

**FLAX BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, FLAX BOURTON
TUESDAY 9th AUGUST 2011**

Meeting Commenced: 8.00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 8.55pm

PRESENT: Councillors: Higgins (Chairman), Windo, Lillington.

IN ATTENDANCE: Parish Liaison Officer Mr Peter Rooney.

38) **Apologies for absence.** Councillor Mrs Moss, District Councillor Mrs Barclay and The Clerk.

39) **Declarations of Interest.** None

40) **To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12th July 2011.**

RESOLVED: Proposed by Councillor Windo, seconded by Councillor Lillington and agreed the minutes be approved. A vote was taken. All in favour.

41) **Financial Reports**
To approve the monthly expenditure
To approve the Bank Reconciliation.
To approve the Budgetary Control Report

RESOLVED: That the three regular monthly reports be taken en bloc and it was proposed by Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor Windo and agreed that the reports be approved including expenditure of £1717.60 for August payments. A vote was taken. All in favour.

C/ Fwd - The Clerk was asked to check the date that the next valuation of the Village Hall was due. Noted.

42) **Planning & Development –**
To agree on any comments / objections on the following planning applications: None Received
To receive any further updates or information on Planning and Development within North Somerset:
Core Strategy (Local Plan) – Councillor Higgins reminded councillors that the updated Local Plan has been submitted to government and the out come of a review by a planning inspector is awaited.
Planning and Development Workshop held 11th May 2011 – Councillor Higgins gave a brief summary of key points including the proposed Localism Bill, Neighbourhood Plans (successor to Parish Plans) and Residential Design Guide.
Also confirmed at the workshop that future consultation with parish councils will be web based using the weekly lists of planning applications received. Consultation period to be

extended to 28 days with an opportunity to request an extension. Peter Rooney confirmed this is in line with enquiries he had made.

- 43) **North Somerset Showground – To receive any updates from NSAS / North Somerset Council since the withdrawal of the most recent planning application. To discuss any further issues re enforcement and licensing for future events following discussions with planning and licensing officers in order to decide on what action needs to be taken if and when necessary.** Update awaited from Enforcement Officer Chris Nolan, District Councillor Mrs Barclay will “chase”.

44) **Resident Issues**

- The hedge adjoining the footpath running along the A370 remains in need of further work as pedestrians are being caught at “eye level” from overhanging growth. Clerk asked to chase North Somerset.
- Loose street lamp in Rosemount Road – prompt repair carried out by NSC. Noted
- Sports Field, Farleigh Green and area adjacent to holding pond – residents report significant amount of dog fouling. PC to consider additional notices. *Agenda item for next meeting.*
- Morgan Place, Farleigh Green. Residents report that a small orchard area has been gated. NSC confirm that Morgan Place is a private road but the orchard area remains in the ownership of Persimmon Homes who will visit and satisfy themselves on access arrangements.
- Public open space area Farleigh Green – overgrown hedge requires attention, Peter Rooney to report to NSC. Councillor Windo to provide PR with exact details of location.

45) **Flax Bourton Primary School - School crossing safety.**

Highways and Transport Dept at NSC have reported to District Councillor Mrs Barclay that delivery of the flashing 20 mph signs are awaited, because they are solar powered delivery and installation may not be until after commencement of the autumn term.

C/Fwd - The Clerk was asked to contact Kate Cochrane and request a copy of the schedule of works. (*Awaited as at 9.8.11*)

C/Fwd - It was also noted the contractor Alvis Bros had agreed to cut the hedge near the youth club so that it much lower and improve visibility. This work is also due to take place in August. (*Work awaited 9.8.11*)

46) **Hinkley Point Pylons**

Nothing further to report. The Infrastructure Planning Commission bill awaits a second reading. Noted.

47) **Village Hall CIC – Proposal for installation of Solar Panels**

Discussed at length – installation quotes at approximately £30,000 had been seen. Councillors are not supportive for the following reasons

- Producing electricity for the National Grid outside the “normal course of business” for the operation of a village hall. Councillors prefer to see surplus funds spent on improving facilities at the hall e.g. recent staging and proposal for hearing loop system etc.

- Returns form a PV electric generation system remain untested over a period of any length and “speculating” public money on such a scheme is not appropriate. Councillors understand that the CIC are considering the installation of CCTV for security purposes and Parish Councillors are fully supportive.

48) Farleigh Green Toddler Swing:

Response awaited from CIC following the quote obtained recently for a swing and surfacing that was the Council’s preferred option.

49) Former MOD Fuel Depot

Following a recent enquiry, the MOD have stated “that the MOD site at Flax Bourton has not been put on the market and nor is there any intention to do so at the present time”.

50) Parish Council Notice Boards

Councillor Higgins to obtain quotes for refurbishment of the “old” notice boards

51) Open Forum - An opportunity to propose any items for the next agenda, including any relevant issues raised by the public Nil

52) Appointment of Village Orderly – Following a meeting and recommendation by Councillors Lillington and Higgins, Ashley Crossey has been appointed. £6.50 per hour, four hours per week and based on a one month trial. **RESOLVED** Proposed Councillor Higgins, Seconded Councillor Windo. Clerk asked to process appropriate paperwork

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 13th September 2011

There, being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed.....

Dated.....