Felsham Parish Council

Minutes of the MEETING of FELSHAM PARISH COUNCIL held on 14th November 2023 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Simon Garrod (Chairman), Cllr Ken Sparkes, Cllr Paul Kearney, Cllr Mark Tavenor, Cllr Jason Stringer

In attendance: Miss Isabelle Reece (Clerk & RFO)

Apologies: SCC Cllr Penny Otton, MSDC Cllr Nicky Willshere,

2023/085 Welcome & to receive apologies for absence – Following a late start to the Meeting over a misunderstanding with the Committee Room bookings, Cllr Garrod welcomed everyone to the meeting and received apologies from Cllrs Otton & Willshere

2023/086 Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensation – Cllr Sparkes for the Felsham Charity

2023/087 Minutes of previous Parish Council Meeting – The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 17th October 2023 were considered, **APPROVED**, and signed by Cllr Garrod as a true record

2023/088 To receive reports from SCC & MSDC Cllrs
a. SCC Cllr Penny Otton – Cllr Otton's report, previously circulated, was noted and is available on this website.
b. MSDC Cllr Nicky Willshere – Cllr Willshere's report, previously circulated, was noted and is available on this website.

2023/089 Public Forum
There were no members of the public in attendance

2023/090 Clerk's report – nothing to report not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

2023/091 Finance & Governance
a. To receive a financial update – the Clerk had circulated a Financial Report; Cllr Tavernor verified & signed the Bank Reconciliation

b. The following orders requested for payment were **APPROVED**– Clerk's Salary (November) £217.00; TGS Grass Cutting - £1161.60

c. Personnel – To consider draft Clerk Appraisal Scheme – This item was deferred to give Councillors more time to peruse the scheme; Potential Co-option candidate – no update available

d. To consider any other urgent Finance & Governance Matters – The Clerk received the further information necessary to modify the Bank Mandate from Cllr Kearney

2023/092 Planning
a. To consider any Planning Applications since the issue of this Agenda – None received

b. To note Decision to ALLOW APPEAL DC AP/23/00051 - Land Rear Of The Six Bells, Church Road, Felsham, Suffolk

c. To consider any other planning matters – The Consultation on Local Listed Building Consent Orders, previously circulated, along with a list of Felshams Listed Buildings was noted **ACTIONS** – Clerk to produce Notice for Cllr Tavernor to distribute to relevant addresses

2023/093 Village Maintenance
a. To receive a report from the Tree Officer – nothing to report

b. To consider matters reported & updates – Cllr Tavernor to prepare draft of the Revised Cutting Specification for the next meeting

2023/094 Conservation Area
a. To receive a report from the Conservation Office – Nothing to report

b. To consider any matters reported – Cllr Tavernor circulated copies of Phase Two of Revisions to the Cutting Regime **ACTION** – Clerk to send to contractor TGS

c. To consider provision for Village Christmas Tree – Proposed by Cllr Tavernor, Seconded by Cllr Kearney the Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to provide One Third, up to £100.00, of the cost of a Christmas Tree for the Village

2023/095 Highways & Footpaths
a. To receive a report from the Footpath Officer – footpaths are all very wet or waterlogged; the path to the Allotments had been cleared and footbridges that had previously caused problems had been replaced

b. To consider any matters reported – Nothing further reported

c. To discuss possible plan for a Solar Lighting project – No update available

d. Community Speed Watch – update – The Clerk had circulated a draft notice for inclusion in the December edition of the F & G Village News. This was **APPROVED;** Cllr Springer reported no further response to calls for volunteers.

2023/096 Correspondence – No other actions necessary

2023/097 Local Housing Needs update – Meeting of Cllrs Garrod & Sparkes with Sue Downs & Sunila Osborne was scheduled for Thursday 23rd November; a Councillor asserted that the most salient question regarding Community Land Trusts was how they are resourced.

2023/098 Village Sign – update – No update available

2023/099 Matters to be brought to the attention of the council/future agenda items –

2023/100 To confirm date of the next Meeting – Tuesday 12th December, pending confirmation from the Village Hall Bookings Secretary

The Meeting was closed by Cllr Garrod at 20.30hrs

Signed_____ Chairman Dated_____