



Minutes of the Meeting of Fernwood Parish Council held on Monday 21st September 2015 which commenced at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Ruby's Avenue, Fernwood.

Present: Cllrs. J Weale, M Weale, A Barson, J Gould, B Smith, Dee Harrison, P. Murray, County Cllr S. Saddington, District Cllr N. Mison, David Heath

The Chairman added an additional item to discuss the relocation of a gate at the village hall to the side of the village green instead of the play park side.

1. Apologies for absence.
Cllrs I & K Walker
2. Declarations of interest.
None
3. Minutes of the meeting held on July 27th 2015.
The above was proposed by Cllr. J. Gould and seconded by Cllr. B. Smith that the Minutes were a true record and were unanimously agreed and duly signed by the Chairman.
4. Matters arising.
Cllr. M. Weale asked if the sign from item 9 had been erected and the Clerk confirmed that it had. Additionally Cllr Weale asked if the flower beds had been reported to the agent, again the Clerk confirmed that she and Mr Heath of the FRA had both reported them.
5. Chairman's report.
Cllr. J. Weale reported that the meadow that was recently in discussion as to who would cut it has now been resolved and will be cut by the farmer as before, the hog weed and dog mess is now not an issue as previously thought. The "20 is plenty" signs may have to be removed as Nottinghamshire highways have received a complaint, this then raises concerns over other signs on the adopted areas, do they have approval? It was agreed for the Chairman to write to the highways department raising the concerns.
6. Chairman of the Fernwood Residents Association (FRA) report
The chairman Mr David Heath reported the following:
 - Following on from the previous report, the conservation group are expected to be granted approval for an area within the meadow for wild flowers. The dead trees will shortly be resolved.
 - The Fernwood Fanfare now it is being produced more often are appealing for more volunteers to help with the delivery of the publication.

- The open meeting on the 1st September was a good lively public meeting and 1st Port charges were queried and discussed, following this a survey will be looked into. The presentation from the hospital group was excellent.

The Chairman brought forward item 11b

11b Planning Application 15/00846/OUT

The Parish Council discussed the outline application and agreed to object to the proposed build. The Council are concerned with the 1mtr distance from the proposed build to the neighbouring boundary they think this is too close. Will it be in keeping with the area as a wooded area, what will happen to the cherry trees? Some time ago it was thought that the properties would be bungalows, would this not be a better option? It would be less intrusive for the existing properties. Finally as the hydro pool was initially a building providing a service could the land not be used to provide some sort of service again? Vets, doctors, library, dentist

7. County Councillor and District Councillors' reports:

Cllr. N. Mison had asked the question as to why the residents of Fernwood cannot have a rebate on their Council Tax. The reason is that it is a tax and not a charge for services. Other areas that are different are only so based on their precept. He attended the recent open day held by Persimmon and also that he has not yet been given a date for the outline proposal from David Wilson Homes (DWH) to be discussed and decided on.

Cllr. S. Saddington has been keeping the Council upto date with her campaign for double yellow lines within Fernwood and at the moment this is not being supported by Highways. The reasoning so far is that the parking within Fernwood is not sufficient.

The recent public meeting held by the FRA was not attended by the officers from Education as unfortunately they attended the School instead of the village hall. The Environment and Sustainable committee have launched a £25,000 scheme for gateway signs which may be a consideration for Fernwood in the future.

Cllr. Saddington also kindly donated £120 towards the firework display on the 8th November and reminded the Council that they are entitled to 5 x 25kg bags of salt.

The Chairman closed the meeting to hear the following concerns from residents.

- After attending the open day held by Persimmon there are queries regarding the services especially sewage and where they will be, as Persimmon were unable to provide the answers, Cllr. N. Mison will look into the proposed infrastructure for the South build.
- Why are 1st Port leaving the grass cuttings behind?
- The traffic and parking within Fernwood is still bad, do DWH have a health & safety traffic management plan?

8. Good Causes application from Fernwood Foxes

The Fernwood foxes applied for £187 towards the cost of hiring the village hall to hold a charity event in aid of Sarcoma UK and Breast Cancer. It was proposed by Cllr. P. Murray and seconded by Cllr. A. Barson to provide the funding of £187.00

9. A. Renovation of the Fernwood village hall meeting rooms to create one large room

Newark & Sherwood District Council (NSDC) contacted 3 builders for the quotations to make the 2 meeting rooms and the corridor into one large room. Two of the three builders provided their quotations and the Parish Council unanimously agreed to accept the quotation provided by Boundary builders, the cost of the building work will be £16,716.60, which includes the contingency fund and 11% fees charged by NSDC. The village hall is very busy and the smaller rooms are not large enough to accommodate the users when we have 2 events wanting the hall at the same time. Concerns over the additional parking that may be required once the work is completed as the parking is already insufficient and could be even worse as the hall is busier and busier.

B. To discuss the relocation of a gate at the village hall to the side of the village green instead of the play park side

The Parish Council agreed to go ahead with the work and for the Clerk to arrange the winning contractor bid at a cost of no more than £2,000

10. Strategy group feedback/recommendations

a. An update on the Neighbourhood plan

There was a meeting recently held and the group are at the moment gathering information to then hold a meeting with Helen Metcalf and Natalie Cockerel, who are providing professional services to the group.

b. An update from the recent development meeting

There has not yet been a date set for the next meeting but it will be to discuss the access and egress to the village

c. An update on the OM strategy group

A meeting was recently held with DWH regarding the poor performance from 1ST Port, DWH have confirmed they will not action anything at the moment as they do not see poor performance as a trigger only no performance. A letter will be sent to the national directors of DWH. A recent survey regarding the charges has already had 125 responses and of those 95% state they were not aware of the extra charges.

David Heath asked the Council to approve sending a letter to NSDC reminding them of the intention to take over the open spaces within Fernwood. This was agreed unanimously.

The Parish Council thanked the strategy group for all their work.

11. Planning Applications

- a. Balderton footpath 10 diversion
Cllr. Mison will be passing the application back due to the wording
- b. Planning Consultation 15/00846/OUT – Including correspondence from a resident
See earlier (After Item 6)
- c. 15/00440/RMAM
No Objections
- d. 15/01631/FUL
No objections as long as consideration is given to the neighbours
- e. 15/01596/NPA
Agree with Fulbeck PC and their objections

12. Exempt Item Staffing Issue.

The press and public in accordance with the public bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960 section 1 will not be permitted to stay for this item
A matter was discussed and resolved

13. Correspondence

- a. A letter from the NHS regarding the recently reported death rates within and around Newark – The Chairman to write a response to the group
- b. A letter of complaint regarding catering at a recent event- Cllr Weale and the Clerk to discuss with Mr Cox
- c. A letter from Hough on the Hill PC regarding Fulbeck Airfield Wind Farm - see item 11. e

14. Clerks Report

- a. Fernwood foxes container
Permission was granted for the Foxes to store their container in the carpark at the village hall until May 2016
- b. Grant Thornton audit
The Audit was returned with no matters of concern to not conclude the Audit. The audit in future years must be signed 1st by the Clerk and the figure for the loan balance was changed as this was incorrectly entered last year and was highlighted last year.
- c. Firework display budget
The budget was set at £1000 and the insurance of £88.20 for the additional insurance cover
- d. Relocation of “20 is plenty” signs and additional 30 speed limit signs.
The relocation of the signs concerns the Parish Council for the health and wellbeing of the residents. What if a child was to walk out onto the road with a car travelling at 30 MPH instead of 20? Are the campaign group aware of the

response we have had from highways? A meeting is to be organised with the highways team.

15. Bills for payment

See list attached

16. Councillors reports

Cllr. Gould reported that he is receiving complaints regarding litter within the village. A litter picking event is to be arranged.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 26th October 2015 starting at 19.00 at the village hall.