbridge RH7 6HJ Demolition of existing detached double garage. Erection of two storey detached outbuilding incorporating integral garage to provide ancillary residential accommodation.

Resolved: No Action

Joan Harwood left the meeting

TA/2018/1354 Southern Water Compound, Copthorne Road, Felbridge

Use of building for B8 storage and erection of extension to existing commercial building.

Resolved: No Action

Applications Considered at the Planning Meeting on 16th August attended by Ian McBryde Alan Woodroffe. Linda Hainge. Joan Harwood and Georgina Chapman

TA/2018/1442 Wendover 74 Copthorne Road Felbridge RH19 2NU 1 x 3-bed dwelling and 1 x 5-bed detached dwellings with associated parking and amenity space involving demolition of existing dwelling

Resolved: FPC commented on the previous application 2017/2637, objecting to the narrow access provided to the rear property, which was too close to the proposed front dwelling and too close to the boundary with the neighbouring property to the west. FPC also proposed that the width of the front dwelling be made narrower and that the access be swapped to the east side of the plot. There do not appear to be any changes to the proposed access arrangements in this application, so FPC's comments remain as per the previous application.

TA/2018/1350 Dormer Cottage Woodcock Hill Felbridge RH19 2RD Demolition of 3 bed cottage, garage and numerous outbuildings. Replace with 4 bed house and garage

Resolved: FPC have no objection to the replacement of the current buildings with a 4 bedroom house and garage, subject to TDC ensuring that any recommendations within the wildlife surveys attached to the application are strictly adhered to.

Applications considered at the Parish Council Meeting

TA/2018/1743 Birchwood, Twitten Lane, Felbridge RH19 2NZ Erection of single storey rear extensions and open porch to front elevation.

Resolved: No Action

TA/2018/1628/TPO Churchill House, West Park Road, Newchapel, RH7 6HT

Resolved: No Action

TA/2018/1645 Hunters End, The Limes, Felbridge, RH19 2QY Proposed roof conversion to include dormer to rear, 2 x rooflights to the front

Resolved: No Action

TA/2018/1436 Church of St. John the Devine, The Glebe, Felbridge, RH19 2QH Occasional temporary banners to be hung on the south wall of the church building to hang for approximately 6 weeks. 3-4 banners per year.

Resolved: Felbridge Parish Council objects to this application. They consider the length of time requested for the display of temporary banners to be excessive. The size of the banners is also considered excessive. Although the actual signs would not be illuminated, lighting them from below would create a similar effect. An application in 2011 for the installation of solar panels was refused on the basis that 'it would be out of keeping with the appearance of the building and detrimental to its character'. FPC consider the display of banners as detailed in this planning application would have the same effect. The Parish Council would not be against the idea of short term, specific signs for special events in the Ecclesiastical calendar.

TA/2018/1578/TPO Blendworth, 60 Copthorne Road, Felbridge RH19 2NU

Resolved: No Action

TA/2018/1666/TPO Yerba Buena, Herons Close, Copthorne RH10 3HF

Resolved: Felbridge Parish Council are concerned that without a Tree Surgeon's opinion it isn't possible to identify whether or not the proposed works are necessary and if so whether they are the minimal works needed. For this reason they feel unable to comment further.

TA/2018/1518 Ferndale, Domewood, Copthorne RH10 3HD

Resolved: No Action

TA/2018/1431 Felmere, Copthorne Road, Felbridge RH19 2QG

Resolved: Felbridge Parish Councils object to this new dwelling in the Green Belt. It is also not in a sustainable location.

(ii) **Applications Received by Neighbouring Authorities**

- a) East Grinstead Town Council have said that they will consider the sale of the car park on Imberhorne Lane near to the junction with the A264
- b) Worth Parish Council strongly objected to the amended plans for a development at Gibbshaven Farm which was subsequently refused by Mid Sussex County Council.

(iii) **Other Planning Issues 17 Copthorne Road Appeal: Agreed:** Felbridge Parish Council agreed a response for submission in relation to the appeal on the refusal of this planning application.

Action: Clerk to submit response.

10. **CLERK'S REPORT**

(i) **Correspondence:** Request for contribution towards a speed survey on the border with Burstow Parish; letter of thanks received from Air Ambulance for S137 donation. A resident has emailed her thanks for the maintenance work being carried out in the village by the Parish Council.

(ii) **Damaged Footpath Outside 4a Rowplatt Lane:** Reported again to Surrey Highways since has now been damaged since June. **Action:** Clerk to monitor.

(iii) **Deer Accidents:** A number of accidents took place over the summer involving collisions between deer and vehicles. **Resolved:** FPC acknowledged that these events were distressing for residents but felt that additional signage would not prevent deer from running into the road.

(iv) **Damage to Village Hall Grounds** Vandals had damaged vegetation and pushed over the temporary toilet in the village hall grounds over the bank holiday weekend. CCTV has been provided to Surrey Police who have been able to identify a vehicle and driver and would be conducting enquiries.

(v) **Additional Signs at Restaurant on A22:** TDC Enforcement Officer has confirmed that a restaurant on the A22 Woodcock Hill has been served with a notice to remove large banner style adverts for which planning permission was not granted.

(vi) **South of England Society Advertising Signs:** The SEAS have agreed to stop placing estate agent style advertising signs without permission in Felbridge.

11. **CONSULTATIONS**

(i) **Tandridge District Council Local Plan - Garden Village Consultation:** Felbridge Parish Council have submitted a response to TDC's plan which is available on the News tab on the FPC website.

12. **BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING**

No additional business for the next meeting.

13. **DATES OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL AND PLANNING MEETINGS**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 4th October at 7.30pm. A planning Meeting is scheduled for Thursday 20th September.

The meeting closed at approximately 10.40pm.

Patricia Slatter
Clerk to Felbridge Parish Council

