

Falstone Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th December, 2021. Present – S Jopling (chair), S Cowan, M Halliday, J Richardson, A Mansfield

No.	Activity
1	Apologies received from N Welton
2	Public Participation Ms F Williams, newly appointed Adventure Education Manager of Hawkhurst Scout Adventures, came to explain her role and the objective of the centre. The main season is from March to October, with school groups through the week and scout groups at weekends.
3	Minutes of the Previous Meeting Previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record.
4	Matters Arising Ash Trees on PC Land – N Ridley of Park End confirmed he had looked at the trees on the river bank but the fear is that if trees are removed this will cause road erosion. L Hemmings, Woodland Officer of Forestry Commission, provided 3 professionals, who could carry out tree inspections. Electric in Jubilee Park – Thanks to Neil for arranging the install of the distribution board and a suitable socket. In the spring, it is proposed to dig in a cable through the Park up to the bus shelter.
5	Planning Applications - none
6	Village Website – nothing to report
7	Correspondence Passing Places on Donkleywood/ Lanehead Road – NCC Highways stated with only 1 recorded accident on this route within the last 22 years, this does not give a basis to carry out any safety assessment. A disappointing reply but 2 recent incidents could be relayed. Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons – the parish council agreed to consider something more local rather than take part in the beacons lighting on Hadrian's Wall in June 2022.

	<p>Falstone Tea Room - NNPA confirmed a new lease for the tea room has been agreed.</p> <p>The renewal of electric charging point will be part of a programme to replace and renew charging points within the county.</p>
8	<p>Financial</p> <p>Revised invoice for electric, standing charge cost only, £67.24, paid.</p> <p>Precept for FY 22/23 –</p> <p>Bank balance at 2 December was £14508.91.</p> <p>Discussion took place on proposed possible expenditure next year – Cemetery maintenance, fit cable within Jubilee Park, Ash tree survey, memorial repairs and Jubilee garden.</p> <p>It was proposed by M Halliday, seconded by S Jopling and all agreed to not increase the precept (£4450) again next year.</p>
9	<p>Village Hall Update</p> <p>Following a recent meeting of the Village Hall committee, Andrew reported –</p> <p>A structural survey to be arranged on the hall.</p> <p>Bookings are now coming in and hire charges will be reviewed.</p> <p>The heating will be operational soon with a new oil tank installed.</p> <p>The water leak is ongoing and is a costly expenditure.</p>
10	<p>AO B</p> <p>Hawkhope burn near Hawkhope Farm, a tree and branches are causing a dam, restricting water flow. The local FC depot to be contacted.</p> <p>Over the weekend work took place in Stannersburn to relieve pressure on the telephone lines due to a broken tree branch. After contacting Cllr J riddle, he was able to organise a contractor and Openreach to solve the problem.</p> <p>A thank you to The Blackcock staff for opening their doors, offering and delivering hot food and warmth for any local village resident, during the recent 4 days without electric due to storm Arwen.</p>
11	Date of next meeting 11 January 2022

Signed

Date