

Fifehead Magdalen Parish Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on

Thursday 22nd November 2018

Chair: David Redwood (DR)

Present: David and Rosemary Redwood, Rose and Peter Figgins, Jeanne and Andrew Lakeman, Karin and Chris Vallance, Adrian and Anita Exton, Helen and Peter Mera, Ian Massey, Bob and Alison, Alix Brooke, Peter Custard, Valerie and Mac LaFosse, Thomas, Roger and Jason Trevor, Roger and Mrs Grix.

Apologies: Angela Stevens, Andrew and Jacqueline Duncan, Dee and Jo Trevor, Patsy and Geoff Merrick.

Declaration of Interest: The Chairman had no interests to declare but pointed out that if anyone had a problem with his wife taking the minutes he was happy to replace her.

Minutes of Last Meeting: These have been posted on the website prior to the meeting for everyone to read. The chairman did a brief summary. Andrew L proposed with Roger T seconding and they were unanimously passed.

Budget: The chairman reported that despite changes in Dorset CC the precept request and granting process would remain unchanged. He recommended we kept our annual precept at the current £1,300 for next year. Andrew L proposed, Thomas T seconded and it was passed unanimously.

The usual annual payment towards the upkeep of the cemetery (£600) and the annual payment to the Citizens Advice Bureau (£50) were both passed unanimously with Alix proposing and Jeanne seconding.

Rosemary requested a one-off payment of £600 to carry out hedge work in the cemetery following on from that already done thanks to the generosity of Mr & Mrs Mera. She also reported that the Wallis family had approached her about doing an updated version of the Fifehead record book produced in 2000. Their son was eager to take up the project and interview people and take photographs. She requested a one-off payment of £200 to go towards the set up and printing costs which would bring the books' sale price down to around £5 each. It was agreed that the Wallis' should be asked to send around a questionnaire to assess the interest in the book before proceeding. Andrew Lakeman proposed both payment requests, Alix seconded and they were unanimously passed.

Parish Matters:-

Solar Farm: The chairman reported that there was no further update on this at present but he would make the village aware if there was any change to this.

Road Signage: The chairman reported that a road sign had been erected indicating “no footpath” down between Keepers Cottage and Middle Farm. It was felt that the sign needed to be further down the hill and a meeting was scheduled with a representative from the highways this coming Friday to discuss a re-positioning and possibly changing the sign to one showing elderly people rather than parent with child.

[Post meeting update. The Chairman has met with Roger Bell of NDDC who will arrange for a new sign to be erected opposite the village sign near to the Long House.]

Trill Bridge: Trill Bridge was now fully repaired after the damage caused by the lorry. The police were unable to prosecute the driver due to lack of adequate signage at the end of the road so it has been requested that further signs are put up there.

[Roger Bell has arranged for new signage to be erected at the junction of the B3092 and Trill Lane.]

Footpaths: Wessex Water completed their work on the footpath opposite the Old Post Office, but no further work has been undertaken. The Ramblers Association had indicated that there may be grants available but was unsuccessful in their bid for £3000.

Travellers: The travellers sited at Five Bridges have now moved on to Guys Marsh and the council highways department, our MP Simon Hoare, the police, the gypsy liaison officer and various parish chairmen have held meetings to determine how we stop them coming back to this site. The council are currently trying to ascertain who the piece of land actually belongs to and will hopefully put gates there to stop the travellers returning but allow Wessex Water access to their pumping station. The Chairmen reported that Jane Westbrook, our councillor, was doing a great job in trying to sort this problem out.

Any other Business:-

Chris Valance asked if there was any news on the airfield and was told that everything seemed to be settled down there at present. There was a charity day held there last Sunday (where two world records were broken) which was organised without notice due to another airfield letting Great Ormond Street down but, as it was for a good cause, no complaints would be made.

Roger wished to lodge a very strong objection to the bicycle races that come through the village. This is very frightening for people walking through the village, with no pavement to stand on, and very annoying for people who are unable to access their homes. Last year the bicycles frightened a horse which broke through the fences and injured a cyclist resulting in the farmer being prosecuted. It was strongly felt that our narrow roads were not suitable for these races and it was requested that the chairman contact the cycling bodies and ask them to find another route. If they do continue then they should be responsible for notifying every villager it will affect and not expect the chairman to have to do so.

The meeting closed at 20.12 pm. The next meeting will be held in May 2019.