

Church Fenton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Church Fenton Parish Council held on Thursday 11th January 2018

Present: Cllr Sarah Chester; Cllr Jo Mason; Cllr Andrew Mason ;Cllr Craig Blakey; Cllr Stuart Spensley, Cllr Rebecca Hunt, Cllr Ross Higham

Jeremy Sherlock (Clerk);

SDC Cllrs Musgrave and Ellis

18 members of the public

80. Apologies, Declarations, and Dispensations

The Clerk reported that a dispensation request from Cllr Higham regarding the White Horse had been approved

81. Public Session

The condition of the access road to the Station Car Park was raised. It is unclear who owns this road. Cllr Blakey agreed to ask his Land agent to check and report back.

82. Reports

Cllr Musgrave advised that there had been no further progress regarding the site next to the Parish Church with current proposals being seen as unacceptable, and he is encouraging the Planners to determine the application. Further work is taking place on the 5 year Land Supply including identifying empty homes and identifying Council owned sites suitable for development. There are a number of imminent appeals where the current supply will be tested.

The Clerk thanked Cllr Musgrave for his assistance with an issue regarding the emptying of bins in the village.

83. Minutes of the Meetings held on 23rd November 2017

Resolved that the minutes represented a true record of the meetings.

84. Matters Arising

None.

85. For Discussion

- a. **Community Shop** – the Clerk reported that following the decision taken at the last meeting to proceed with the acquisition of the Community Shop:
 - i. Borrowing approval for £359,000 has been received from DCLG for the acquisition.
 - ii. A formal offer for £350,000 has been submitted.
 - iii. A draft contract for the acquisition has been received from the vendors solicitors.

The draft contract from the vendors solicitors raise some issues regarding how the purchase should proceed. The contract proposes a 10% (£35,000) deposit on exchange. This is only an issue if there is a significant gap between exchange and completion as during this period the Council would not receive any rent. The monthly cost of this funding would be £110.01. A lower deposit of £17,500 has been requested.

There is a proposal for a part of the garden to be subject to an overage clause, though formal documentation has not been received. The District Valuer has confirmed that this would have no impact on value as they treated the surrounding land as garden for valuation purposes. A request has been made for the overage clause to be removed, though if the vendors insist it should be time limited.

The vendors currently do not wish to vacate their flat until the summer. Purchase could take place earlier than this with the vendors becoming short term tenants. This is an issue for the shop company as they will lease the whole building and will be allowed to sub let. It may affect the timing of the purchase.

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The Chair advised that she had received some representations regarding the Community Shop and intends organising an extraordinary meeting to discuss these.

Resolved that:

1. **The progress on the acquisition be noted**
 2. **The approach to negotiations on the deposit and overage clause be supported with the Clerk authorised to finalise documentation for signature by Councillors**
- b. **White Horse** – the Clerk advised that a group of parishioners are developing a business plan with a view to the White Horse being acquired, refurbished and leased as a pub. They have asked if the Parish Council will consider acquiring the building using a Public Works Loan Board, and to undertake a local consultation. This request is subject to the production of a feasible business plan. The group consider that the cost will be in the order of £500K (£350K acquisition, £150,000 refurbishment). They have spoken to a number of potential interested operators and spoken to the sale agents, though do not feel that they are yet in a position to make an offer. The group wish to firm up proposals during the Asset of Community Value moratorium period which expires on 24th April 2018. The group feel that they cannot proceed further without the support of the Parish Council.

Councillors indicated overall support. Areas that need developing are how the period between acquisition and letting can be addressed, and the need to firm up refurbishment costs. It was agreed that formal Council consultation should take place once a satisfactory business plan has been produced.

The Clerk reported that solicitors for owners had requested a review of the Asset of Community Value designation. There was an opportunity to submit further comments (by 19th January).

Resolved that:

- A. **The Parish Council confirm that they support the principle of acquiring the White Horse through a Public Works Loan subject to the production of a satisfactory business plan**
 - B. **The Clerk submit further comments to support the Asset of Community Value designation using additional information supplied by Councillors**
- c. **Neighbourhood Plan**– a community meeting was held on 17th December which was well attended. The current Issue areas were presented and discussed. A household survey has been completed. A further survey relating to working from home will be posted on the Neighbourhood Plan website. A further meeting will be held later this month. Selby DC planners are keen to attend the next meeting.

It had been suggested that the Council consider an Awards for All grant to fund the final Plan production (including design and printing). These costs are likely to exceed £5K. The Council can only receive one of these grants over a 12 month period, and a grant application had been discussed for the All Weather Play Area. However as this is a longer term project, and could potentially attract funding from other sources it was agreed to prioritise the Neighbourhood Plan.

Resolved that the submission of an Awards for All grant application for the Neighbourhood Plan be considered at the next meeting

- d. **Street Lights** – the Clerk reported that some additional street light works would be needed as SOX lights are now obsolete and will no longer to be repaired. Works are outstanding on 18 lights with an estimated cost of £10,100+VAT. The Clerk considered that if the projects budget is maintained at its current level that these works can be completed over the next 2 Financial years.
- e. **Budget and Precept 2018-19** – the Clerk presented a report on the proposed budget including the following:

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for the Council:

- i. Revisions to data protection policies
- ii. A review of current data storage and use
- iii. A requirement for an independent Data Protection Officer

NALC/ YLCA have circulated a number of background papers and have advised that they will provide model policies and further advice on the other issues in due course. It was agreed that this issue would be considered further once additional guidance was available.

Cllr Jo Mason left the meeting due to feeling unwell.

86. For Information

North Yorks CC have advised about an emergency road closure in Church Fenton Lane, Ulleskelf.

87. Planning

Applications for consideration

2017/1316/HPA – Proposed single storey extension at 5 Chapel Close, Church Fenton

Some Councillors raised concerns about this proposal. It was recognised that the Council only commented on applications with an impact on the village, though Councillors were free to submit individual comments.

Resolved that no objections be raised

2017/0009/OUT – Outline application for the erection of a detached dwelling with all matters reserved at land north of Station Road, Church Fenton

Resolved that an objection be raised on the following grounds:

- 1. The site lies outside the village envelope in an area of open countryside**
- 2. The access proposed is along the access to the Station Car Park which is inadequate for current use, and unsuitable for an additional dwelling**
- 3. There is limited agricultural activity taking place on site which provides no justification for an on site dwelling.**

2017/1369/HPA – Proposed erection of a 2 storey rear extension and extensions to front and rear dormer at Allendale, Nanny Lane, Church Fenton

Whilst Councillors had no objections to the application it was agreed to submit a comment that construction work and deliveries should be restricted to weekdays.

Resolved that no objections be raised

Appeal

2017/0058/OUT – Outline planning permission for residential development with all matters reserved at land south of Hall Lane, Church Fenton

Cllr Chester declared an interest in this application. Selby DC have advised that an Appeal hearing will be held on 16th January.

88. Finance

a. Clerk's Finance Report

The Clerk had circulated a financial report which showed at the end of last month a balance of £43,611.04. This shows a general balance of £12,390.07, a Sandwath endowment balance

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of £26,858.97, and a Neighbourhood Plan grant balance of £4,362.00.

Resolved that this report be noted

b. Payments

SLCC	Subscription	£68.00
Church Fenton Bowling Club	Grant	£880.00
Jeremy Sherlock	Salary	£218.56
Stephen Fisher	Salary	£119.06
Sherburn-in-Elmet PC	Grass cutting	£410.03
Church Fenton Village Hall	Room Hire	£12.00
Church Fenton Village Hall	Room Hire (Neighbourhood Plan)	£72.00
HMRC	Tax	£152.60
Jeremy Sherlock	Salary	£218.56
Stephen Fisher	Salary	£119.06
J R Ink	Printing (NP)	£165.00
Hags-SMP	Playground Repairs	£638.40
Fenton in Focus	Advert (NP)	£30.00
Viking	Stationery	£118.72
Fenton in Focus	Advert	£30.00
HAGS-SMP	Playground Inspection	£84.00
Plan Ahead Communities	Neighbourhood Plan	£4,150.00
HMRC	Tax	£118.40
Jeremy Sherlock	Salary	£136.58
Stephen Fisher	Salary	£37.49

Resolved that the above payments be noted

89. Representatives Reports

Cllr Chester raised a query with regard to highways works at Station Road bridge. The Clerk will query with highways.

Cllr Andrew Mason advised that he had visited a number of problem footpaths with Kenny Smith.

90. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Community Shop, White Horse, Awards for All application, Neighbourhood Plan, Footpaths, Station Road/ Sandwath Lane fence

91. Date and time of next meeting – Thursday 15th February 2018 at 7:30 at the Village Hall, Main Street, Church Fenton

Meeting closed at 10:05pm

Jeremy Sherlock; Clerk; clerk@church-fenton.net