MINUTES OF THE FERNWOOD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
held at 7pm on 14 May 2018
at the Fernwood Village Hall, Rubys Avenue, Fernwood

Present:	Councillors:	D. Harrison, M. Hartley, H. Micah, B. Smith (Chair), J. Weale, M. Weale
		District Councillor N. Mison
	Clerk:	Marion Fox Goddard
In Attendance:		Assistant Clerk – Emma Oldham 20 + members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Nigel Branston (Vacation).

2. Chair's Report on Parish Events

See Appendix 1.

3. Governance Statement & Financial Report for the year 2017/18

a) The Parish Councillors resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statement and the Chairman duly signed the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, 2017/18 Part 3, Section 1.
b) The Parish Councillors resolved to approve the Accounting Statements and the Chairman duly signed the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18 Part 3, Section 2.

4. Neighbourhood Plan

See the Chair's report.

5. Representatives of voluntary groups within the Parish to report on their progress in the last year and plans for the future

Chuter Ede School – Fernwood – A parent and 2 school children presented ideas the children have come up with to improve facilities in Fernwood. This was a project done by the year 4 children at the school; the majority of the year 4 children wanted to see improved play facilities in the village. A key request was for items for older children and to name a new play area in Daniel's honour.

Fernwood Amateur Dramatic Society (FADS) – Report from Mollie Weale - This group has been running for 10 years, has 20 members and new members are most welcome. They do a pantomime most years and their next performance is a murder mystery/comedy on June 14th at Fernwood Village Hall.

Fernwood Community Church – Report from Pastor Carl Meachem - A team from Newark Evangelical Church has started a family service every Sunday morning at Fernwood Village Hall. Each week 40/50 people attend and everyone from Fernwood is most welcome. They also hold a service at Lancaster Grange once a month. They hope to do youth work in the future.

Fernwood Forest School – Report given by Emma Oldham -The Forest School celebrated its first anniversary in March. They meet on the last Saturday and first Sunday of each month, doing activities such as den building, bug hunting and campfire cooking. Approximately 50 children attend each month. The group teaches children to be confident, resilient and to build friendships. Older children now volunteer to help lead the younger groups and some parents and teachers have received training and carer development from the sessions. In November 2017, 16 head teachers from Japan visited to see the Forest School and another group are due to visit this month. Meeting attendees gave this report a round of applause.

Fernwood Residents Association – Report given by Dave Mack and Ian McGregor - FRA has had some big changes in the last year with committee members standing down and new committee members joining the group; they now have a strong team. The committee has 2 people looking after communications, 2 people looking after events and 1 person heading the Maintenance Panel which liaises with FirstPort. Last year they organised the summer fete and Christmas fireworks. This year there is no Summer Fair, but plans are underway for a Christmas Market and Christmas fireworks and possibly World Cup Events and New Years Celebrations. The FRA is due to be rebranded 'My Fernwood' with a magazine and new website. The Maintenance Panel has 10 members and there are representatives from each area in Fernwood. When something is requested/needed in Fernwood, the request should go to this panel. The group would welcome new committee members and helpers for the events/activities they carry out in the village.

Fernwood Petanque Club – See appendix 2.

6. Open Forum for parishioners' comments and questions

I. Question about what is being done about noisy speed humps – County Councillor Keith Walker reported that Jo Horton (Via) will be conducting a site visit on 17/5/18 to look at this issue.
II. Dave Mack detailed that Fernwood Residents group have not taken a stance on the British Gypsum application. Ian McGregor has collected some information which he is happy to share if anyone would like it.
III. Question about how the Parish Council communicates – currently through agendas/minutes on notice boards, Facebook and the council's website.

Meeting closed at 19:20pm

Appendix 1: Chairman's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

This is my second Annual Parish Meeting as Chairman and I am pleased to report on the highlights of the activities of Fernwood Parish Council during the past year. I am privileged to have a hardworking, committed team of Parish Councillors and to report on the work the council has carried out.

Council Members

- At the time of being elected Chairman, the Parish Council had seven councillors. It was with regret that Cllr Michael Phelan and Cllr Peter Murray decided to stand down this year. I would like to thank them for their contribution to the Parish Council, their knowledge, skills and experience will be sorely missed.

- The two vacancies were filled by co-option and I would like to officially welcome Cllr Nigel Branston and Cllr Henry Micah to the Parish Council.

- Three Parish Councillors attended training in the last year which included information on the legal framework of a Parish Council, roles of councillors, Code of Conduct, Standing Orders and engagement with the community.

- Councillors have represented Fernwood Parish Council at a number of meetings throughout the year including meetings with; Newark and Sherwood District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Newark MP Robert Jenrick and Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils. Recently a development meeting was held that included representatives of external stakeholders that including Barrett David Wilson Homes, Suthers School and Bantycock.

Council Staff

- At the time of writing, the Council employs three staff, including the Clerk to the Council Marion Fox Goddard, Assistant Clerk to the Parish Council Emma Oldham and the Village Hall Caretaker Malcolm Dickinson.

- I would like to take this opportunity to thank the council staff for all their hard work this year.

Review of 2017 - 2018

- **Fernwood Neighbourhood Plan**

The referendum on the Fernwood Neighbourhood Plan was held on the 28th September 2017 and resulted in 295 people voting in favour and 48 people voting against. As a result, Newark and Sherwood District Council formally adopted the plan, which is now part of the documentation that is used by planning officers when deciding on future planning applications.

- **Fernwood Parish Council Five Year Strategic Plan**

In June 2017 the Council agreed and adopted a five-year strategic plan. The aim of the plan is to better focus the Parish Council over the coming years and communicate to residents its commitment to protect and enhance the community within the parish.

There are eight key strategy points four of which include:

o Work closely with the District and County Council Planning departments on all planning matters and carefully monitor such applications to ensure that they reflect the principles contained within the Village Neighbourhood Plan and the Adopted Core Strategy.

o To widely promote the desire of the Parish Council to take ownership (Freehold) of the estate land.

o Encouraging appropriate development within the settlement boundary that enhances our community and economic vibrancy.

o To oppose all planning applications made by development companies that include the implementation or use of management companies.

These have been the main focus over the last year along with elements of the associated action plan. It is hoped that this Strategic Plan will help focus the current and the future Fernwood Parish Council, in promoting and celebrating Fernwood as a great place to live, work and play. The Strategic Plan is available to be viewed on the Parish Council Website.

• Barrett David Wilson Homes (BDWH), Larkfleet Homes (LFH) and Persimmon Homes (PH).

As everyone is probably aware these are the developers who are currently planning developments in our area.

- BDWH to the north of Fernwood between the village and the A1 and the area land behind the scrapyard. A development of 1050 dwellings. Their outline planning permission was granted.
- LFH on the area of land (field) to the right Hollowdyke Lane, when looking from the Great North Road. To be known as Fernwood Meadows South a development of 350 dwellings.
- PH to the south of Fernwood to the right of the LFH development on the area of land to the left of Shire Lane and the area of land to the right of Shire Lane stretching down to the A1. A development of 1800 dwellings. Their outline planning permission was granted.

Representatives of the council attended the planning meeting at N&SDC, on the evening when the decision was to be made on whether to approve the outline planning permission for the BDWH North Build. Cllr Mollie Weale presented a well-structured argument against elements of the application and although the application was approved, the use of Goldstraw Lane and Dale Way for construction traffic was not.

• Fernwood Neighbourhood Watch

- Fernwood is a registered Neighbourhood Watch area and representatives of the Parish Council attend meetings of the Local Action Group at Newark and Sherwood District Council, where issues of ASB, etc., are discussed and actions agreed.
- There has been sporadic instances of anti-social behaviour and thefts within Fernwood over the last year and the representatives Fernwood Neighbourhood Watch continue to monitor the situation and communicate with our local PCSO's and N&SDC antisocial behaviour officers.
- New members are always welcome, residents can join the Neighbourhood Watch by visiting the national Neighbourhood Watch or the local Notts Watch websites.

• Concluding Remarks

- I would like to finish by thanking my fellow councillors, staff and residents that have made my second year as chairman so memorable. The support I have received continues to be first class.
- I would also like to thank Cllr Keith Walker (NCC and NSDC), Cllr Ivor Walker (NSDC) and Cllr Neil Mison (NSDC) for all their advice and guidance to the Parish Council over the last 12 months.

Barry Smith

Chairman Fernwood Parish Council

Appendix 2: Report on Fernwood Petanque Club

Fernwood Petanque Club moves from strength to strength. We meet 5 times a week, one of these is an indoor session. We have at present 37 members. The club is registered with Petanque England and 12 members are also registered individually with Petanque England. The club sends 2 triples teams to the National Inter-Regional Triples Competition in Hayling Island. Fernwood also have teams in the Mercia Winter League, Sherwood Shield and evening Triples League. We also enter the Champion of Champions Doubles, Triples and Over 50's Doubles competitions. Two of our members, Sally Elson and Alison Baker won the Rainworth Open Ladies Doubles. Alison also won the ladies prize in the Speed Melee at Chesterfield. Sally won the ladies prize in our Triples Melee staged successfully at Fernwood. Fernwood have had friendly competitions with Lincoln Branley PC, Carr Bank PC, Mansfield PC and Arena PC. In regional competitions we compete against teams from Nottingham, Mansfield, Worksop, Chesterfield, Bourne, Burton Joyce and Eastwood Park. Members have represented the Mercia Region in matches against East Midlands, Northern and Heart of England Regions. Fernwood has one member, John Proctor, who umpires on a national basis.

Fernwood PC also has an active social side, indoor buffet every Friday. Trips in 2018 have included Benidorm, Gunton Hall, Corton, Ilfracombe, Eastbourne, Greyhound Racing, Horse Racing and a Barn Dance in the Village Hall. Future planned trips are to Fuerteventura, Benidorm, Corton (turkey & tinsel), Gunton Hall and Skegness.

Fernwood PC raised £212.50 donated to Balderton Alzheimer's Association. We are an equal opportunities group and are grateful for the generosity of Fernwood Residents for donating 3 wheelchairs for our use with lass able members to enable all members to join our social events.

New Members are always welcome.



3/4/19.