

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BELBROUGHTON AND FAIRFIELD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022, 7.00PM AT FAIRFIELD FIRST SCHOOL

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Allington, Cllr. Carter, Cllr. Clarke, Cllr. Danks, Cllr. Gibbs, Cllr. Hood,  
Cllr. Nock, Cllr. Pawley and Cllr. Wilkes

**ALSO PRESENT:** Clerk – Ruth Mullett  
Cllr. May and Cllr. Webb  
There were five members of the public in attendance

## **293/22 – APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Mabbett and reason for absence agreed by all Councillors.

**Chairman adjourned the meeting for an ‘open surgery’ to enable residents to discuss any issues with their councillors and identify matters of concern relating to the agenda, this does not form part of the formal meeting.**

The meeting re-opened

## **294/22 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr. Gibbs, Cllr. Clarke and Cllr. Wilkes declared an Other Disclosable Interest on agenda item 18.1, Fairfield Villa due to their proximity to Fairfield Recreation Ground.

## **295/22 – DISPENSATIONS**

Cllr. Gibbs, Cllr. Clarke and Cllr. Wilkes requested a dispensation on agenda item 18.1, and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to grant this dispensation.

## **296/22 – MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022 as a true record and the Chairman duly signed them.

## **297/22 – REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

### **Chairman’s Report**

The parish council is currently in the process of consulting with residents on how they would like the community to evolve. Fairfield Villa is a part of this consultation. Once all responses have been analysed and taken into consideration Full Council will consider the position and resolve a way forward. At the right time, the Chairman confirmed he would meet with the representatives of Fairfield Villa to brief them of Council’s recommendations.

### **Planning Committee Meeting**

No Planning Committee held in August

### **Finance Committee Meeting**

No Finance Committee held in August

## **298/22 – TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to ratify payments made in August.

## **299/22 – COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

### **Cllr. May**

- District Plan has been pulled to enable more extensive works to take place.
- BDC Act on Energy leaflets available and Cllr. May is happy to talk to any residents that need help.
- Confirmed the Smartwater signs were erected by the Police so no further action to be taken by the parish council.

### **Cllr. Webb**

- Did a walk with Highways Engineer round Fairfield and Stoneybridge and highways issues have been reported and placed on works schedule.
- Will let the Clerk have copies of County Council's hedge cutting cards to send to residents.

## **300/22 – CLERK'S REPORT AND URGENT DECISIONS**

### **Clerk's Outstanding Action List**

- There are still several outstanding maintenance issues at Fairfield Rec. Clerk suggested she would arrange a meeting with Cllr. Gibbs and Cllr. Wilkes to draw up a list of actions.
- As no response has been received from the developer for replacement birch trees at Bellamy Close, Clerk instructed to get a quote to replace ourselves.
- **Reports for Parish Magazine** – it was agreed for Clerk to construct an article asking residents to cut back overgrown hedges and scrubs encroaching the pavement.

## **301/22 – HIGHWAYS/MAINTENANCE**

- **Parking in Fairfield Working Party/Speeding Traffic** – Nothing to report.
- **Options for more parish council maintenance** – it was agreed that councillors would report back to the next full council with outstanding maintenance work. We would then need to draw up a rota of regular works. Clerk to place on the next agenda to set up a working party to look at this area.

## **302/22 – FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the following motion put forward by Cllr. Wilkes with a slight amendment: -

*“To consider the Fairfield Community Shop's Working Group request to an in-principal consideration to site the proposed community shop on the recreation ground, subject to any possible covenants, along with the other considerations contained within the report.”*

## **303/22 – PARISH COUNCIL OPEN LAND**

This item was deferred.

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### **304/22 – WEBSITE**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** for Cllr. Carter to look at different options to enhance our current website with the idea of making it more modern and encourage more engagement with residents.

### **305/22 – REPORT OF PARISH COUNCILLORS**

- Cllr. Wilkes – place on next agenda to agree locations for Jubilee trees
- Cllr. Gibbs – 318 bus services is being suspended, could we obtain any information from Cllr. May?
- Cllr. Allington – instruct Nigel to cutback the gully way between Belbroughton School and the recreation ground.

### **306/22 – RECRUITMENT OF NEW CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER**

Two candidates were interviewed but councillors felt they were not suitable for the role. Clerk to readvertise again the beginning of October.

**307/22 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022, 7.00pm at Fairfield First School.

### **308/22 – FAIRFIELD VILLA LEASE NEGOTIATIONS**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to agree that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Press and Public are excluded from the meeting for the duration of the above item on the basis that the information disclosed will be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business transacted.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to agree and formally sign the one-year lease extension.

**The meeting closed at 9.40pm**

**To be agreed as a true record by Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council**

**Signed** .....