

Flordon Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at St. Michaels Church and Community Centre on Tuesday 21st November 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Tim Webster [Chair], Cllr David Harrison [Vice Chair], Cllr Cynthia Hill and Cllr Simon Harvey. Nigel Bailey Parish Clerk

In Attendance: District Councillor Ian Spratt was the only member of the public present.

District Councillors Report: Circulated and introduced by Cllr Spratt who answered questions.

Public Comment: None

Apologies: Cllr Sally Phillips other commitment – Resolved to accept

57 Declaration of Interest: None

58 Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th September 2023: Resolved to approve without amendment. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

59 Matters Arising:

Car park repairs are likely to be during Spring 2024 Action: Parish Clerk to check with SNC if Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) can be used.

Observations following the play equipment inspections had been received by email during the day. There was no option but to remove older failing equipment and consider replacements. Cllr Spratt and the Parish Clerk mentioned potential grants and the use of CIL towards new equipment.

Bus shelter bins need emptying.

Ideally the Grit Bin on Long Lane needs to be further up the hill.

60 Parish Councillor Vacancies: An interested resident was invited by email to the meeting but didn't attend. Keep on the agenda for the next meeting.

Action: Parish Clerk

61 Finances:

a Noted the latest Bank Balance as of 30th July 2023

Community Account £3,563.16

Savings Account £9,039.35

Total £12,602.51

Latest statements were unavailable whilst the Clerk's online access application was pending.

b Payments Authorised:

N Bailey 18 hrs – Resolved to approve - payslip will be generated for payment

c To receive recommendations for amendments to the Financial Regulations

Resolved to approve the recommendations. Action: Parish Clerk

d To receive the Internal Auditors Report for 2022/23 - Noted as no issues identified

e To discuss the draft 2024/25 Budget and consider any potential capital expenditure. The Tax Base (currently 103) was due in December and would be circulated on receipt for information only. The formula/Band D average/process was explained by the Parish Clerk. Thoughts were to run a deficit budget and use reserves to keep FPC precept the same as this year. A decision had to be made at next meeting. No more information was requested in relation to the draft options circulated.

62 To respond to any planning applications or issues received before the meeting date. None

63 To consider options for a replacement Notice Board and set budget

Three examples from separate companies were circulated. Resolved to engage GreenBarnes to finalise a quote with options. Parish Clerk to circulate it on receipt. Board to hold 8 x A4 sheets. Community Infrastructure can be used, and Cllr Spratt will consider a contribution from his £1k members grant budget.

64 To receive update on last year's Parish Partnership Bid

Parish Clerk advised that a bid could be re-submitted for village gates to the north, but the 50% contribution costs may have increased. Action: Parish Clerk to contact NCC.

65 To consider the use of Nalc for website management if no volunteer is identified. There was still a preference for engaging a volunteer.

66 To receive an update on the Long Lane location for a new bench.

Subject to NCC approval/Street licence application a position between the two oak trees on Long Lane overlooking the valley was preferred.

67 SNC Review of Polling Districts and Places 2023-24 (responses by 23rd November 2023) – Resolved to delegate a response to the Parish Clerk.

We feel that St Michael's Church as a Polling Station is the most suitable, convenient, and centrally placed option for the majority of our electorate. Every effort should be made to ensure it is booked with the church for all types of election as soon as a date becomes apparent.

68 Correspondence - none

69 Resolved to confirm the next meeting as 16th January 2024 at 7.30pm

70 All members of the public left the meeting.

71 2023/2024 National Pay Award - Noted and approved.

72 Bank Mandate - Nalc had met executives from the bank. Forms were required to make the agreed changes.