



MINUTES OF THE FERNWOOD EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**held at 7.30pm on 13 November 2017
at the Fernwood Village Hall, Rubys Avenue, Fernwood**

Present: Parish Councillors: D. Harrison, H. Micah, B. Smith (Chair), J. Weale, M. Weale
Councillors: Neil Mison, Keith Walker
Clerk: Marion Fox Goddard
Assistant Clerk: Emma Oldham

153. Public Forum

No public in attendance.

154. Apologies for absence

Councillor Branston

155. Declarations of interest

None

156. The way forward for Fernwood Parish Council with management companies and developers

Councillor Smith explained that he had called the meeting to discuss with the Parish Council how to move forward working with management companies following the meeting with Gary Cox of FirstPort on 27th September 2017 and in light of the possibility that there will be more management companies in the Fernwood Parish as planned developments are built. He reiterated that the Parish Council want to own and manage/maintain the land in Fernwood rather than use management companies in future.

a. Current Approach

Councillor Smith detailed that he felt the current approach is not working well; despite the Parish Council being in contact with FirstPort, decisions are being made without inclusion of the Parish Council, examples being the relocation of the Forest School and the removal of table and benches near the park.

b. Communication

It was detailed that we need to be clear to FirstPort that their remit is to repair, renew and replace.

i. Meetings

As the current arrangements are not working, the Parish Council discussed meeting with the Regional Manager (currently Chris Attwater) and a representative from David Wilson Homes (possibly Dawn Griffiths – who has dealt with complaints) on an ongoing basis, rather than the property manager.

ii. Social Media

To give clarity on responsibilities, reference to management companies including FirstPort should be taken off the Parish Council screens and the Parish Council will not add details to any Parish Council social media. (Details on how to book the tennis courts will remain).

iii. Fanfare

To give clarity on responsibilities, management companies including FirstPort articles should not be included in Fanfare.

c. Complaints

Should there be any issues with the following parties, it was discussed who a complaint should be sent to:

i. Development Company/Landowner

Before or during a build, should there be an issue, the planning authority shall be contacted.

Following the building phase, the local MP, County Council and District Council shall be contacted to find a solution.

ii. Management Company

In this case, the complaint will go to the land owner copying in planning, Nottinghamshire County Council and the local member of parliament.

iii. Planning Authority

In this case, a letter should go to Newark and Sherwood District Council.

iv. County Council

In this case, a letter should be sent to the leader of and chief executive of Nottinghamshire County Council.

d. **Monitoring**

The councillors, discussed the following means of monitoring on an ongoing basis:

i. Development Company

A sub – group of councillors shall monitor developments.

ii. Management Company

Strategy group to be reformed.

iii. Planning Authority – 106 agreements

The Parish Council will monitor these with the councillors being up to date on the 106 agreements. Regular dialogue will be had with officers at Newark and Sherwood District Council to ensure the agreements are adhered to. Should there be any digression, the Parish Council will write to the district council to request it is addressed.

Actions agreed:

Policy document to be drafted for agreement at the January Parish Council Meeting
(Clerk/Chairman)

Letter to be sent to Gary Cox of FirstPort to update him following this meeting **(Clerk)**

Adoption of Hunters Road to be investigated **Cllr Keith Walker**

20/11/17.

